



STARTING A SCHOOL WITH \$1.50

Mary McLeod Bethune 1875 - 1955

With determination and hard work
she built a school

She had a dream
to build a school
for those who lived
in tarpaper shacks
and among the trash dumps.

With \$1.50 she raised rent money.
Would sell her hat
if that would help.
Scoured junk yards
for anything usable,
Made ink from berries,
pencils from charred wood.

She scrubbed and cleaned.
She fixed up and she taught
those first five students,
and in between she twisted
the arms of businessmen.

Five students grew to one hundred.
Five dollars down bought the land.
She said goodbye to that one room,
and built a building
five stories tall.
She had a dream to build a school,
and she did!