

Margaret floy  
washburn



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Margaret Floy Washburn was a strong intellectual woman, the first woman to receive a Ph. D. in psychology, was born on July 25th in Harlem in New York City to parents who strongly encouraged intellectual pursuits. Washburn was notably a teacher, however, she worked in many areas of psychology and is well-known for her contributions in theory development (including her motor theory), experimental work, animal behavior and professional service.

Besides publishing over 200 scientific articles and reviews, she translated Wundt's *Ethical Systems*, 1897, and wrote two books: *The Animal Mind*, 1908; and *Movement and Mental Imagery*, 1916. Between 1905 and 1938, she published sixty-eight studies from the Vassar Psychological Laboratory--an undergraduate laboratory with 117 students as joint authors. The summers of 1913-1917 she taught psychology in the summer sessions at Columbia University; the spring of 1928 when, on her only sabbatical leave, she took a Mediterranean cruise; and the summers of 1929 and 1932 during which she traveled to England and Copenhagen.

She was cooperating editor of the *Psychological Bulletin*, 1909-1915; associate editor of the *Journal of Animal Behavior*, 1911-1917; advisory editor of the *Psychological Review*, 1916-1930; and associate editor of the *Journal of Comparative Psychology*, 1921-1935. In 1921, she was president of the American Psychological Association; that same year, she was awarded a prize of \$500 by the Edison Phonograph Company for the best research on the effects of music--a study of "The Emotional Effects of Instrumental Music" in collaboration with a colleague in the Department of Music at Vassar. In 1932, she was the U. S. delegate to the International Congress of Psychology in Copenhagen.