

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The 1<sup>st</sup> George

George Washington was the first President of the United States and one of the Founding Fathers of our country. He was born on February 22, 1732, in Virginia. Growing up, he helped his father work on their farm and loved to ride horses. He didn't go to school much, but he still learned a lot, especially about math, map-making, and being a good leader.

As a young man, Washington worked as a surveyor, which means he measured land. He also served in the military. He showed such bravery and good leadership during the French and Indian War that he was made commander of all the soldiers in Virginia!

When the American colonies decided to fight for their independence from Great Britain, they chose George Washington to be the commander of the Continental Army. He was a great leader, always brave and wise. After many battles, the colonies finally won their freedom. This war is known as the Revolutionary War.

After the war, the colonies needed to create a new government. Washington helped write the United States Constitution, which is like the rulebook for our country. When it was time to pick the first President, everyone agreed it should be George Washington.

As President, Washington set many important examples. He showed that the President should be a good and fair leader. He also decided that a President should only serve for two terms, or eight years, to make sure that one person doesn't have too much power for too long.

Even after his death in 1799, George Washington's contributions to our country live on. He helped the United States win its freedom, and his leadership and values set the standard for all the presidents who came after him.

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Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. What jobs did George Washington have before he became President?
2. What was George Washington's role in the Revolutionary War?
3. How did George Washington contribute to the United States Constitution?
4. How many terms did George Washington decide a President should serve?
5. Why is George Washington important to our country?

