

# A Year of Women

## Lost in history: Women in Science

### Fact #6:

Sophia LaLonde, Clayton, NY, created the original recipe for **1000 Island Dressing**, and May Irwin, a prominent New York City stage actress, coined the name.

### Teaching Points

1. Women inventors during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
2. How the salad dressing became popular.
3. Women inventors receiving credit for their innovations.

### NY Learning Standard(s)

ELA 1; SS 1; SS 2; MST 2

### Discussion Questions

- 1a. Can you name any women inventors during the 20<sup>th</sup> century? Do you think there may have been career barriers for women inventors during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century? Do the same barriers exist today?
- 1b. What was Sophia LaLonde's role with the 1000 Island Dressing?
- 2a. How did the 1000 Island Dressing become famous?
- 2b. Do you think the dressing would have been popular without it being taken to New York City? What other inventions have been exposed in a similar nature?
- 3a. Did Mrs. LaLonde receive any recognition for inventing the dressing? Do you think many women inventors ever really receive the recognition they deserve from their inventions?
- 3b. How can you determine if the dressing received world recognition?

### Activity Extensions

1. **Research/Article.** Find out about women inventors during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Do you think women inventors exist more today than yesterday? Develop a newspaper article that provides credit to women that have not received the acknowledgement they deserve as inventors.
2. **Field Trip.** Visit the Thousand Islands Museum and/ or the Thousand Island Inn in Clayton, NY to find out more information about Sophia LaLonde and her famous 1000 Island Dressing.
3. **Media.** Utilize newspapers from Northern New York, (<http://www.nc3r.org/jlbocessls/#databases>) to find online articles about inventors/inventions of Northern New Yorkers, both women and men. Also look for additional information about 1000 Island Dressing.