

Name: _____

Date: _____

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Read the biographical passage
about George Washington and
answer the questions.



George Washington is often revered as the "Father of His Country" for his pivotal role in the founding of the United States. Born on February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia, Washington grew up during the era of British colonialism in America. His early life on the family estate cultivated in him a robust understanding of agricultural management and land surveying.

Washington's military career began in the Virginia militia, where he first gained leadership experience in the French and Indian War. This experience proved invaluable, as he was later appointed the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. Under his command, the colonial forces achieved a decisive victory at Yorktown in 1781, which significantly contributed to the end of the war and the establishment of American independence.

In 1787, Washington presided over the Constitutional Convention, lending his respected leadership to the effort to create a new government. In 1789, the electors unanimously chose him as the first U.S. president. He established a cabinet of advisers and, after two terms, voluntarily left office in 1797. These precedents helped define the presidency and set an example of a peaceful transfer of power.

After his presidency, Washington returned to his estate at Mount Vernon, where he passed away on December 14, 1799. His legacy endures, not only in the nation he helped to create but also in the democratic ideals and constitutional framework that continue to guide the United States.

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- 1 How did George Washington's upbringing and early career prepare him for his future roles?

- 2 In what ways did Washington contribute to the framing of the U.S. Constitution?

- 3 What are some precedents that Washington set during his presidency?
