George Celebrates Birthday in the Hollywood Hills
Smithsonian Exhibition Opens in Seattle in March

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General Washington Unanimous Pick for President at Convention!

NEW YORK, 1789 (AP)—After months of debate to establish our new American government, the first official election was held on February 4, 1789. George Washington received all 69 electoral votes. Washington, who will be inaugurated on April 30 of this year, accepted the presidency, even though he wished to return to his estate at Mount Vernon and retire. “I was summoned by my country,” said Washington. He and his wife Martha will soon move to the country’s capital, New York City.

Washington Graciously Delays Retirement for a Second Term

PHILADELPHIA, 1795 (AP)—President George Washington has won his second election to the presidency of the United States! The inauguration will take place on March 4 in Philadelphia, the new capital of the United States. However, Washington is doubtful about being the President again. He wrote to his friend Henry Lee that he accepted the presidency only “after a long and painful conflict in my own breast.” He really wanted to return to Mount Vernon and retire. The next few years could be difficult. There are arguments over the interpretation of the Constitution, Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson strongly disagrees. President Washington fears this will divide the country.

Whiskey Rebellion Shakes Western Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA, 1794.—Western Pennsylvanians have started a violent opposition to government taxes. They are launching the first major civil disturbance of President Washington’s term in office. Last week, U.S. Marshal David Lenox was trying to collect taxes on locally distilled liquor in Western Pennsylvania. Military action will be taken, much to the regret of the President: The army is being organized from other northern states and they will advance into Pennsylvania shortly.

WOULD YOU SIGN A LOYALTY OATH?

During the Revolutionary War, the British would have required you to sign an oath similar to this:

“I voluntarily take this OATH to bear true and loyal allegiance to the MAJESTY KING George the Third—and to defend to the utmost of my power, His Sacred Person, Crown, and Government, against all Persons whatsoever.”

Would you have signed? How many colonists do you think were loyal to the British crown?

General Washington Rallyes Troops at Valley Forge

VALLEY FORGE, 1777-78.—General Washington struggled to keep his troops alive and well in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, this winter. Inadequate shipments of clothing, food, and supplies have left the regiments in shambles. Poor hygiene and serious disease threaten the lives of all the soldiers camping there. General Washington has asked for more supplies, but has not been successful. While General Washington struggles alongside his men, his political enemies threaten to remove his power. Some critics feel that others are better suited to lead the Continental army.

Martha Washington Buries Fourth Child

YORKTOWN, 1781.—After losing two children in infancy and her daughter Patsy to illness, Martha Washington lost her last child to camp fever. John Parke Custis, known as Jacky to family and friends, passed away on November 7 at Yorktown. This happened just seventeen days after the surrender of Britain’s General Cornwallis. Jacky leaves behind a wife and four children. General and Mrs. Washington will raise the youngest two children, Eleanor “Nelly” Custis and George Washington Parke Custis, at Mount Vernon, their home in Virginia.

Washington: A National Treasure

Where’s George?

Students spend numerous hours learning to write, and we usually depend on the English teachers to instruct them. We forget that students can also write to learn. The very act of thinking an idea through in order to put it on paper leads to clarification of that idea. And as students write, more ideas emerge, questions find answers, and confusion finds clarity as words take shape and form. We need not always know the ending or the answer when we begin to write. The journey will often reveal it.

The activities suggested in Writing to Learn are intended for student exploration, to let students meander through inspirations, arguments, and ideas until they make meaning of their own. Initially, don’t worry too much about form, structure, spelling, and grammar; it’s only a work in progress. Ideas are best generated when words flow quickly. The mind can race far faster than the pen. Let it race and catch those ideas on the fly.

Create an Old-Fashioned Advertisement

Ask students to create advertisements of their own using our authentic 18th-century advertisements as models.

• Advertise an unusual product
• Publicize an upcoming event
• Place a “Help Wanted” advertisement

Making Connections

Find the dates to these main events. Many are in the newspaper. Construct a simple timeline that puts these major events in chronological order. Use images, drawings, or symbols to represent each event.

_______: Boston: Boston Tea Party
_______: France: Bastille stormed, French Revolution begins
_______: Thomas Jefferson writes the Declaration of Independence
_______: American Revolution ends
_______: Washington becomes first President
_______: Gilbert Stuart paints Washington’s portrait
_______: President and Mrs. Washington move into residence on High Street in Philadelphia

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

The Patriot Papers serves students of all ages. It is published quarterly by the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 1234, Washington, D.C. ninety-four

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Teaching materials to accompany the exhibition “George Washington: A National Treasure” are available to educators at the Smithsonian Institution or the National Portrait Gallery.

The opinions expressed in The Patriot Papers are not necessarily those of the Smithsonian Institution or the National Portrait Gallery.

For more information on the series and its quarterly publication, you can visit www.george.washington.edu or call 202-633-1092.

Washington, D.C.

The Washington, D.C.-based ACADEMY is the 28th of this month:

At the City Oratory, on Wednesday the 9th of this month:

Sack Gentlemen & Ladies are respectfully invited to attend this delightful spectacle. To be announced at all the Learned Pig.

Ladies are respectfully invited to attend this delightful spectacle. To be announced at all the

On the 4th of February on River Street, the second door from King Street, where that noble art will be taught every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Mr. Finnie respectfully informs the gentlemen amateurs of Architecture, that he proposes opening a FENCING ACADEMY

word find key

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Where’s George?
November 1796

RUNAWAY SLAVE. Mrs. Washington is greatly distressed by the loss of Olivey Judge, her Mount Vernon servant so skilled in needlework. This girl, she heard, was lured away by a Frenchman who offered her and left her stranded in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. President Washington has sent word that all will be forgiven if she returns to her mistress, but she has refused to come back unless promised her freedom. This puts the President in an awkward situation. Privately he has said that although he is sympathetic to her demand, setting her free would only reward her for running away and would spread discontent among the rest of his servants (as he calls them), who by being faithful are more deserving of their freedom than the runaway. Above all, the President cautioned that no violent means should be used to bring her back, lest a rash or riot be excited. Rather than risk this happening, he would tell Mrs. Washington she must get along without the services of Olivey Judge.

December 1790

FREEDOM TOO GREAT A TEMPTATION. President Washington has brought a handful of servants from Mount Vernon, but he will be faced with the difficulty of complying with the Pennsylvania law freeing adult slaves who have lived in Pennsylvania for six months in a row. It is believed that the President, therefore, will have to shuttle these servants back and forth and suffer the inconvenience of sometimes being without his cook, Hercules. Asked if he feared his slaves might take advantage of being in the North to run away, the President has privately conceded that “the idea of freedom might be too great a temptation for them to resist.”

Possessions

Today, most of us own many more things than we really need to live on. When Washington was 11 years old, his family made an inventory (or list) of their possessions. Here is what they owned, besides their land:

- 16 pairs of sheets
- 17 pillowcases
- 15 beds
- 8 couches
- 3 desks
- 7 chairs
- 2 fireplace sets
- 1 tablecloth
- 2 napkins
- 20 slaves

How many of these items are owned by your family today? Are you surprised to see “slaves” listed as part of the inventory of possessions? If you were to make an inventory of every item in your home, how long do you think the list would be? How many items would be unfamiliar to George Washington?

Throughout the coming months The Patriot Papers will address the issue of slavery during George Washington’s time. In view of Washington’s many attributes and accomplishments, it is difficult to acknowledge his role as slave owner. Guest historians will share their perspectives; we invite you to join them. Hopefully, through dialogue, we will increase our understanding.

—F. A. Pulek, editor
PatriotPapers.org

The White House

President John Adams was the first to live in the White House, even though construction was not complete. During the War of 1812, the British set fire to the White House, but it survived. The original stone walls, built two centuries ago, are still in place today. The White House now has 132 rooms, 35 bathrooms, and 6 levels, with 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, 8 staircases, and 3 elevators. Draw a picture of the house you would want to live in if you were President, or design one special room.

Extension activities:

Playing with Possessions

- Possessions tell us a lot about a person. Have each student choose one item to represent each member of his or her family (including the student) and assemble these in a backpack or box. Then each student should choose one item that best represents the entire family. Encourage students to do this exercise with their families. Each student should be able to tell the class why he or she chose the one item that best represents him or her. (Each student could assemble a backpack or box with only his or her own items if families prove difficult.)

- Have students take an inventory of their bedroom. (It might be frightening but could be revealing of personality.)

- Students can be divided into groups and assigned a specific historical family to represent. The group would first research the family and then discuss issues and debate ideas representative of that family. They can also construct the same family back-pack representing their historical family.

For Discussion and Debate

Have students do further research on slavery. Good websites include Mount Vernon’s site at www.mountvernon.org, the Hubbard House Underground Railroad Museum in Ohio at www.hubbardhousemuseum.org, or the Decatur House at www.decaturhouse.org.
Building Vocabulary

Define the terms “Federalist” and “Republican” as used in Washington’s time. What did each political party represent? Which parties did Jefferson and Hamilton support? Why? How do these terms relate to the Republican and Democratic parties of today?

Vocabulary Words
camp fever 1. Typhus: an infection characterized by high fever, headache, and dizziness; a.k.a. camp diarrhea
cede vt. 1. To surrender possession of, formally or officially. 2. To yield or grant, as by a treaty.
tippet n. 1. A long, slimmer boa used like a scarf. It was considered a fancy accessory in the 19th century, usually made of swansdown or fur.

Making Connections

You as President
What qualities made George Washington a good President? What kind of person should be the President of the United States? Do you think you have what it takes to be a future President? Would you want to be President? Why or why not?

The Portrait Puzzler answer key
1. Martha Washington
2. Alexander Hamilton
3. Thomas Paine
4. Benjamin Franklin
5. Thomas Jefferson
6. John Adams
7. Abigail Adams
8. John Hancock

Vocabulary

The Portrait Puzzler: Who am I?

Although George and I never had children of our own, I bore a child, and sadly, buried them all.

I was the secretary of the treasury. I wanted a strong government with strong businesses and banks. Thomas Jefferson and I disagreed about many things, and this began to divide the country.

I helped write the Declaration of Independence, and I was involved in politics, especially in Philadelphia. I am not famous, however, for using a knife to show the nature of electricity and lightning.

I styled the cologne should be independent from England, and when this in common use. I also thought those were the finest try most candles.

I served as the first Vice President of the United States and as the second President. I was elected to the presidency in 1793. My son later becomes President in 1825.

I am from being a lady. I fought for women’s rights, especially for women to have the same educational opportunities as men. I also strongly opposed slavery.

I was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence, and my signature is the largest.

What Did George Really Look Like?

G eorge Washington towered over most men of the time. Standing about 6 feet, 3 inches tall, with long arms and legs, huge hands and feet, and pale blue eyes, Washington attracted notice. When young, his hair was reddish brown, but it lightened as he aged. As a young man he was strong and athletic looking, weighing about 175 pounds. Later in life, he weighed closer to 200 pounds.

Portraits of the 18th century captured a personal manner, especially in their President. The artist and the photographer try to show the real person through their art. It is easier for a painter to hide flaws or other unattractive features than a photographer. The Lansdowne portrait is considered quite realistic, but there are some things the portrait does NOT show about George Washington:

• His face was scarred from smallpox (especially his nose)
• He had a strong “Roman” nose
• Already in his 60s, GW had wrinkles in his skin and a bit of a stomach paunch
• He was wearing ill-fitting, dotted spectacles that may have distorted his face
• He wore eyeglasses for reading

If you compare this portrait to portraits of other important people during the same time period, you will see some very serious faces. Most people did not smile for portraits the way we often are told to “smile” when we have our pictures taken. Portraits were a way to show status and dignity, and to communicate character. People valued a dignified, formal manner, especially in their President. Look carefully at the Lansdowne portrait on page 4. Identify 3 things the portrait tells us about President Washington:

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

Compare this portrait with two others of Washington (you can find them in this paper!). Do you notice any similarities?

Any differences?

Did You Know...?

• Washington came from a blended family, having two older stepbrothers and one stepmother.
• He was actually born February 11, not February 22. England changed its calendar so that he was a boy, causing his birthdate to become February 12.
• His father died when he was 8 years old.
• He often had a bad temper but slowly learned to control it.
• He loved horseback riding, fishing, and farming.
• He was not always a good student.
• He did not always get along very well with his mother, who was bossy and controlling.
• His older half-brother Lawrence was one of the most important people in young George’s life.
• He had two stepchildren, but no children of his own.
Six Reasons For Greatness

More than 200 years after his death, we still speak of George Washington's greatness. Why? What makes a person great?

1. By age 15, Washington was renowned for his physical courage: he continued to fight in one battle despite having a bullet pierce his clothing and 2 horses shot out from under him.

2. Washington risked his wealth, his reputation, and his life when he agreed to lead the fight against Britain; had he failed, he would have been hung as a traitor.

3. Washington learned "to act like a fox, not like a wolf." He understood that to win the war against Britain, he had to outlast his enemy, not win every battle.

4. Washington agreed to become the first President of the United States, when he could easily have been the first king.

5. He was the only President to be elected unanimously, not once but twice!

6. He was the only Founding Father to free his slaves when he died, although this was not effective until after Martha Washington's death.

Is there anyone alive today who you think is great and will be remembered by history? Defend your choice.

George Washington Dies at 67

After rising outside, dicing very bad weather last Thursday and Friday, George Washington got sick on Saturday, December 14, 1799. An infection gave him a sore throat. He also had a fever, and it was hard for him to breathe.

The President's friend Tobias Lear writes that the President grew calm late in the evening and checked his own pulse. Then he died peacefully in his bed. His wife Martha was with him, as well as some servants, doctors, and friends.

A large funeral is planned for Wednesday, December 18, including gun salutes and a procession.

Modern medicine concludes that this was epiglottitis, a bacterial infection.

* Modern medicine concludes that this was epiglottitis, a bacterial infection.

The President with No Teeth!

When George Washington became the first President in 1789, he had only one tooth left in his mouth. As a boy, he had cracked walnut shells with his teeth. As a result, many of them fell out before he was 30! Over the years, Washington wore several sets of false teeth. There is no proof that he ever had wooden teeth. His dentures were made of many things. They were often made from human teeth, animal teeth, and ivory. They were put together with wire and a spring. This allowed the dentures to open and close. Throughout his life, Washington had trouble speaking, chewing food, and smiling. The false teeth could be painful. They sometimes made Washington's cheeks and lips puff out. Fortunately, modern dentistry now allows painless smiles for even the greatest of walnut lovers!

Write this verse out for the students. Ask them what it adds to the work of art. Why would Americans shed "a grateful tear"? Then let them choose 2 or 3 other pictures from this paper and try writing a title or verse of their own. They could even print out the best captions, mount them under photocopies of their paintings, and display them.

Capture It in Words

The unidentified artist of the etching George Washington in His Last Illness captured the nation’s sorrow when he added an inscription and verse beneath the picture. It reads:

“G. Washington in his last illness attended by Docs Craik and Brown.”

Americans behold & shed a grateful tear
For a man who has gained your freedom most dear
And now is departing into the realms above
Where he may ever rest in lasting peace above.
**Writing to Learn**

Take any character from the past and write a journal entry, a page from a diary, or a letter from his or her perspective.

Make up your own Rules of Civility for the 21st century—on dating, on dining, on education, on politics.

**Time Travel**

Take any modern personality, celebrity, or politician and send them back in time to comment on an event.

Use George Washington and other people mentioned in The Patriot Papers as characters for a skit. Act out what you think George Washington’s first inaugural address would have been like. Or re-create a scene from Valley Forge using the information you know. Imagine what a typical dinner would be like for George and Martha, and act this out. How would this be different from a dinner with your family? Don’t forget to use dress and language to make the skits more authentic.

**Cross-ing the Delaware answer key**

Across
1. Civility
2. Lansdowne
3. Whiskey
4. George Washington

Down
1. Teeth
2. Federalists
3. Gilbert Stuart
4. Epiglottitis
5. Martha
6. Mount Vernon
7. Valley Forge

**Make Your Own Portrait of George**

**WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**
- Thin newsprint or tracing paper
- A new quarter (or one that is not worn down)
- Peeled crayon

**WHAT TO DO:**
- Put a quarter on a sheet of thin newsprint or tracing paper.
- Hold the coin steady as you rub over it with the side of a crayon. TIP: If you find that the coin slips, you can put a circle of tape on the bottom of the coin to hold it to the desk.
- As you rub the crayon over the coin, you will begin to see the head of President Washington appear!

**In Other Words...**

*Mistress Goody’s Column of Advice on subjects other than politics and war.

In 1745, in the colonial frontier town of Fredericksburg, Virginia, thirteen-year-old George Washington recorded The Rules of Civility in his workbook, probably as a dictation exercise. These “guidelines for the respectable gentleman” would influence him throughout his life. The rules stress etiquette, chivalry, and courtesy. Does that sound like something from the Dark Ages? Fortunately, there is one who understands the rules well; in fact, she still recommends them we today. Let us recall a character from the past to help with our everyday problems. We give you the “Toast of George Town,” our own Mistress Goody, always informed, always respectable, and very, very good.

*Mistress Goody*

My brother has a toothache every week. I’m getting tired of him complaining so much. He eats chocolate, candy, and ice cream all the time, and I know that’s what the problem is. Don’t you think if he stops eating junk food his toothache will go away? Rule 38: In visiting the sick, do not presently play the physician if you be not knowing therein.

In other words… stop playing doctor and suggest that he see a dentist without delay.

*Mistress Goody*

There’s this really cool group of kids that I want to bug out with. Sometimes they do mean things to people. Like once I know they broke into a teacher’s car. They didn’t take anything. It was just a practical joke, sort of. My mom says I shouldn’t be associated with anyone who might lead me into trouble one day, but I think it’s all about a little fun. What do you say?

Rule 56: Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation. For ‘tis inconsideration that causes all men to be always informed, always respectable, and very, very good.

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*Mistress Goody*

It’s the lunch table where everyone eats and talks at the same time. I think that’s pretty gross. What do you think? The rules of dining etiquette are quite clear; let them guide your acquaintances in all their culinary endeavors (and in the cafeteria).

90th: Being set at meat, scratch not neither spit, cough nor blow your nose, except when there is a necessity for it.

100th: Cleanse out your teeth with the tablecloth, napkin, fork, knife; but if others do it, let it be done with a pick tooth. [i.e., a toothpick]

Questions? Problems? Too much homework?
Write to Mistress Goody for all the answers to love and life at PatriotPapers@npg.si.edu.

**Will the Real George W. Please Stand Up?**

*Actor William Somnerfield brings George Washington to your community for a 3-day trip back in time. Guess who’s coming to town—direct from Mount Vernon on the banks of the Potomac! It’s George Washington, and you can shake his hand. For 3 days he’ll be visiting a museum near you,*

*Waiting to share his stories and dance the minuet. He looks like George Washington. He has white powdered hair. He’s almost 6’3” tall. He walks like George and talks like George. He even signs time to take a walk with Washington.*

*Parents, check your local museum for dates and details.*

**TRIPPIN’ THROUGH TIME**

**CROSS-ing the Delaware**

1. George Washington recorded the Rule of when he was thirteen years old.

2. The National Portrait Gallery’s portrait of George Washington is often referred to as the ______ portrait.


4. George Washington died of this infection.

5. The first name of George Washington’s wife.

6. The name of George Washington’s home in Virginia.

7. In the winter of 1777–78, Washington struggled to keep his troops alive at ______.
THE PUDDING PAPERS

W e interrupt this edition of The Patriot Papers news to bring you the nearly news—a collection of intimate historical glimpses into the past, captured in not-so-lingering color in The Pudding Papers. The complete episodic adventures can be viewed at your leisure at www.georgewashington.si.edu. Our on-the-scene trusted correspondents include: Silas Silver tongue, our presidential reporter; Titus Blunt, our congressional correspondent; and our own Prudence Pudding, who provides social notes from all over. (We leave it for you to decide, dear reader, whether she is an upstart hussy or a man in disguise.) In the spirit of the freedom of the press guaranteed by our new Bill of Rights, we intend to act as a watchful eye and a listening ear, sometimes bringing a plate of gossip, but never a dish of scandal.

April 23, 1789
HE COMES! HE COMES! George Washington, President-elect of the United States, has just set foot on the New York shore after an eight-day triumphal journey from Mount Vernon. The excitement here is unbeliev able. Thousands line the streets—all you can see are heads standing as thick as ears of corn before the harvest. Ladies are crowded in every window, anxious for a glimpse of the illustrious man. "I have seen him!" we heard one young lady call out, and though we had been entirely ignorant that he was in the city, I should have known at a glance that it was General Washington. I never saw a human being that looked so great and noble as he does. I could fall down on my knees before him. Washington, it can well be believed, is more popular than the new government he is to enter upon the duties of his office, George Washington decided he would visit all parts of the United States to please the citizens and to see how they felt about the new government. Silas Silver tongue, who is with the President's party, reports that they are nearing the end of their two-month journey of six hundred miles. Towns have been in a boatle of preparation, and at every stop the citizens have come out to meet him with addresses and speeches. Ladies, some rouged up to the teeth, have bedazzled themselves with sashes and headbands painted with images of the President and patriots' eagles. The festivities include the ringing of bells, bands of music, cannon salutes, and patriotic slogans. The festivities include the ringing of bells, bands of music, cannon salutes, and patriotic slogans. The festivities include the ringing of bells, bands of music, cannon salutes, and patriotic slogans.

Philadelphia, July 13, 1793
RICKETTS’S AMPHITHEATRE. Word that the President and his family were to attend a performance of Mr. John Bill Ricketts’s dangerous feats on horseback brought a large crowd this evening to what is called the Circus. The acrobatic performance was held to raise money to buy firewood for the poor during the coming winter. Mr. Ricketts, demonstrating his agility by drinking a glass of wine while on horseback, raised his glass to the health of "The Man of the People." This produced an immediate cry of applause and a loud hurrah from every part of the Circus. Mr. Ricketts has expressed his agreement with those who call General Washington the finest horseman of the age, saying, "I delight to see the general ride, and make it a point to fall in with him when I hear that he is abroad on horseback; his seat is so firm, his management so easy and graceful, that I who am a professor of horsemanship, would go to him and learn to ride."

June 1791
THE PRESIDENT ON TOUR. When he entered upon the duties of his office, George Washington decided he would visit all parts of the United States to please the citizens and to see how they felt about the new government. Silas Silver tongue, who is with the President’s party, reports that they are nearing the end of their two-month journey of six hundred miles. Towns have been in a boatle of preparation, and at every stop the citizens have come out to meet him with addresses and speeches. Ladies, some rouged up to the ears, have bedazzled themselves with sashes and headbands painted with images of the President and patriots’ eagles. The festivities include the ringing of bells, bands of music, cannon salutes, and some very bad poetry.

Philadelphia, September 1796
A visit to Mr. Peale’s museum, Prudence Pudding tells us, is well worth the admission fee of one fourth of a dollar, if only to see the huge American buffalo. Peale’s museum is filled with images of the earth and sea, a rich array of birds, and a great collection of the bones, jaws, and teeth of tigers, storks, and many other fearful animals. In one room are rattle, black, and spotted snakes, confined in cases enclosed with wire and glass. She was astounded to see Mr. Peale take out a black snake about four or five feet long, which he permitted to touch his cheek and reave itself around his neck. In the yard and stable were eagles, owls, baboons, monkeys, and a six-footed cow. Mr. Peale is also a painter, and there can be seen in his museum more than a hundred portraits of the more noteworthy personages of our country, including our illustrious Washington.

Making Connections

Maxims

Benjamin Franklin is well known for writing or rewriting common-sense advice and perspectives on his life and times, as found in Poor Richard’s Almanac, which was popular in his day and remains popular. Students enjoy deciphering the Franklin proverbs. Initiate a class discussion around some or all of the following:

- Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.
- Never leave till tomorrow that which you can do today.
- Great talkers, little doers.
- No gains without pains.
- To err is human, to repent divine; to persist, devilish.
- He has lost his boots but saved his spurs.
- He that falls in love with himself, will have no rivals.
- He that lies down with dogs shall rise up with fleas.

POET’S CORNER… SOME VERY BAD POETRY

GEORGE
There was a young General named George
Who set troops in the Valley as forge
His horse was as a daily
Who ask ladies to a jolly
And woe be to him as he rose up on horseback.

REVOLUTIONARY MOMENTS
Colonists took action and dumped the tea
They stood strong and would not flee
Some fought at Lexington, some at Concord
This threat to the British could not be ignored.

More Bad Poetry

During the 1770s “Poet’s Corners” appeared in newspapers throughout America. Anonymous poems, songs, and satires commented on issues of the day. Americans also produced a great number of political broadsides—sheets of paper covered with anonymous poems, songs, and essays—that could be tacked up around the city, left on doorsteps, or even read to groups on street corners. Have your students try their hand at creating broadsides, writing political or social poetry, or drawing political cartoons. Here is a sample to get them started.

REVOLUTIONARY TEA
There was an old lady lived over the sea
And she was an island queen.
Her daughter lived off in a new country
With an ocean of water between.
The old lady’s pockets were full of gold
But never contented was she,
So she called on her daughter to pay her a tax
Of three pence a pound on her tea.
Of three pence a pound on her tea.

“Now, mother, dear mother,” the daughter replied,
“I shan’t do the thing you ax,
I’m willing to pay a fair price for the tea,
But never the three penny tax.”

“You shall,” quoth the mother, and reddened with rage,
“For you’re my own daughter, you see,
And sure ‘tis quite proper a daughter should pay for her mother a tax on her tea,
Her mother a tax on her tea.”

Extension Activities

- Design clothing for a historical character or for a historical novel or play.
- Research Peale’s Museum and give a report on some of the odd animals that were included.
- Draw pictures that illustrate some of those peculiar animals in the museum.
- Research Ricketts’s Amphitheatre or the history of the circus and report back to the class.

S e e p a c e f o r m o r e  c o n t e n t.
Writing to Learn

Make Your Voice Heard
If you could have a conversation with George Washington, what would it be like? Compose a letter to Washington sharing your thoughts about the state of America during his presidency. Do you agree with the decisions he makes? What would you suggest he do differently? Next, compose a similar letter addressed to our current President. Send this one!

Or... pair up with a friend and write a dialogue about the state of America during his presidency. Then you could undertake.

Have your students write political poems on Mr. Washington. What would you suggest he do differently? Next, compose a similar letter addressed to our current President. Send this one!

Or... pair up with a friend and write a dialogue about the state of America during his presidency. Then you could undertake.

Get on the Bus, Guss... Make a New Plan, Stan
LA Schools Support Local Communities. What's Your Plan?

- The kids from Malibu jumped on board. Kindergartners and teacher Lorraine Stahl from Webster Elementary School in Malibu collect backpacks, lunch packs, pencils, crayons, and other supplies for the School on Wheels.
- They keep the wheels turning on this rolling school that tutors homeless kids in Santa Monica.
- Kibbles and bits. Those same kindergartners from Webster Elementary set out to be kind to animals. They sold dog biscuits and cat treats in little bags, 10 for a dollar. The kids collected enough money for the Agora Animal Shelter to buy a new surgical table. "That's a lot of puppy and meow chow. Congratulations!"
- Another class at Webster Elementary is knitting 16-inch squares. They will sew them into quits and give them to kids in Africa. Keep it up, Webster!
- Virginia Goodrich's 5th grade class from Monterey Hills Elementary School in South Pasadena observed history week in the kitchen! To support the Rare Breeds program in Colonial Williamsburg, they used a recipe from the historic Raleigh Tavern and baked animal gingerbread cookies. Then they dressed in colonial costumes and sold their wares in the mock market square. Watch for the recipe in the next issue.

Tile Game

- Teacher Kristin Miller paired her students up with the Audubon Society to study wildlife and the environment. The year they studied the rain forest and created one of their own!
- First graders at Woodlake Avenue Elementary School in Pomona found a great way to help a shelter for abused mothers and children. Their teacher, Sharon Rose, asked each student to donate a favorite book to the shelter. "It helps kids realize that many children don't have the same advantages as they do," said Rose. "It's also a great way to share our love of reading!"
- In Pomona, 3rd graders and their parents volunteer at the local animal shelter, where they clean, wash, brush, and talk to the animals.

The Power of the Penny Challenges the GW Dollar
On Wisconsin! Hudson Middle School Raises $4,000 in One Week

The George Washington on the $1 bill probably blinked when he saw his dollar mightily challenged by the penny. Students at Hudson Middle School in Hudson, Wisconsin, tested the power of the penny. In the spirit of Christmas, they set out to raise money for Toys for Tots. But in the spirit of the American Revolution, they "declared war" on each other.

The Kids Who Care Club set up the weeklong battle and gave each House a penny jar. Each class then has three Houses. Then each House raced to collect the most pennies. The victor would win an ice cream party. But soon Houses went on the attack. Pennies tallied positive points. But silver change and paper money took points away. When the Knights slipped a quarter into the Noble jar, the Knights lost 25 points. A dollar cost the House of Excalibur 100 points. "It's always more fun to sabotage the enemy," said club adviser Michelle Miller.

In the end, Excalibur, the Nobles, and the Knights were all victorious. And so was Toys for Tots. The Kids Who Care Club raised $4,000 in one week and went shopping for gifts. "In all my years of teaching I've never seen anything like it," said teacher Carol Gilbert. "The kids accepted the challenge and really got into the game." The Patriot Papers salutes you, Hudson. Thanks for Pledging It Forward.

Pledge It Forward—Self to Service

A Challenge from The Patriot Papers
—F. A. Pulles, Editor-in-chief

The Portrait Gallery's Office of Education would like to recognize those who continue to care about community. We challenge you to Pledge & Forward pledge time to your schools, youth organizations, water concerns. Will feature your stories and photos on our website at www.georgewashingtonsi.edu. Projects of particular merit will be published in The Patriot Papers. Get creative; get busy. And together, we can build a community of caring. Write to us at PatriotPapers@npg.si.edu.

Students Play Santa and Adopt Kids from the Star Tree
Students from West Elementary School in Mount Juliet, Tennessee, decided to play Santa over the holidays. They set up a Star Tree. It was covered with the names of kids who wouldn't find much under their Christmas tree. Then students, parents, and classes chose stars from the tree. Each star held the age of a child and the child's name.

Tina King's 4th grade chose 4 stars this year. The students brought in money. Then the Special Santas went shopping. Soon dolls, trucks, an Xbox, and even bicycles waited beneath the tree. "I think it's a good idea," said Tyler Cothron, "because I feel a lot better when I give something to somebody." Andy Coggins was more practical. "I think it's very nice to help people," he said, "because I would feel very bad if I woke up on Christmas morning with no presents under the tree."

So would we, Andy. The Patriot Papers salutes you and all of the stars at West Elementary for Pledging It Forward.