Mildred Cohn: Trailblazer

Guiding Questions

- Mildred Cohn created new technologies and methods to better understand reactions in enzymes.
    - How difficult do you think it was to not only further scientific research, but to also create brand new technologies to further said research?
- Why is collaboration among scientists around the world vital to scientific research?
- How do you think Dr. Mildred Cohn's work influenced the acceptance of women in science?
- Dr. Cohn was extremely accomplished, and the first female leader for multiple roles. Do you think the men in these roles were as accomplished?
    - Why do women in male-dominated fields have to achieve more than their male peers to get the same roles?
- Why was/is science male dominated?
    - How do gender roles in education, domestic expectations, and work play into this? What about wealth?
    - What happens to women and minorities with intelligence and ambition akin to Dr. Cohn, but who lack opportunity?
- Dr. Cohn advocated for women in science and academic settings in the late twentieth century.
    - How have we improved since then?
    - What still needs work?
- Dr. Cohn published a study on female professors at the University of Pennsylvania. What are the benefits of using hard data like this to advocate for inclusivity in science?

Classroom Activities

- Research prominent current scientists (in one field of science) and identify how many are women or BIPOC compared to white men in the field.
- Cohn's research and technologies created the groundwork for the creation of the MRI (magnetic resonance imaging). Research how important the introduction of the MRI was to science and to diagnosing medical issues and how its importance persists today.