

BELLWORK (5 points):  
This is Marie Laveau.  
Write three sentences  
about what you think you  
know about her. If you  
have never heard of her  
before, use the picture  
and make three  
assumptions about her  
and what you think she is  
known for.

Answer on looseleaf and  
turn into your designated  
box.



# Guided Notes

You will need these for your test on Friday.

15 points for correct completion.

# Marie Laveau

Voodoo Queen of New Orleans



Although commonly thought of as “The Voodoo Queen of New Orleans”, very little is actually known about Marie Laveau.

She was illiterate and left no personal accounts behind. It is unknown how she even became involved with Voodoo.

There is nothing on historical record to link her to the practice before 1850, BUT there are still numerous authors who referred to her as the Voodoo Queen from the 1820s to the 1870s.

Let's go back to a little bit to what we can assume from historical records...

Marie Laveau was born in September of 1801. Her parents were Marguerite Henry and Charles Laveau.

According to her baptismal records from St. Louis Cathedral, she was born a free mulatto (a person of mixed white and black ancestry).

She most likely grew up in a cottage on St. Ann Street in the French Quarter on property that her maternal grandmother purchased in 1798.

From here, she would have been able to see what is now Armstrong Park, where enslaved Africans gathered every Sunday to sing, dance, drum, and engage in other African instrumentation.

Laveau does not show up in any records until August of 1819 when at the age of 18, she wed Jacques Paris at the St. Louis Cathedral. They went on to have two children that most likely died in infancy as they disappeared from the historical record.

Between 1822 and 1824, Jacque Paris also disappeared from the record...

There is no official account of his death but the 1824 baptismal record of his second daughter lists him as deceased.

Shortly following this, Laveau began calling herself the widow Paris and constructed a tomb in St. Louis Cemetery No. 1.

Records indicate that this is where she is now interred. Interestingly, her tomb is the second most visited gravesite in the United States. Can you guess the first?

Sometime in the late 1820s is when Laveau met and started a relationship with Christophe Glapion, whom she stayed with until his death in 1855.

Glapion was a white man and it was illegal to marry outside of your race, but it was not illegal to cohabit.

Together, they had seven children.

Marie Laveau is a confirmed Catholic because you cannot be buried within a Catholic cemetery without being confirmed (one of the seven sacraments in the Catholic church).

What is uncertain is what she thought about the Catholic faith or how she rectified it with her participation in Voodoo...

This is where we will begin to look at the legends and myths surrounding her, as well as Voodoo.

Using reliable sources on the Internet, find at least two myths/legends about Marie Laveau.

Write these down on loose leaf paper.

Use correct grammar and spelling.

With your group, discuss the myths/legends that you found. Find any information about HOW these myths/legends began.

Write these down on the same loose leaf paper.

Use correct grammar and spelling.

Turn in designated area when complete.

## The Stick Note Mosaic

Fill out sticky notes according to the following and place it on the board for your class.

- BLUE: something you know for sure that you learned today
- GREEN: something you found interesting from today
- PINK: something that you have a question about from today

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<https://freetoursbyfoot.com/marie-laveau-vooodoo-queen-of-new-orleans/>

Link for information used here