

leacher Directions

Dear Teacher,

It is my goal to make your life easier! I've included **EVERYTHING** you need to help your students write a biography report. On page 4, you will find all the common core standards (leave me a message under "ask seller a question" along with your email if you need the research standards for a non-common core state- I have them all!)

I suggest printing pages 18-24 off as a note taking pack first. Have your kids ask questions and take notes on the topic before you tell them what topics they will have to answer. Page 5 of this packet is *LIQUID* GOLD as I personally researched *IO kid friendly websites* to help get your students started on this report **TODAY**! I hyperlinked EACH site, so you can pull them up easily on your computer either to check them out yourself or to show kids on your smart board.

Page 6 details my **TOP RESEARCH TIPS** for upper elementary students. My biggest discovery in doing this report for several years now is that kids need to build research stamina! Many times my students end up making up crazy facts because answers are difficult to find. These research tips will set them on the right track! Page 8-18 is the actual report, so you can pick the pages you want and **Print and go**. I recommend reading all the questions with your students before you begin to clear up any misunderstandings!

If you're interested in turning this report into more of a **hands on** project, I've included **specific steps** on page 29 as well as 24 unique project ideas on pages 30-33. Please don't hesitate to email me at <u>thewhimsicalteacher@gmail.com</u> if you need more help or ideas! Thanks again for your purchase! Have fun!

The Whimsical Teacher

Biography Report Template

Common Core Standards:

3RD GRADE:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.7

I can conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.8

I can recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories

4TH GRADE:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.7

I can conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8

I can recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.

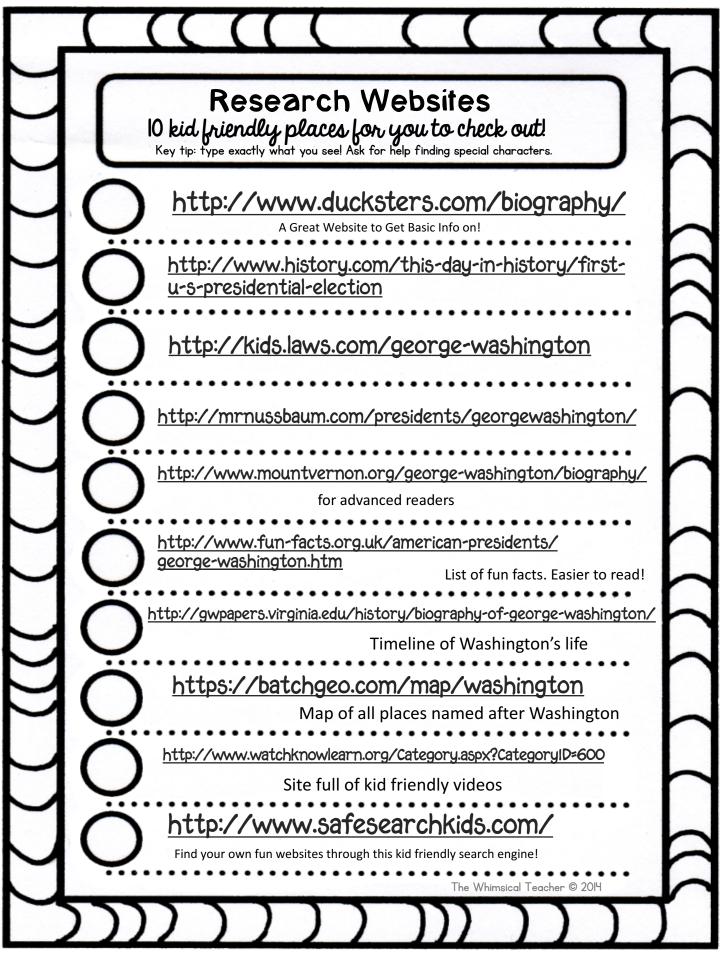
5TH GRADE:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.7

I can conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.8

I can recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.



Research Tips

- Google is not a resource: it is a search engine (like a list machine) to help you find resources (websites), so do not list "google" as a resource.
- 2. If you find an answer on google that you don't have to click on, it probably comes from Wikipedia. Wiki is a bad resource because people can change information on it, so you never know if the info is true or not.
- 3. Use a kid friendly search engine like www.safesearchkids.com to look up information: there are many search engines built for kids like you!
- 4. If you can't find the answer to a question, it's better to not answer it at all than to make up the answer. Making up answers will be obvious to your teacher, and it is the same thing as telling a lie. So just be honest if you can't find something! Your teacher will appreciate your honesty.
- 5. World Book Encyclopedias will have many answers to your questions. Remember if you copy something word for word from the book put "quotation" marks around what you copied. That way the reader of your report knows that you copied the information. It's okay to do this sometimes as long as you use quotation marks. The marks will also help you remember that you copied it, and that maybe you need to reword your facts a little bit before turning in your report!
- 6. You should write your source of information down on each page or section you are working on, so you can find that evidence quickly and easily again if someone asks you to find it. That's the whole point of writing down resources, so you can share them with others and defend your work!
- 7. If you do see something or read something inappropriate that bothers you, please tell an adult in the room, so they can be aware of the bad website!
- 8. Have fun! Lots of future classes and jobs will require you to do research. Try to enjoy exploring your new topic and discovering all the secrets of the internet!

The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

Student Directions

Dear Student and new Historian,

1. X 1

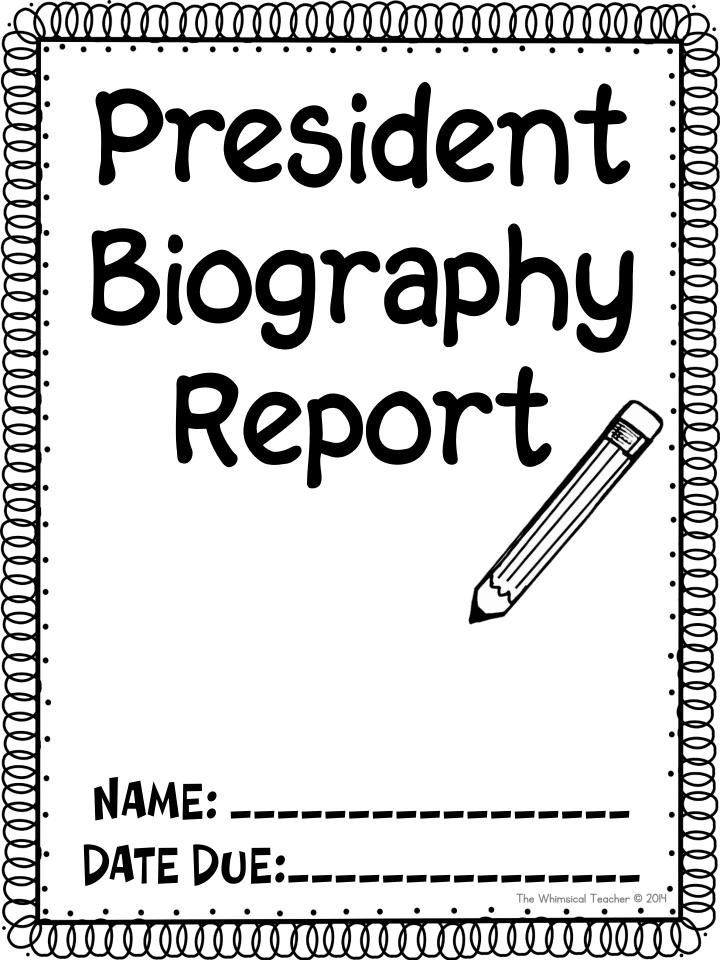
ドイ

You are about to make an incredible journey down history road to learn about one of the world's former great leaders. This leader impacted the world of today, and through your super sleuthing skills you will unwrap the secrets to his success.

As you find answers to your questions, please write down the website or book where you found the answers under "resources" at the bottom of each page. When you turn in your final project this will help your teacher understand how you got your information. All great historians share where and how they found their answers!

When searching for your own information try typing in your president's name and the words "for kids" in your search. Example "George Washington Facts for Kids" Also consider using sites like rewordify.com to help you read challenging text!

Good luck and remember that you can learn a great deal from the lives of others!



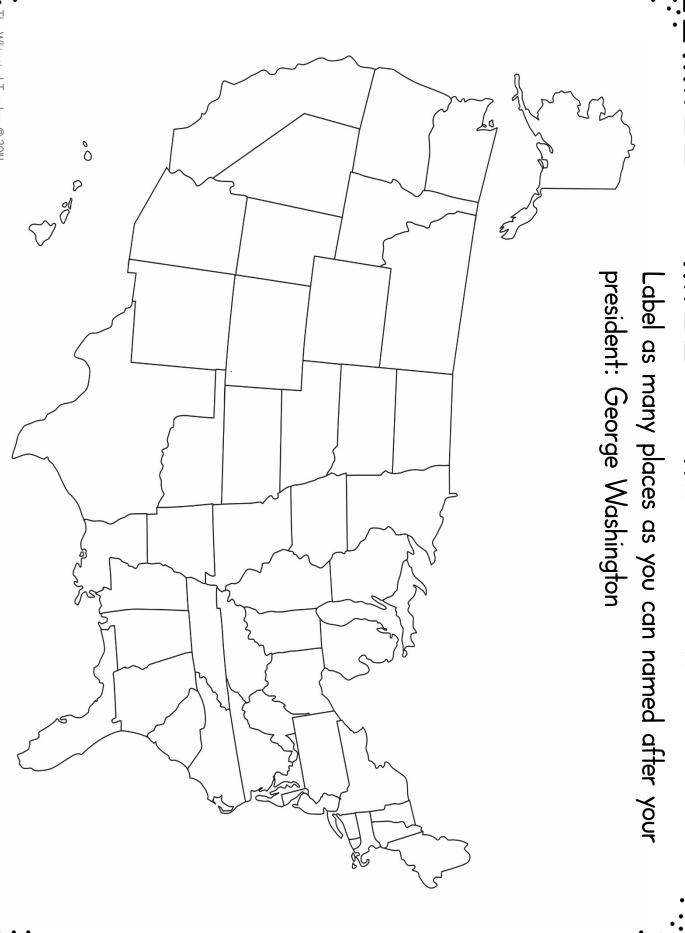
	: geor	je Wash lick Fact	ington
of	Resource: Ite down the name the book or the ebsite where you found your information.	Nickname: Birthplace: Date of Birth:	ncy:
	Resource:		The Whimsical Teacher © 20H

ma	was this person's childhood like?
Tell d	bout the person's mother and/or father.
Did thi	s person have any siblings (brothers and sisters)?
	Resources:

	Prom elementary 1	to college	•
What sche	ols did this person	go to?	
What did th	is person like to st	udy?	
Did this per	eson have any hob	pies?	
Reso	ources:		

Wh	en was this person's first presidential election?
Did	anyone run against this president?
Uh 	o was his vice president?
	Draw a picture of who was allowed to vote for president at this time.





	lishments
What laws did this pres	ident pass?
Unat kind of awards or 1	honors did this person win?
In secrete opinion esse this	
Why or why not?	president a good president?
Resources:	

PERSONAL LIFE What was really going on?

List something this person was proud of.

Did this person get married? List information about his/her spouses.

List the names of the children of this person.

Did this person have any famous friends? List them.

Where did this person live most of his or her life?

Resources:

The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

\square		
Pr	List IO new fun facts you've learned about your person!	
<u>20</u>		
	The V	Whimsical Teacher © 2014

Action of the second seco	COPOPULATION STRAND STRAND STRAND STRAND STATES AND STRAND
	rhe die?
If y	ou could talk to this person today what would you say to him or her? Draw a cartoon in the box about meeting the person.
	Resources:

	List all the resources used to write this report! (names of books, websites, videos)) 🖗
Ð	Ŏ	
	O O	
	O O	
	O O	
	Q The Whimsi	cal Teacher © 2014

	My
1]]	Research
3	
1 1 1	notes
	Name: Date Due: Teacher/Classroom:
	The Whimsical Leacher © 2014

		7
R	Name:	イ
Ř		\sim
R	Pre-Research Activity	Z
Ř		\mathcal{T}
Ď	Before you begin any research project, it is a good idea to figure out what you	C
K	already know about the topic and what you hope you'll learn after your research.	\int
B.	,	\langle
R	What do you know about George Washington?	\langle
K		$\left<\right>$
R		X
K		\geq
R		۲
R		$\left(\right)$
Ď		ς
R		$\left<\right>$
K		7
К		ζ
\mathbf{D}		4
K	What are some questions you have about George	X
K	Washington? What would you like to know about him?	5
Ř	value and a source for the source of the sou	Ç
K		}
Ř		7
R		ζ
Ř		$\left\{ \right\}$
R		7
Ř		ζ
R		\succ
Б		5
R		ر ا
K	The Whimsical Teacher © 2014	<u> </u>

Resource Name:	
Notes:	
Resource Name:	
Notes:	

Resource Name:	
Notes:	
Resource Name:	
Notes:	

Resource Name:	 	
Notes:	 	
Resource Name:	 	
Notes:		

Resource Name:	 	
Notes:	 	
Resource Name:	 	
Notes:		

Resource Name:	 	
Notes:	 	
Resource Name:	 	
Notes:		

Resource Name:	 	
Notes:	 	
Resource Name:	 	
Notes:		

\○ George Washingto	n Timeline 🧹
Event: Date:	/
Location: Description:	/
	/
Style A	
	The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

Veorge '	Washington Jimeline/
Event: Date: Location:	/
Description:	
Style B	The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

Project Based Learning

Easy 5 Step System

Dear Teacher,

You can easily turn this President report into a project based learning adventure. Here are the steps:

- Come up with a Driving Question! Examples: How did George Washington (or another president) influence modern culture? What impact did this president leave on the United States of America? How can a deceased famous person still effect society today? How can I make the world a better place using George Washington's legacy?
- 2. Use the research report to answer these questions! Students will just need to find links between research and current day thinking and trends.
- **3.** Have students create a project after research is compiled. I've listed 24 ideas in the task cards following this outline.
- 4. To be a true project based learning experience, <u>students must take</u> <u>the information they've learned and present it or use it outside of</u> <u>the classroom</u>. This could be presenting information to another classroom, a group of parents or somewhere in the community. It could also look like making something to benefit one's community. Students restricted with time and/or resources can make websites or put information out on social media.
- 5. Have an expert help the students or help give student's feedback on their projects. This could be a history major, a museum worker or even a business owner. Anyone who has experience in the topic or presenting information to the public will work! The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

Take your research and turn it into a picture book for Kindergarteners! See if you can find a class to read it to! Trace your body on a large piece of butcher paper and then color it, so it looks like your president. Put fun facts all around your statue like picture!

Take the facts from each of your research pages and create a colorful and entertaining slide show on PowerPoint or google slides. Invite others to watch it.

Find IO meaningful quotes from your president. Take the most powerful one and turn it into a piece of art! It could be a painting, mosaic, sculpture, photograph, or word art! Publish your art online.

Start a fake twitter account for your president. Over the period of IO days, tweet 40 thoughts or quotes that your president said. What would your president say about current issues?



Make a real or digital scrapbook of your president's life. What would moments would your president want to save forever in this book? Produce a 2 minute video of yourself or others explaining everything you learned about your president. Email the video to a town or a school named after that president!

19000 ····

Create a Presidential Playlist of IO or more songs for your president. What lyrics would mean something to your president. Think about your president's beliefs and what they respected in life.

Make a Pinterest board

all about your president.

Post quotes, pictures,

books, and anything else

that reminds you of this

president.

Create an easy website on wix.com or weebly.com about your president. Include links to all your favorite videos about your president.



Design a monument for your school district to use of your president. Include a blueprint with dimensions and specific directions for how the monument will be built (materials, cost, etc)



Contact a local museum about setting up a mini exhibit or a presentation area all about your president. Make sure to consider the type of museum before asking.

The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

Create a giant timeline of your president's life with no less than 20 important events listed from it. Hang this timeline somewhere in your school, so others can admire your work and learn from it. Write a series of 5 poems about your president. Check out this website for poetry ideas and styles:

http://www.poetry4kids.co m/lessons/poetry-writinglessons/

Write a play about your president. It could be about a specific event or an entire story about that president's life. See if you can put on this play in real life with an audience.

10000 ····

Create a bulletin board at your school to honor your president on his birthday. Put things your president would like on the happy birthday board!



Write a story about this president coming to one of your family's dinners. What would different members of your family say to the president, and what would the president say back to them?

Think about who your president helped the most during his career. List at least 5 ways you could help the same cause or the same people. Act on something from your list.

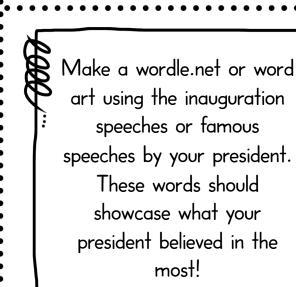
Design a mural dedicated to your president. Talk to local businesses and your school about making your mural into a real life mural that others can enjoy! (drawing a grid over your original art is the first step to creating a bigger piece)

Write five letters and/or thank you cards to your president from all the people he influence the most in his life. These could be family members, citizens, friends. Investigate to find out who your president influenced!

Write a biography about your president for kids in your class to enjoy in your classroom library. Be sure to include key vocab and interesting pictures in your biography.

Make the longest list you can of your president's favorite things. *if you cannot find favorites, make them up^* for example if your president is from Maine, use the Maine state flower as one of your president's favorite things.

Create a sock puppet or Lego show depicting one of your president's greatest victories! Invite younger students to your show!



The Whimsical Teacher © 2014

most!



Thank you for purchasing from The Whimsical Teacher!

Please click the green star on: http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Th e-Whimsical-Teacher

To follow me for new lessons and great sales!

Check out my blog at: www.whimsicalteaching.com

This lesson plan is the intellectual property of The Whimsical Teacher. It is meant for use by a single teacher in a single classroom.

http://www.pinterest.com/ whimsicalteach/ https://www.facebook.com/ thewhimsicalteacher

Vhimsical

Teacher

The

Follow me on Facebook and Pinterest for fun teaching ideas!

<u>e</u>duClips

literacy for the start



I used these awesome artists to create this product!