GEORGE WASHINGTON-THEMED SUB PLANS

George Washington Substitute Plans
Date: February
Academic Time: 235 minutes
See all printable activities at the end of this document.

Introduction *(40 Minutes)*

- Start the conversation by telling students that no name is more synonymous with America than Washington. Washington is nicknamed “the Father of our Country.” He led the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War, and became America’s first president.

- Ask students to brainstorm the many ways in which George Washington is honored in America. (He has the capital named after him, a state named after him, countless cities, towns, highways, monuments, parks, schools, and universities named after him as well).

- Then, tell students that he is one of only a few Americans to be honored both on a current dollar bill AND coin. Ask students if they can name the others? (Jefferson and Lincoln).

- Finally, pass out the $1 Bill image for students to color. Also included is a coloring page of the Washington Monument as an alternative.

Language Arts Activity One:

George Washington Reading Comprehension *(40 min)*

- Introduce the activity to students. Tell them the activity contains a reading passage and ten statements that students have to verify as either fact or fiction.
- Have students work independently.
- Give 15-20 minutes to read and finish questions
- Have students volunteer to read portions of the narrative aloud. Use your discretion to stop and discuss.

Language Arts Activity Two:

George Washington Virtual History Teacher *(45 min)*

- <u>This activity requires the passage in the previous reading comprehension activity</u>
- Introduce activity to students. Tell them that they are playing the role of a history teacher grading a test on George Washington.
- The test they are grading from an imaginary student leaves much to be desired.
- Students must grade the test as it is, but then must use elaboration to provide examples of excellent responses to the questions, so that the “student” can achieve at a higher level on the next test.
- If necessary, explain the importance of elaboration on test questions.
- Allow students to work independently and share their responses.

Language Arts Activity Three:

George Washington Paralaugh *(30 minutes)*

- Explain to students that a paralaugh is a fancy name for a mad lib.
- If necessary, review the meanings of nouns, verbs, adjectives, and tenses.
- Allow students to work independently. Encourage them to select sophisticated words.
- Allow students to share.
- They will have a lot of fun with this. The bulk of the time for this activity will be in sharing.

Social Studies Activity One:

George Washington Geography *(45 minutes)*

<u>Students need scissors and glue sticks for this activity.</u>

- Reiterate that George Washington is perhaps the most honored figure in American history. He is so important, that 30 states have a city or town named Washington
- Tell students, they must cut out a small George Washington head, and paste it on each state that has a city or town named Washington. Lines are drawn next to states that are too small to paste a head on.
- Use your discretion to determine if students should be able to reference a United States map.

Closing Activity:

Writing Prompt: Betrayal *(35 minutes)*

- Ask students to define betrayal
- Explain to students that betrayal is a major theme in literature, movies, and history!
- Tell students that Benedict Arnold was one of George Washington's most trusted military officers. Washington trusted him so much that he offered Arnold command of one of the most important American forts.
- Explain that Benedict Arnold, unbeknownst to Washington, had become very bitter toward him and the Continental Congress because he felt he had been denied credit for his role in various battles.
- Introduce the writing prompt and allow students to work independently on crafting a response.
- Allow students to share their writing.

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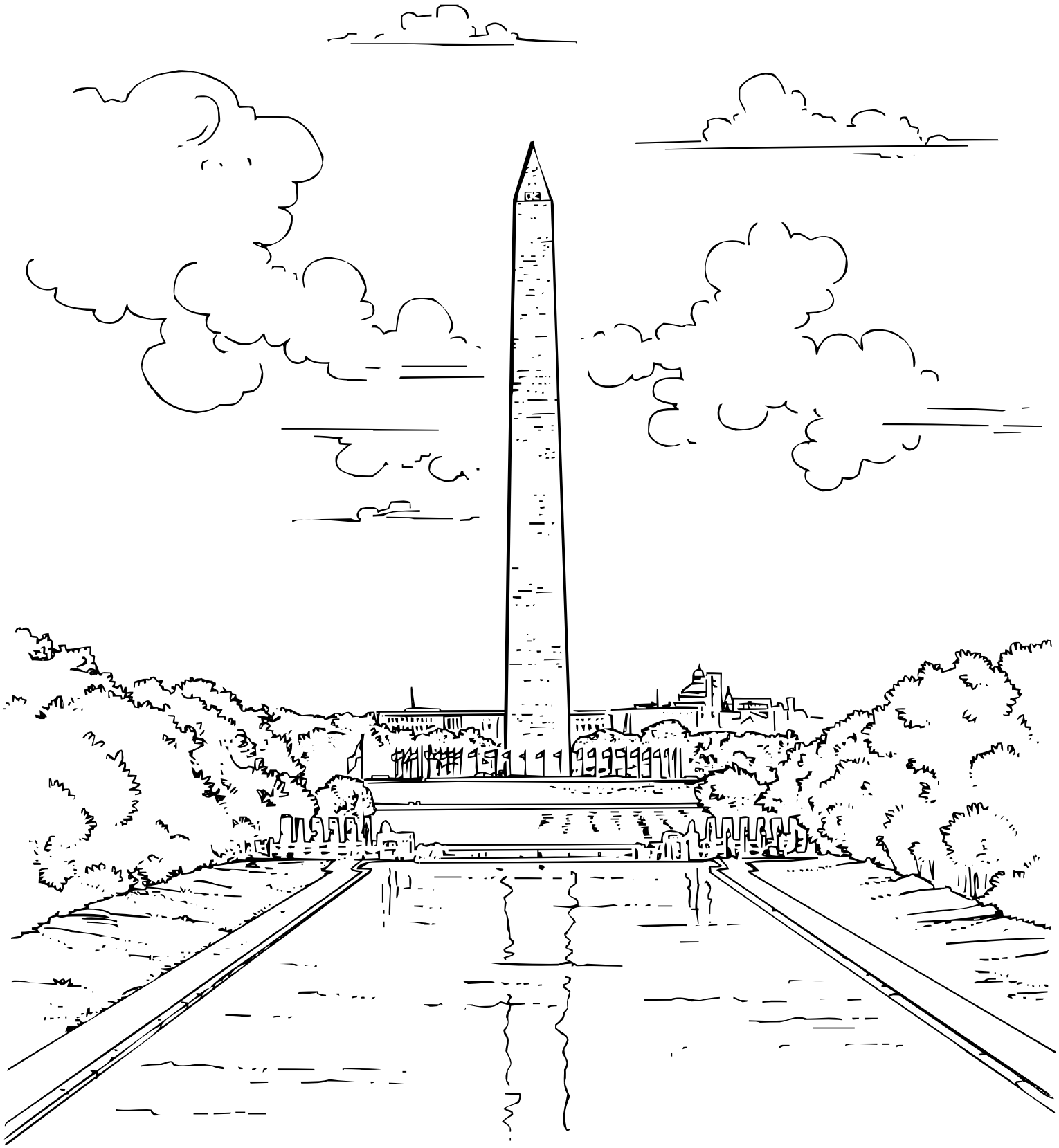

Washington Monument

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$ 1 Bill Coloring

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GEORGE WASHINGTON Reading Comprehension

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia, although he grew up near Fredericksburg. In his childhood and adolescence, he studied math and surveying. When he was 16, he went to live with his brother, Lawrence, in Mount Vernon.

George was scarred with smallpox before the age of 20 but inherited his brother's land (including Mount Vernon) when Lawrence died in 1752.

Washington's military career began in 1753, when he was sent into Ohio country. In 1754, he battled the French and was forced to surrender Fort Necessity (near present-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania). He continued as an officer in Ohio country and served under the British general Edward Braddock when their army was ambushed by the French in 1755. Once again, Washington tasted defeat after their surrender of Fort Duquesne to French forces. Washington helped take Fort Duquesne back in 1758.

Washington was married to Martha Custis in 1759. Washington managed the family and estate until he took command of the Virginia troops just before the American Revolution. He was made commander of the Continental Army on June 15, 1775.

Washington proved himself an excellent leader and won several decisive battles during the Revolution. As an advocate of a federal government, Washington became chairman of the Constitutional Convention and helped in getting the Constitution ratified. In 1789, he was inaugurated as America's first president.

Washington was re-elected in 1792, but refused a third term. On December 14, 1799, 17 days before the new century, Washington died of acute laryngitis.

1.) When was George Washington born?
a.) after February 24
b.) before February 20
c.) after February 26
d.) before February 23

2.) George Washington couldn't be scarred with smallpox at which age?
a.) 16
b.) 17
c.) 19
d.) 21

3.) In which of the following years was George Washington successful in battle?
a.) 1750
b.) 1753
c.) 1758
d.) 1755

4.) George Washington married Martha _____.

5.) What happened first?
a.) George Washington inherited his brother's land.
b.) Washington's military career began.
c.) Washington was married.
d.) He went to live with Lawrence.

6.) What does advocate mean?
a.) opponent
b.) supporter
c.) creator
d.) player

7.) Which of the following was George Washington not involved in?
a.) Surrender of Fort Duquense
b.) Constitutional Convention
c.) Revolutionary War
d.) Boston Tea Party

8.) Washington became chairman of what?
a.) Constitutional Convention
b.) American Revolution
c.) Virginia
d.) French forces

9.) What happened last?
a.) Washington was inaugurated as first president.
b.) Washington refused a third term.
c.) 1794
d.) The new century

10.) Which of the following is not true?
a.) Washington was an excellent leader.
b.) Washington won several decisive battles during the American Revolution.
c.) Washington died after the new century.
d.) Washington died before the new century.

Virtual History Teacher
George Washington Test

Name: _____

Instructions: You are playing the role of a history teacher who is grading the test below. See the questions and your "student's" answers. Grade the quality of the answers on a scale of 1-4, "1" being a poor answer and "4" being a great answer. For each answer you grade, use your knowledge of George Washington, or, reference the mrnussbaum.com online biography, to add the missing pieces.

Question 1: Why was George Washington so important in the Revolutionary War?	Score:
Student Answer: George Washington won a few battles and was a good leader.	
Your Response:	

Question 2: Why was George Washington called "The Father of our Country?"	Score:
Student Answer: He was called that because he was the first president.	
Your Response:	

Question 3: What are some ways in which George Washington is honored in America today?	Score:
Student Answer: George Washington has a big monument in Washington D.C. and has a state named after him.	
Your Response:	

Possible Answers:

Question 1: Why was George Washington so important in the Revolutionary War?	Score:
Student Answer: George Washington won a few battles and was a good leader.	
Your Response: George Washington led the Continental Army, which was always low on experience, morale, supplies, and clothing. His leadership was crucial when it looked like the British would win the war. Washington led the Continental Army to victories at Trenton, Princeton, and Yorktown.	

Question 2: What were some of Amelia's accomplishments before her last flight?	Score:
Student Answer: Amelia became a famous pilot and broke a lot of records.	
Your Response: In 1927, Amelia became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean (although she did so as a passenger). She would eventually become the first woman pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Furthermore, she would break the longest flight and highest altitude records for female pilots, as well as the record for flying across the Atlantic Ocean in the shortest amount of time.	

Question 3: What are some ways in which George Washington is honored in America today?	Score:
Student Answer: George Washington has a big monument in Washington D.C. and has a state named after him.	
Your Response: Washington is honored in countless ways. Besides the Washington Monument, the nation's capital is named after him. Besides Washington state, cities, counties, parks, highways, schools, and buildings are named for him. He appears on our currency and coins and his birthday is a holiday.	

Name _____

George Washington: Having fun with an American Legend

George Washington

George Washington was _____ in 1732. He fought in the French
past tense verb

and Indian _____ , and was _____ twice. In 1775,
noun **past tense verb**

he was named _____ of the _____ _____.
noun (not place) **adjective** **noun (not place)**

Washington scored a major _____ at _____.
noun **place**

In 1783, he _____ the British _____ and the war was
past tense verb **noun (not person)**

over.

George Washington Geography

George Washington is perhaps the most honored figure in American history. He is so important that 27 states have a city or town named Washington. See the table below with all of the Washingtons. For each state with a Washington, cut out the small icon of George Washington and paste it on the map in that state.

Alabama: yes	Hawaii: no	Massachusetts: yes	New Mexico: no	South Dakota: no
Alaska: no	Idaho: no	Michigan: yes	New York: yes	Tennessee: no
Arizona: no	Illinois: yes	Minnesota: no	North Carolina: yes	Texas: no
Arkansas: yes	Indiana: yes	Mississippi: yes	North Dakota: no	Utah: yes
California: yes	Iowa: yes	Missouri: yes	Ohio: no	Vermont: yes
Colorado: no	Kansas: yes	Montana: no	Oklahoma: yes	Virginia: yes
Connecticut: yes	Kentucky: yes	Nebraska: yes	Oregon: no	Washington: no
Delaware: no	Louisiana: yes	Nevada: no	Pennsylvania: yes	West Virginia: yes
Florida: no	Maine: yes	New Hampshire: yes	Rhode Island: yes	Wisconsin: no
Georgia: yes	Maryland: no	New Jersey: yes	South Carolina: no	Wyoming: no

Betrayal

Throughout the Revolutionary War, George Washington was forced to overcome major obstacles imposed by not only the enemy, but by the Continental Congress, and even those that were supposed to be supporting him.

The case of Benedict Arnold was one of the most infamous examples of betrayal in American history. Washington thought very highly of Arnold, who played a major role in the Patriot victory at Saratoga. Despite being forced to publicly reprimand him for insubordination, Washington offered to give Arnold command of a pivotal American fort at West Point on the Hudson River. An embittered and spiteful Arnold, however, eagerly accepted the command for the purposes of turning over plans for the fort to the British, a potential death knell to the Patriot cause.

Luckily for the Patriots, Arnold's plan was discovered, but not before he swore allegiance to the British to fight against the Americans. Washington was said to be personally devastated by Arnold's treasonous acts.

Have you ever been betrayed by someone you considered a friend? If so, write about it in detail below without mentioning specific names. If you can't think of an example in your own life, think of an example in movies, sports, or literature and detail it below.