



Name _____ Date _____

GEORGE WASHINGTON

George Washington was the first president of the United States. He was a great man, because he gave our country a good start.

George was born in 1732. George liked to do math. His father died when he was 11, and he had to help his mother take care of the land. George had to do many chores. He grew to six feet two inches tall.

England was telling the colonies what to do and didn't ask them what they wanted. George did not like that. He became a general in the army, and he made his own uniform. The colonies went to war, and it was very hard. The men wanted to go home. They had no money for their families. They had rags for clothes, and some of them had shoes that were falling apart. It was cold, and there was snow. They were almost out of food. The men had to fight and not get paid. George said that if they did not get paid, he would not get paid either. The soldiers stayed, and they fought as hard as they could. They won the war.

The people wanted George to be the new king. He wanted to be president. They all voted for him. He loved the people, and the people loved him back. He listened to them. He picked good men to work for him, and they tried to make good choices.

He wanted to do his best. He was the president for eight years. He did not live in the White House, because it was not built yet. The people wanted him to stay, and he said, "No." George wanted someone else to be president. He wanted to stop working. It was time to rest.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How did the people feel about George?
 - a. They all loved him.
 - b. They did not like him.
 - c. They said he was too fat.
 - d. They said he was happy.
2. Tell what kind of sentence this is: They all voted for him.
 - a. exclamatory
 - b. interrogative
 - c. declarative
3. When the soldiers did not get paid, what did George say he would do?
 - a. He would go home.
 - b. He would work for free, too.
 - c. He wanted to go out for ice cream.