

Mary Kingsley

- Mary Kingsley was born in 1862.
- Her parents let her brother go to school but she wasn't allowed to go as they wanted her to stay at home to look after her mother who was ill.
- Her father was a doctor who travelled around the world on adventures.
- While she was at home she liked to spend her time in her father's library reading all about the places that he went on his adventures.
- In 1892 both her parents died so she went to the Canary Islands to recover from her loss.
- Whilst there she developed a love for travelling and decided to do more.
- In August 1893 she travelled to Angola in West Africa.
- Despite the hot climate, she wore the skirts, blouses, high buttoned shoes and hats she wore at home.
- She collected new fish and plants only found in Africa.
- She rowed a canoe up the Ogowe River in Gabon.
- She was the first woman to climb Mount Cameroon, with a summit of 4175 meters.
- In 1895 she travelled back to England living with her brother.
- She wrote a book "Travels in West Africa". This book is still published today.
- She returned to Africa in 1899, this time she also went to South Africa and spent time in Cape Town.
- The Boer War was ongoing at this time so she became a nurse looking after the wounded soldiers.
- She became ill looking after the soldiers and died in 1900.