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**Amazement Square**

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Downtown Lynchburg  
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**Feature of the Week**

Does your class enjoy learning about the accomplishments of George Washington? If so, call Amazement Square to inquire about our Amazing Adventure, We Live, We Learn! Help us explore the lives of Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln and George Washington Carver in one of our most popular hands-on tours!
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George grew up on a farm. Nine out of ten farmers wished to pass the ownership on to their children. Therefore children had to learn to work on the farm.

Farmers' tools were simple and their use required heavy labor.

4. Head outside and pretend to mow the lawn or cut down bushes with your sickle. How long might the job take compared to mowing with modern-day tools?

5. What modern-day tools replace the sickle?

MATERIALS
Toilet paper tube
Masking tape
Cardboard box
Scissors
Pencil

PROCEDURE
1. Cut one side of the cardboard box.
2. Use a pencil to trace a large letter “C” on cardboard. Make one end pointed. Create a two-inch long large notch at the other.
3. Insert the notch into the paper tube. Pinch the end closed around the notch. Secure with masking tape.
4. Head outside and pretend to mow the lawn or cut down bushes with your sickle. How long might the job take compared to mowing with modern-day tools?
5. What modern-day tools replace the sickle?

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Try your hand at surveying your yard or an area nearby.
Pretend you are walking in uncharted territory.

1. Sketch a picture of the area that includes as many landmarks as possible.

2. Take notes on the area, keeping an accurate count of any landmarks.

3. Decide what the boundaries will be and think about different ways to mark off and measure the area.

4. Construct a measuring tool that can be used to measure the area and then measure the boundaries.

5. Create a written and visual description of the land you have "surveyed."

6. Give your description to another person and have them see if they can "interpret" your work as a surveyor!

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Are all leaders good people?

Knowledge Squared

What does the word leadership mean to you?
What are some of the characteristics that leaders have?

Name some leaders in your school; your community, and the world.

Are all leaders good people?

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After the French and Indian War ended, George Washington resigned from his military duties and returned to Virginia and his farm.

George met Martha Dandridge Custis, a wealthy widow who lived on a plantation in New Kent County, Virginia. George had only visited her twice before he proposed. Both George and Martha were 27 years old when they married in 1759.

So George finally ties the knot!

There’s no place like home!

The newlywed couple moved to Mount Vernon and George quickly settled into a life of being a gentleman farmer. Together they raised Martha’s two children from her previous marriage. Although George and Martha never had children together, they were good parents to little Jackie and Patsy!

Mount Vernon sure would be a great place to grow up!

By 1775 he had doubled the size of Mount Vernon to 6,500 acres. He was even elected to the House of Burgesses!

I have a feeling that George’s greatest challenge is yet to come!
IN 1774 GEORGE MET WITH A GROUP OF COLONISTS WHO FELT THAT ENGLAND WAS NOT TREATING THEM FAIRLY. THEY WERE BEING TAXED FOR MANY THINGS BUT YET THEY HAD NO SAY IN HOW THEY WERE BEING LED. THE GROUP WANTED TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO HAVE A VOICE.

THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF OUR COUNTRY’S INDEPENDENCE!

GEORGE WAS SELECTED AS A DELEGATE TO THE FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS TO REPRESENT HIS HOME COLONY OF VIRGINIA!

AFTER FIGHTING BROKE OUT BETWEEN THE COLONISTS AND THE BRITISH SOLDIERS IN APRIL 1775, GEORGE APPEARED AT THE SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS IN HIS MILITARY UNIFORM. THIS TOLD THE OTHERS THAT HE WAS READY FOR WAR. CONGRESS CREATED THE CONTINENTAL ARMY AND GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS NAMED THE COMMANDER.

THAT’S MY HOME STATE TOO!

GEORGE KNEW THIS WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE WAS NOT GOING TO BE EASY. THE NEWLY DECLARED UNITED STATES DID NOT HAVE THE EQUIPMENT THAT WAS NEEDED TO WIN. HE KNEW IT WOULD TAKE GOOD MILITARY STRATEGY TO WIN INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

IF ANYONE CAN DO IT, GEORGE CAN!
After several battles with the British army, Washington's army encamped at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania in December 1777. The Continental army faced great hardships and many of them died from disease and exposure to the winter weather.

These colonists must have really wanted their independence!

After the terrible winter at Valley Forge was over, Washington's troops emerged with a stronger will for victory. George also began to train his soldiers on ways that would make them better.

I hope this means that this revolutionary war will end soon!

In 1781, Washington - along with some help from the French Navy - trapped the British army in Virginia. The surrender at Yorktown marked the end of the war.

George could hardly wait to return to Mount Vernon, Martha, and his life as a farmer.

Thank goodness! I thought this war would never end!

If anyone deserves a rest... it's George Washington!
George's retirement to Mount Vernon did not last long. He was asked to attend a meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the summer of 1787.

What kind of meeting was it?

This meeting was known as the Constitutional Convention and George was unanimously elected President of the Convention!

Wow! All of the other delegates must have really respected George!

The Electoral College elected George unanimously in 1789 and again in 1792. He remains the only President to receive 100 percent of electoral votes. George Washington took the oath of office as the first President of the United States of America on April 30, 1789, at Federal Hall in New York City.

So that's how he became the first President!

George proved to be a strong leader. He preferred the title of "Mr. President" to any of the more majestic names that were suggested. He held regular meetings with his advisors known as "The Cabinet." These meetings helped him make better decisions. He refused to run for a third term and this decision helped establish the policy of a maximum of two terms for a President. This later became law according to the 22nd Amendment of the Constitution.

George really knew how to be the first in lots of things!
George wrote his farewell speech in 1796. By this time, he was ready to truly retire from public service and return to his home in Virginia. This speech was actually a public letter for all Americans to read. He wrote of moving beyond individual opinions and urged everyone to serve the common good.

Even when he left office, he was still leading us!

In December 1799 George spent several hours riding his horse all over Mount Vernon while it snowed and sleeted. The next morning, he awoke with a bad cold and fever.

He needs to take care of himself!

George Washington died on December 14, 1799, at the age of 67. He is buried here at Mount Vernon.

What a great loss for our country!

Today, we honor George Washington in many ways. This monument is named in his honor as well as his picture is on the one dollar bill and the quarter. The state of Washington is named in his honor and it is the only state named after an American. Several colleges also bear his name. Even our nation’s capital is named for him... Washington, DC!

Now I can see why George Washington is called the father of our country. Just like a parent, he helped guide our country to greatness!