

Topic: George Washington

Overview

Students will learn the contributions made by George Washington. Students visit websites to determine if statements about Washington are true or false. After false statements are changed to true statements, students make a poster in a publishing program.

Grade 2

Time Allotment

Three-five 60-minute periods

Learning Objectives

On completion of this lesson students will be able to:

- List the contributions made by George Washington including
 1. 1st President of the United States
 2. “Father of Our Country”
 3. born in Virginia
 4. farmer
 5. great military leader during American Revolution as the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army

This lesson addresses Va. SOL History and Social Sciences K.1, 1.2, 2.11

Media Components

- SmartBoard
- Computer projection device
- Laptops
- Publishing software
- Websites:
 1. The White House – <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/gw1.html>
 2. The New Book of Knowledge – <http://ap.grolier.com/article?assetid=a2031240-h&templatename=/article/article.html>
 3. Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery – <http://www.georgewashington.si.edu/kids/portrait.html>

Materials and Student Handouts

- Facts About George Washington sheet – 1/ student, attached

Teacher Preparations

- Photocopy Washington fact sheet – attached
- Place an icon on the laptop/desktop for the publishing software
- Make a folder on the network drive for each student and label for each student. Place a picture of Washington into each folder.
- On each laptop make sure the Draw toolbar is open for easy access.
- Bookmark the following websites

1. The White House –
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/gw1.html>
2. The New Book of Knowledge –
<http://ap.grolier.com/article?assetid=a2031240-h&templatename=/article/article.html>

Introductory Activity

Focus: Show students a picture of George Washington projected onto the SmartBoard.

Activity: Give each student a copy of the Facts About George Washington. Say: Read each statement. Then circle yes or no in the “What do you think?” column.

Follow-up: When all students have finished, discuss their decisions.

Learning Activities

1. **Focus:** Now we will visit two websites to see if what we know about Washington is correct or not. I will direct you to certain paragraphs to read. In these paragraphs we will find if the facts on our sheet are true or not. Was Washington the first president of the United States?

Activity: Go to The White House –

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/gw1.html>. Have a student read the first paragraph on the website. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: Yes, Washington was the first president of the United States. On your papers circle Y under “What did you discover?”

2. **Focus:** Where was Washington born?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the second paragraph on the website. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: George Washington was born in Virginia. On your papers circle N under “What did you discover?” On the line provided write the correct state (Virginia).

3. **Focus:** What did Washington do for a living?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the second paragraph on the website. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: Washington was a planter/farmer. On your papers circle N under “What did you discover?” On the line provided write “He was a planter/farmer.”

4. **Focus:** Did he serve in the House of Burgesses?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the fourth paragraph. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: Washington served in the House of Burgesses. On your paper circle Y under “What did you discover?”

5. **Focus:** Was he a delegate to the Second Continental Congress?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the fifth paragraph on the website. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: Washington did serve as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress. On your papers circle Y under "What did you discover?"

6. **Focus:** Was Washington Commander in Chief during the American Revolution?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the fifth paragraph. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: Yes, Washington was the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. On your papers circle Y under What did you discover?"

7. **Focus:** Did Washington surrender to Cornwallis at Norfolk, VA?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the sixth paragraph. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: On your papers circle N under "What did you discover?" On the line provided write Cornwallis surrendered to Washington at Yorktown, VA.

8. **Focus:** Where did Washington make his home?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the last paragraph. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: On your papers circle N under "What did you discover?" On the line provided write "He lived at Mount Vernon."

9. **Focus:** How many times was Washington president?

Activity: Go to The New Book of Knowledge -

<http://ap.grolier.com/article?assetid=a2031240-h&templatename=/article/article.html>.

Scroll to the bottom of the page to the Retirement section. Have a student read the first paragraph on the in this section. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: On your papers circle N under "What did you discover?" On the line provided write "Washington served as president for two terms."

10. **Focus:** Was the Jefferson Memorial built to honor Washington?

Activity: Return to the website. Have a student read the second paragraph in this section. When the reading is finished have a student go to the SmartBoard and highlight the answer to the above question.

Follow-up: On your papers circle N under "What did you discover?" On the line provided write "The Washington Memorial was built to honor Washington."



By George, I Think We've Got It!

Karen Musser

Warren County Public Schools



Culminating Activities

Focus: Now that we have finished researching the facts about Washington, let's make a poster. Each of you will use a laptop.

Activity: The teacher should project the same thing on the SmartBoard that the students will be doing so they can follow along. Say: Open up a word document by clicking on the icon two times. Go to the top of the screen and click on insert, picture, from file. Find the network drive and click two times. (These directions will vary from school to school. Please follow the directions for your own network drive.) Say: Find the folder with your name on it and open it. Find the icon labeled Washington and click. Then go to the lower right and click on insert. This will put a picture of Washington into your document. Check each student's document to make sure they have a picture of Washington. Say: Now we will insert text boxes so that we can type our facts. Go to the bottom of the screen. Click on the text box icon. A text box will appear. Type in your first fact. Insert a different text box for each fact. Students can position the picture and text box however they choose.

Follow-up: When student are finished have them save the document to their folder on the network drive. This will allow the teacher easy access. Say: Click on File, Save As. Click on the network drive, your folder and click save.

Assessment

- Ongoing observation during the learning activities.
- Completion of facts sheet

Community Connections

- Take a trip to Washington's Headquarters in Winchester, Virginia,
- Visit Mount Vernon.
- Visit Washington's birthplace in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Cross-Curricular Extensions

Language Arts

- Students write a paragraph describing Washington's contributions

Performing Arts

- Students dress up as Washington and give a report about his contributions

Art

- Students visit <http://www.georgewashington.si.edu/kids/portrait.html>

About the Author

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GEORGE WASHINGTON

The Facts		What Do You Think?		What Did You Discover?	
1	Washington was the first president of the U. S.	Y	N	Y	N
2	He was born in Maryland.	Y	N	Y	N
3	Washington was a store keeper.	Y	N	Y	N
4	He served in the House of Burgesses.	Y	N	Y	N
5	He was delegate to the Second Continental Congress.	Y	N	Y	N
6	Washington was Commander in Chief of the Continental Army	Y	N	Y	N
7	Washington surrendered to Cornwallis at Norfolk, VA.	Y	N	Y	N
8	He lived at Mount Rushmore.	Y	N	Y	N
9	He served as president for three terms.	Y	N	Y	N
10	The Jefferson Memorial honors George Washington.	Y	N	Y	N