



Name: _____

George Washington

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732 in Virginia. He is a central figure in American history and holds the esteemed title of the "Father of Our Nation." Let's take a journey through the life of this remarkable leader.

Early Years

Young George Washington grew up on a plantation called Ferry Farm. He didn't have a formal education but learned valuable lessons from his family and experiences. George developed a strong work ethic while helping on the farm and began showing leadership qualities even in his youth.

Military Service

As tensions grew between the American colonies and British rule, George Washington became a key figure in the fight for independence. In 1775, he was appointed as the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. Despite facing challenges, Washington's leadership and determination played a crucial role in the eventual victory of the American forces.



The First President

After the successful end of the war in 1783, George Washington returned to his plantation, Mount Vernon. However, he was once again called to serve his country. In 1789, Washington became the first President of the United States after the adoption of the U.S. Constitution. His leadership was instrumental in establishing the foundations of the new nation.

Presidential Achievements

During his two terms in office, Washington worked tirelessly to set up a strong government. He established many important traditions, such as the Cabinet (a group of people that would give the President advice) and the Inaugural Address (the first speech a President gives to the nation), which are still followed today. Washington's wise leadership helped the young United States navigate challenges and set a course for future success.

Farewell Address

In 1797, after serving two terms as president, George Washington made the historic decision to step down. In his Farewell Address, he emphasized the importance of unity and warned against the dangers of political parties and foreign entanglements. His commitment to the well-being of the nation left a lasting legacy.



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Legacy

George Washington's legacy extends far beyond his time in office. His leadership, integrity, and dedication to the principles of liberty and justice have made him a symbol of American values. His image is honored on the one-dollar bill, and his birthday is celebrated as Presidents' Day, a national holiday.

Conclusion

George Washington's life is an inspiring story of a young boy from a Virginia farm who grew up to become a founding father, military hero, and the first President of the United States. His legacy continues to influence the nation, reminding us of the qualities that define great leaders and the enduring spirit of freedom that he helped to establish.

1. When was George Washington appointed as the leader of the Continental Army? _____

2. List two traditions that George Washington established as President. _____

3. How did George Washington's early years on a farm help prepare him for his role as army commander and President of the United States? _____

4. What did George Washington discuss in his Farewell Address? _____

5. How is George Washington honored today? _____
