
History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington

History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington
By Charles River Editors

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Introduction

George Washington(1732-1799)

In Charles River Editors' History for Kids series, your children can learn about history's most important people and events in an easy, entertaining, and educational way. Pictures help bring the story to life, and the concise but comprehensive book will keep your kid's attention all the

way to the end.

Every American is History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington taught a pristine narrative of the life and legacy of George Washington and can easily recite the highlights of History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington the “Father of Our Country”. The remarkable Virginian led an under-resourced rag-tag army to ultimate History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington victory in the American Revolution before becoming History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington the nation’s first president, setting it on its path toward superpower status. He may not have actually chopped down a cherry tree or tossed a silver dollar across the Potomac, but his contemporaries considered his character above reproach. When Washington voluntarily resigned as commander of the armies, he stunned the world. Everyone in the colonies and the world realized that Washington, at the head of the last army standing in the colonies, could have made himself king of the new United States on the spot, and it would have been a move supported by his rank and file soldiers. Instead, Washington became the first Westerner to voluntarily demobilize his army, ensuring civilian control of the new nation. King George III called Washington "the greatest character of the age" for making that decision.

As President from 1788-1796, Washington set every precedent for the executive branch of the History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington new government, from forming a “Cabinet” to limiting himself to two terms. He even set precedents with his farewell address, which helped guide the policies of subsequent presidents.

Washington did more than any other man to ensure the success of the American Revolution and the safe passage of the new United States from fledgling nation to budding power, but what actually made the man tick? Underneath his steel surface burned an almost insatiable political ambition, and a man who was acutely self-conscious of himself. In addition to highlighting his life and legacy, *History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington* humanizes the

leader who is now remembered more like a flawless demigod than a man. Along with pictures of the Father of Our History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington Country and other important people and events in his life, your kids will learn about Washington like never before.

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Chapter 1: Washington's Early Life and Education, 1732 – 1753

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. His parents were Augustine and Mary Washington. They lived in Virginia, and George was raised to view himself as a Virginian. The family was still loyal to Britain.

Augustine Washington

George had an older brother named Lawrence. When Augustine died, Lawrence received lots of land and 50 slaves. 11 year old George only received a small farm and ten slaves. Lawrence allowed George to move in with him at his home, Mount Vernon. There, George received a short History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington education. It focused on subjects like mathematics and surveying. The Washingtons thought this suited the young George. He would need to make a living.

Mount Vernon

Washington earned fame as a general during the American Revolution, but his family thought military life would be too harsh for him. They kept him from joining the British Navy when he was young. Instead, surveying the land of Virginia was a fitting career for Washington. Virginia was still largely wild and unknown. In 1748, 16 year old Washington started to History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington be a surveyor. Measuring Virginia's land proved to be the stepping stone for him.

Washington learned about the best land in Virginia. In 1750, he bought land in the Ohio Valley. Over the next few years, he bought more land. By the time he died, he owned even more than his brother Lawrence!

A map of the Ohio River valley drawn History for Kids: The Illustrated Life of George Washington by Washington in the 1750s

Success did not come quickly. Washington's career stopped in 1751 when his brother got sick. The two brothers traveled to Barbados. They hoped the warm climate would help him, but Lawrence did not get better. George also got sick with smallpox. Many people died from it, but George got better.

When George was better, he and Lawrence returned to Mount Vernon. Lawrence died in 1752. He left his home to his wife and daughter. George was next in line. Lawrence's daughter died in 1754, and his wife died in 1761. Then George gained Mount Vernon.

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