

# Women History



*Painting of young Florence.*



*Florence about 1860*

## Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was born in 1820 to a wealthy British family. She grew up with many luxuries. In 1837, Florence discovered that she had a calling to be a nurse. In 1844, she told her family that she wanted to be a nurse. Her family was very upset, because that was not what wealthy British ladies did at that time. Florence was firm in her decision and began studying nursing. She travel around Europe learning medicine and ways to nurse.

She began working in a hospital in 1853. The next year, there were reports that the wounded soldiers fighting in the Crimean War needed help. Florence gathered 38 volunteer women nurses and went to Turkey, where the war was being fought. She found that the hospital for the wounded soldiers needed food and equipment. She wrote letters and soon the British government sent food, equipment and a portable hospital.

Florence and her nurses helped the wounded soldiers in Turkey. She was called the “Lady with the Lamp” because she would check on the soldiers at night carrying a lamp.

After the war, Florence was famous. She was able to start a school for nursing and wrote many books. She improved the way nurses were trained and the methods they used.

Florence died in 1910 at 90 years old. She still inspires many people to become nurses.



*Drawing of Florence at the hospital in Turkey in 1856*

What was Florence called?

What was the war Florence went to in Turkey?

Who did Florence take with her to Turkey?

When was Florence born?

**Q**  
**AND**  
**A**