The First American Woman Doctor
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Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman to become a medical doctor in the United States. Elizabeth was born in England more than a hundred years ago. She moved to the U.S. when she was about eleven years old.

At first, Elizabeth was a teacher. Later, she knew she wanted to study medicine.

Elizabeth applied to many medical schools in the United States, but they would not take her. These schools were only allowing men to study medicine. Finally, Elizabeth found a school that let her in. Some men at the school did not want a woman there, however. At first, they were not kind to her.

After two years, Elizabeth graduated at the top of her class at the medical school. She and her sister opened a clinic for women and children in New York City. They gave medical care to the poor. Dr. Blackwell also opened a medical college for women. She trained women to become doctors. She also gave speeches and wrote books.

Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell had courage and strong character. She worked hard for the things she wanted to do. Her work encouraged other women to become doctors.