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"If we choose to see the obstacles as hurdles, we can leap over them. Successful people don't have fewer problems. They have determined that nothing will stop them from going forward."

– Benjamin Carson, M.D., *Gifted Hands*

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Ben Carson Science Academy>>



# Think Big

Benjamin S. Carson, M.D.  
Pediatric Neurosurgeon  
Johns Hopkins Hospital

The Ben Carson Science Academy provides a four-week summer enrichment program and a Saturday academy for students between the 4th and 8th grades. The program is designed to enhance their knowledge in science, mathematics, health and communications skills.

## The Academy Program

- > Overview of African and African-American contributions to medicine, science and mathematics
- > Analysis of cultural and social awareness
- > Enhanced self awareness and self esteem through the use of African Proverbs
- > Opportunity to experience and explore scientific concepts within an environment that is supportive
- > Entrance into an educational pipeline that extends from primary through post-secondary education

From the first African-American medical institution of the 20th century>>

When Benjamin Carson was in fifth grade, he was considered the “dummy” of his class. His classmates and teachers took it for granted that Ben would take an entire quiz without getting a single question right. He had a temper so violent that he would attack other children, even his mother, at the slightest provocation. “I was most likely to end up in jail, reform school, or the grave,” he remembers.

But Benjamin Carson turned his life around. He graduated from high school with honors, went on to Yale University and to medical school. At age 32, he became Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. He is internationally recognized as a pioneer in his field. In his operation on the Binder Siamese twins in 1987, he succeeded where all predecessors had failed, in separating twins joined at the head.

Dr. Carson is a role model for all our students and has made guest appearances during the summer program. Without a doubt, he leaves program participants thinking big. Just as they should!

## Cultural Activities

- > Capoeira Angola
- > African Dance
- > Gymnastics
- > Chess

## Program Offerings

- > Science fair project development
- > Experiences in cooperative learning
- > Exciting classroom activities
- > Laboratory activities
- > Field trips
- > Motivational speakers

