**Source: Kitty Biography Answer Key**

**Analysis Routine**

1. What role did Kitty have at Mount Vernon?

Kitty worked in the dairy at Mount Vernon. She milked the cows. She took care of the dairy cows.

1. What ingredient did Kitty contribute to the ice cream recipe?  
     
   Kitty used the milk to make cream.
2. What was Kitty’s life like? What questions would you like to ask Kitty if you could talk to her?   
     
   Kitty’s life seemed very busy. Her days sounded long, especially if she had to work in the dairy and take care of 9 kids. Questions will vary but should use evidence from the biography for topics.
3. How did the historian who wrote this secondary source get the information included in this biography?

The historian looked at Farm Reports and documents like the Slave Census to piece together events and experiences in Kitty’s life to write the biography.

**Kitty Biography**

Kitty was an enslaved dairy maid at Mount Vernon. She came to the plantation as an enslaved person after Martha Washington married George Washington. As a dairymaid, Kitty milked the cows. She used the milk to produce cream and butter for the Washingtons.

She needed to know how to take care of dairy cows. She also needed to know how to process the cow’s milk into cream. She churned the cream into butter. She brought these foods to the kitchen so the cook, Lucy, could use them in making meals for the Washington family and their guests.

Kitty was married to Isaac. His slaveholder was George Washington. Isaac was an enslaved skilled carpenter. Kitty and Isaac had their first daughter in 1772, and by 1799 they had nine daughters. Three of their daughters learned Kitty’s skills and helped her in the dairy. Kitty also was a spinner, turning sheep’s wool into thread, which was used to make clothing for other enslaved people.

