

## ~ ~ The History of Cotton ~ ~

~ Evidence from archeologists suggests that cotton was used to make fabrics for at least **7,000 years**.

~ Ancient Egyptians may have been using cotton since 12000 B.C<sup>1</sup>.

~ The **oldest discovery** was made in a **Mexican cave**, where scientists found pieces of cotton bolls and cloth<sup>2</sup>.

~ “White Gold” is a historical term for cotton, the natural fiber which continues to play an important role in the United States economy<sup>2</sup>.

~ **The Wright brothers** used cotton fabric to cover the wings of their first plane.\*

~ **1700s Samuel Slater built the first American cotton mill** that converted cotton fibers into yarn and cloth.

~ **1793 Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin** that separates the seed from the lint fiber<sup>3</sup>.

## ~ ~ Connections ~ ~

Water	Bees	Animals	Food	People
<p>Cotton <b>must</b> have water to grow!</p> <p>Lots and lots of water.</p>	<p>Cotton flowers must be pollinated by bees in order to grow its fiber.</p> <p>Bees make Cotton honey which is used by bakeries to sweeten the baked goods that you like to eat.</p>	<p>Cotton seeds provide a high protein diet for MANY animals, especially the dairy cows.</p> <p>The Cotton plant also helps to make the air (oxygen) we breathe.</p>	<p>Cotton seeds are found in the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Protein preparation. Cotton seed milk. Salad oil<sup>4</sup>.</p> <p>Cotton seed oil was the original American vegetable oil<sup>5</sup>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ ~</p> <p>The seeds from one bale of cotton creates enough oil to cook almost 6,000 snack-size bags of potato chips.*</p> <p>For kid friendly recipes using cottonseed oil please visit: <a href="http://www.cottonsjourney.com/art/cookcotton.asp">http://www.cottonsjourney.com/art/cookcotton.asp</a></p>	<p><b>We utilize cotton for the following:</b></p> <p>Cotton fiber-Lint for clothes, rugs, yarn, rope, money, towels, sheets.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ ~</p> <p>Linters<sup>4</sup>-short fiber around seeds-are used for the following items: Paper, bandages, plastic, x-ray film, etc.</p> <p>Seeds- planting, animal food, cosmetics, soap, salad dressing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ ~</p> <p>Debris-Compost</p>