

This guide was prepared using the Farrar Straus Giroux edition ©(1993). Other editions may differ.

Synopsis

The book opens with a paragraph explaining that this story is based on George Washington's problems with his teeth. The story is told in rhyme.

George Washington fought in the Revolutionary War. He also had a battle with his teeth. George Washington went to the dentist, who pulled out his rotten tooth. Washington had another bad tooth, but he went to war the next day anyway. He arrived in New York as the British ships sailed in. Washington's soldiers built forts for defense.

Washington rubbed his sore mouth with some soothing oil. While Washington was on the battlefield, another tooth came out! Washington wrote a letter to his dentist asking him to come to the battlefield and relieve his pain.

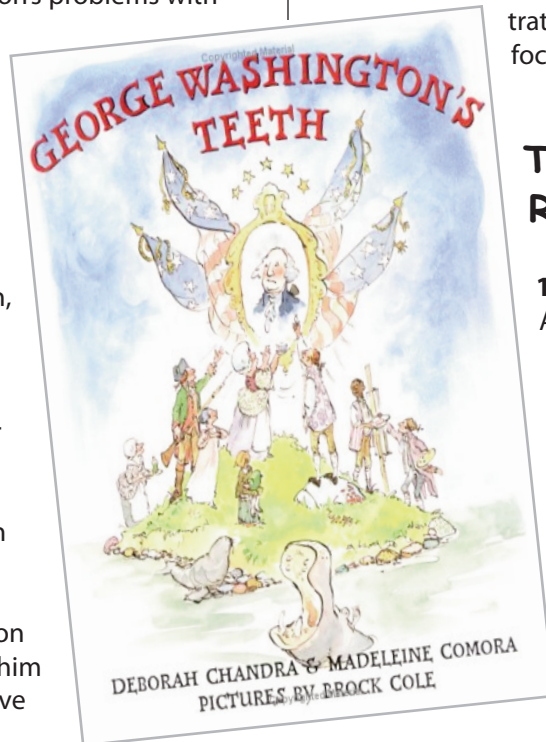
Back home, Washington lost more and more teeth. Soon, he had only ten teeth left. He ate soft foods when he was alone with his wife, Martha. But one day when guests came, he ate a nut. Another tooth fell out!

Washington made his famous crossing of the Delaware River. Two more teeth fell out. By Valley Forge, he was down to seven teeth. Despite the pain in his jaw, Washington led his men to victory over the British. Back home, Martha found that George had only five teeth left. The dentist pulled three teeth out.

Washington was elected president but was afraid to smile. The artist who painted Washington's portrait puffed up his sunken cheeks with cotton balls. When the artist pulled out the cotton, another tooth came

with it. The dentist came with false teeth, which knocked out his last tooth. Washington searched all over for his lost teeth. He finally found his molars. He used these to make a mold for more comfortable dentures. The dentist carved teeth from a hippo's tusk. These molars fit well.

The book closes with a four-page illustrated timeline of Washington's life, focusing on his problems with his teeth.



Timeline of the Revolutionary War

1775	
April 18	Rides of Paul Revere and William Dawes
April 19	The war begins: Battles of Lexington and Concord
May 10	Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys seize Fort Ticonderoga
May 10	Second Continental Congress meets
June 16	Washington named Commander in Chief
June 17	Battle of Bunker Hill

1776	
January 17	Paine's "Common Sense" published
March 17	British evacuate Boston
July 4	Declaration of Independence adopted
August 2	Declaration of Independence signed
August 30	British gain control of New York City
December 12	Washington crosses the Delaware and captures Trenton

1777	
January 3	Washington wins the Battle of Princeton
September 11	British win the Battle of Brandywine, Penn., and capture Philadelphia
October 4	Americans driven off at the Battle of Germantown
October 17	British General Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga, N.Y.

The American victory is the turning point of the war.

1778

- Dec. 19, 1777-
June 19, 1778 Winter at Valley Forge, Penn.
- August 8 French and American forces besiege
Newport, R.I.
- Dec. 12 British occupy Savannah, Ga.

1779

- Feb. 2 Militia beat Tories at Kettle Creek, Ga.
- July 8 British burn Fairfield, Conn.
- July 11 British burn Norwalk, Conn.

1780

- May 12 British capture Charleston, S.C.
- May 29 British crush Americans at Waxhaw
Creek, S.C.
- June 20 Patriots rout Tories at Ramseur's
Mill, N.C.
- August 6 Patriots defeat Tories at Hanging
Rock, S.C.
- Sept. 25 Benedict Arnold's plans to cede West
Point to the British discovered

1781

- January 17 Patriots defeat British at Cowpens, S.C.
- March 2 Articles of Confederation adopted
- June 6 Americans recapture Augusta, Ga.
- September 15 French fleet drive British naval force
from Chesapeake Bay

1782

- July 11 British evacuate Savannah, Ga.
- November 11 British sign Articles of Peace
- December 14 British leave Charleston, S.C.
- April 19 Congress ratifies preliminary
peace treaty
- September 3 Treaty of Paris
- November 25 British troops leave New York
- Dec. 23 Washington resigns as Commander
- September 17 U.S. Constitution ratified

Biographical Sketches

Deborah Chandra lives in Altadena, Calif. Her previous children's books include *A Is for Amos*, which *Publishers Weekly* called "a charmer" in a starred review.

Madeleine Comora is an author and poet who lives in Glendale, California.

Brock Cole is the author and/or illustrator of many books, including the picture books *Buttons*, a *Boston Globe-Horn Book* Honor Book, and *Larky Mavis*. He lives in Buffalo, N.Y.

George Washington is called "the Father of Our Country" because of his accomplishments as America's first president, his outstanding military leadership during the Revolutionary War, and his integrity and honesty. General Henry Lee summed up Washington's importance in this phrase:



Washington was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Washington was born in Westmoreland County, Va., in 1732, the oldest child from his father's second marriage. When Washington was eleven years old, his father died and the family no longer had much money. Instead of going to England to be educated as the family had planned, Washington helped his mother manage their large farm, Mount Vernon. As a result, he had only seven or eight years of formal education, but few colonists had more education than this during the Eighteenth century. His favorite subject was mathematics. He was extraordinarily tall for an eighteenth-century man, reaching a height of 6 feet, 2 inches.

Washington first came to the public's attention while leading Virginia troops in support of the British Empire during the French and Indian War (1754-1763). Then came the Revolutionary War. Though reluctant to leave his home in Virginia, Washington accepted the command of the American forces, declaring "with the utmost sincerity, I do not think my self equal to the Command I am honored with." He asked for no pay other than being reimbursed for his expenses. After the war, he refused to lead a military regime, although encouraged by some to do so.

He once again returned to civilian life at Mount Vernon. In 1787, he presided over the Constitutional Convention that drafted the Constitution of the United States.

In 1789, Washington was unanimously elected the first president of the United States. He remains the only

president elected unanimously, an achievement he duplicated in 1792. Congress voted to pay Washington \$25,000 a year, a large sum in 1789. He declined his salary. Washington also made sure the new American presidency never became like a European royal court. His two-term administration set many policies and traditions that survive today.

After his second term, Washington again voluntarily gave up power, thereby establishing an important precedent that was to serve as an example for the United States as well as other future republics. Washington's Farewell Address (issued as a public letter) is one of the most influential statements of American political values. In his address, Washington called for people to put aside party affiliations and unite for the common good. He asked that America remain free from foreign attachments, warning against involvement in European wars. He advised friendship and trade with all nations.

Washington had married a widow, Martha Custis. They raised Martha's two children, but had none together. He died on December 14, 1799, at home. Today's doctors believe that Washington died from either a throat infection or loss of blood, since he was bled as part of the treatment.

Critic's Corner

Critics found *George Washington's Teeth* charming and recommended it wholeheartedly. Amazon.com reviewer Karin Snelson called the book a "carefully researched, very funny, [and] charmingly illustrated picture book that works to humanize a larger-than-life historical figure and in turn, history itself. Brilliant!"

Publishers Weekly was equally enthusiastic, saying: "Kids will love the details, such as the way Washington uses a pair of his molars to fashion a mold from which the dentist makes a set of dentures (these are carved from hippopotamus ivory, and even shown, in a photograph in the afterword). Infusing his bustling watercolor vignettes with comic hyperbole, Cole easily keeps pace with the lighthearted narrative. ... A highly palatable historical morsel." They recommend the book for readers of all ages, not just young readers.

Stephanie Zvirin, writing in *Booklist*, awarded *George Washington's Teeth* a starred review. Zvirin notes that the book has "wit, verve, and a generous amount of sympathy for poor Washington and his dental woes." She concludes: "This is history for youngsters that will stick; it's

wild and fun and factual, without a trace of mockery."

Kirkus Reviews wrote called *George Washington's Teeth* a "breezy, sympathetic, carefully-researched vignette ... that will have readers feeling the great man's pain—and never looking at his painted visage the same way again."

Other Books by Deborah Chandra

Balloons: and Other Poems (1993)
Rich Lizard and Other Poems (1993)
Miss Mabel's Table (1994)
Who Comes (1995)
A Is for Amos (1999)

Other Books by Madeleine Comora

Rembrandt and Titus: Artist and Son (2005)
Taj Mahal (2007)

Bibliography

Periodicals

George Washington's Teeth. *School Library Journal*, April 2005, vol. 51, issue 4, p. S25.
George Washington's Teeth. Teresa Bateman. *School Library Journal*, Nov. 2004, vol. 50, issue 11, p. 78.
George Washington's Teeth. *Booklist*, Jan. 1, 2004, vol. 100, issue 9-10, p. 78.
George Washington's Teeth. *Publishers Weekly*. Nov. 10, 2003, vol. 250, issue 45, p. 35.
George Washington's Teeth. *School Library Journal*, Oct. 2003, vol. 49, issue 10, p. S23.
George Washington's Teeth. Joanna Rudge Long, *The Horn Book Magazine*, March-April 2003, vol. 79, issue 2, p. 200.
All the President's Teeth. *Publishers Weekly*, Feb 24, 2003, vol. 250, issue 8, p. 25.
George Washington's Teeth. Stephanie Zvirin, *Booklist*, Jan. 1, 2003, vol. 99, p. 880.
George Washington's Teeth. Ann Welton, *School Library Journal*, Jan. 2003, vol. 49, issue 1, p. 120.
George Washington's Teeth. *Kirkus Reviews*, Dec. 15, 2002, vol. 70, issue 24, p. 1846.
George Washington's Teeth. *Publishers Weekly*, Dec. 2, 2002, vol. 249, issue 48, p. 51.

General Objectives

1. To read about George Washington

2. To recognize Washington's courage
3. To assess the importance of your teeth
4. To learn about tooth extractions and understand what dentures are
5. To read poetry
6. To identify rhyme and rhythm
7. To recognize the humor
8. To learn about famous portraits
9. To appreciate the beautiful artwork
10. To analyze how the art and text work together to tell the story

Specific Objectives

1. To understand why George Washington is famous and admired
2. To appreciate Washington's sacrifices and leadership in the formation of our country
3. To trace the primary events of the Revolutionary War
4. To analyze the state of dentistry in the eighteenth century.
5. To understand the different materials used to make Washington's dentures
6. To sympathize with the pain that Washington endured because of his infected teeth
7. To recognize rhyme and rhythm
8. To appreciate the story's humor
9. To recognize iconic portraits of George Washington
10. To understand the lessons about ingenuity and grace under pressure that the book teaches

Literary Terms and Applications

For a better understanding of Deborah Chandra and Madeleine Comora's style, present the following terms and applications to the story book:

Rhyme: the repeated use of identical or nearly identical sounds. *End rhyme* occurs when words at the end of lines of poetry have the same sound. Lines that end with the words *bat*, *cat*, *sat*, or *rat* would have end rhyme, for instance. Poets use rhyme to create a musical sound, meaning, and structure. In *George Washington's Teeth*, the authors use end rhyme to give the story a strong beat and propel the narrative forward. Here is an example: "George reached New York as British ships/Invaded every port./Preparing for a fierce attack,/His soldiers built a fort." The words *port* and *fort* rhyme.

Visuals: pictures. Since *George Washington's Teeth* is a picture book, the visuals are an integral part of the story. Here, the visuals and text blend to tell the story of

the man called the "Father of Our Country." Critics singled out Brock Cole's watercolors for their wit. This is especially notable in his reworking of many of the famous portraits of Washington, especially the ones of him crossing the Delaware, and the equally famous Gilbert Stuart portrait.

Humor: parts of the story that are amusing. *George Washington's Teeth* is very funny. For instance, when George's last tooth falls out, he exclaims: "Oh no! ... I'm tooless!" By misspelling "toothless" to capture Washington's lisp, the authors create an amusing scene.

The Importance of Setting

The setting of *George Washington's Teeth* matters a great deal because of the dismal state of medicine in general and dentistry in particular in the eighteenth century. Illnesses were treated by bloodletting; toothaches were treated with calomel (mercurous chloride). This chemical was worse than the tooth infection it was used to treat, as it caused tooth destruction. Toothaches were also treated with powders made from pumice, borax, roots, herbs—even burnt bread and tobacco! Many of these powders destroyed the tooth enamel, causing additional dental woes.

Further, Washington had chronic illnesses throughout his life. In 1751, he described falling ill from smallpox; the following year, he complained of having a bout of "violent plurise," or pleurisy, a painful lung infection. As a young lieutenant colonel in 1755 serving with General Braddock in the French and Indian War, he suffered "pain in the head" and dysentery. In 1761, he had dengue fever, characterized by headache, fever, and severe muscle and joint pain. He also suffered from malaria and flu. On top of all this, he had severe tooth pain. Some historians believe that his frequent tooth infections were the source of his frequent bodily illnesses.

Today, of course, Washington would have been treated with a course of medicine to cure his infections. Then he would have been fitted with comfortable dentures or dental implants. Regular visits to the dentist, sealants, and fluoride would have helped prevent all his dental problems in the first place.

Cross-Curricular Sources

Books

Philip Abraham, *George Washington*

Selby Beeler, *Throw Your Tooth on the Roof: Tooth*

Traditions from Around the World

Allison Stark Draper, *George Washington Elected: How America's First President Was Chosen*
Helen Frost, *Food for Healthy Teeth*
Helen Frost, *Brushing Well*
James Cross Giblin, *George Washington: A Picture Book Biography*
Almute Grohmann, *Dragon Teeth and Parrot Beaks: Even Creatures Brush Their Teeth*
P. K. Hallinan, *My Dentist, My Friend*
Jean Marzollo, *I Spy Funny Teeth*
Jamie McClaine, *Have You Ever Seen a Moose Brushing His Teeth?*
Paul Showers, *How Many Teeth?*
Christopher Wormell, *Teeth, Tails, & Tentacles: An Animal Counting Book*

Video

George Washington's Teeth. (Video Recording)

Internet

"George Washington's Teeth not Wooden"
www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6875436/

"George Washington's Teeth"
www.si.umich.edu/spies/stories-networks-4.html

"George Washington's Wooden Teeth"
www.goodteeth.com/gwteeth.htm

"George Washington's Teeth"
www.dentalmuseum.org/gw/01teeth.htm

"George Washington—A Dental Victim"
www.americanrevolution.org/dental.html

"NPR: George Washington's Teeth"
www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4470861 -

Themes and Motifs

A study of the central issues and situations in Deborah Chandra and Madeleine Comora's *George Washington's Teeth* should include these aspects:

Themes

George Washington
teeth
counting
pain
loss

desperation
dentistry
the American Revolution
humor
pictures

Motifs

learning about George Washington
understanding his dental distress
counting how many teeth he lost
understanding the effects of tooth pain
seeing how his dentures were made
tracing the main events in the American Revolution
enjoying the story's humor
appreciating the witty artwork
telling a story in pictures and words
reading a timeline

Meaning Study

Below are words, phrases, sentences, or thought units that have particular meaning in the storybook. Explain the meaning of each.

1. The Revolutionary War/George hoped would soon be won,/But another battle with his teeth/Had only just begun.
(Everyone knows that the Patriots fought the Revolutionary War to wrest their freedom from Great Britain. We know this was a fierce battle lasting eight years. But few understand that our commander and chief George Washington suffered greatly from dental distress all through the war and his life. The two battles are juxtaposed to shed light on each one.)
2. "Hold still," he said, then gave a yank—/A rotten tooth popped out!
(Readers are apt to be unfamiliar with the eighteenth-century method of treating decayed teeth—extraction. Instead, today's children assume that teeth will be drilled and filled. They are likely to be surprised that no effective treatment other than extraction was available in Washington's day.)
3. But at dawn he saddled up/And galloped off to war.
(Washington ignored his tremendous pain to lead the colonists in their drive for freedom. Students who have had a toothache—even a minor one—can begin to appreciate the sacrifices that Washington made for his country and our freedom.)
4. Charging into the field, George thought,/“There's something in my mouth./He spat into his handkerchief,/Another tooth came out!”
(As this scene shows, Washington's teeth are so rotten that they fall out of their own accord; they do not

even have to be pulled. This shows the wretched state of his mouth and his severe pain.)

5. She fed him mush and pickled tripe,/But when guests came to dine...

(Washington had so few teeth and such difficulty chewing that he could only eat soft foods. This must have been a tremendous hardship for a vigorous man who needed significant nourishment to continue his active and athletic life.)

6. The day the votes came in./The people had a President,/But one afraid to grin.

(Washington's teeth not only affected his health and diet; they also affected his behavior. Here, we see that he was afraid to smile or even open his mouth because of the way it looked.)

7. "Oh no," George moaned, "I'm tooless!"

(Children may have difficulty reading "tooless" and understanding the correspondence between the word and its pronunciation. Now that George no longer has any teeth, he lisps. This scene is humorous, but of course there was nothing funny in the agony Washington endured because of his rotten teeth and ill-fitting dentures.)

8. The dentist took a strong hippo tusk/And carved a set to size—

(Contrary to legend, Washington's dentures were not made of wood. Rather, different sets contained different materials, including one of his own teeth and teeth carved from a hippo's tusk.)

9. Can you guess the story's end?/Those new teeth fit just right.

(The book has a happy ending, but Washington's dentures never were comfortable. His ill-fitting and uncomfortable dentures influenced the way he spoke, ate, looked, and felt.)

10. Important events in George Washington's life.

(The book concludes with a four-page timeline of the important events in Washington's life, focusing on his teeth. This section contains important and fascinating information as well as iconic artwork.)

Comprehension Study

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers by referring to passages in the storybook.

Questions 1-5 (Literal Level)

1. Who was George Washington?

(He was the commander-in-chief of the colonial forces during the Revolutionary War, and America's

first president.)

2. Why does Washington write to his dentist?

(He needs his dentist to help relieve the pain and try to save his teeth.)

3. Why did Washington eat soft food like mush?

(He had lost many teeth and could not chew hard food. He was afraid that hard food would cause more of his teeth to fall out ... which it did.)

4. How many of his own teeth did Washington have left in the end?

(None.)

5. What was his last set of false teeth made from?

(They were made from a hippo's tusk and gold.)

Questions 6-8 (Interpretative Level)

6. Why did Washington lose his teeth?

(Dentistry and oral hygiene were primitive in the eighteenth century. Washington got many infections and the dentists did not know how to treat them. His teeth rotted and fell out.)

7. Why did Washington write to his dentist when no one looked?

(He wanted to keep his dental problems private so no one would know the pain he suffered. Then no one could accuse him of letting the pain cloud his judgment.)

8. How did losing his teeth affect Washington?

(It affected what he ate, how he held his mouth, and how he felt. He was always in pain, which likely made him cranky. Indeed, other sources speak of his "hair-trigger temper.")

Questions 9 and 10 (Critical Level)

9. What did you like the most about the pictures?

(Possible answers: The funny details.)

10. How did this book make you feel about George Washington?

(He was even more admirable because he worked through his pain to be a great leader.)

Questions 11-12 (Creative Level)

11. Draw a set of false teeth for George Washington.

Write a sentence to tell what they are made from.

12. Write a new title for the book.

Across the Curriculum

Art/Music

1. Draw a picture of your teeth.

2. Make a puppet from a sock. With a classmate, put on a short puppet show about George Washington.

3. Work with some friends to make a mural. Show all the

major events in the book.

4. Draw a diagram of a tooth. Put in all the parts, including the root below the gum.
5. Write a song about brushing your teeth. Your song should teach someone how to brush their teeth the correct way.

Language Arts

1. Write a poem about having sore teeth. Make your poem funny, like this book!
2. George Washington wrote a letter to his dentist. He asked his dentist to come to the battlefield to help him. Write the letter that Washington wrote.
3. George Washington's favorite subject was mathematics. Write some sentences about your favorite subject. Tell why you like this subject the most.
4. Write as a healthy tooth. Tell how you help people.
5. Choose a picture from the book. List ten things you see in it.

Social Studies/Geography

1. Report on another president. Tell all about the president's life.
2. Find out the rules about being president. For example, how old do you have to be? Where do you have to be born?
3. George Washington fought in the Revolutionary War. Report on the Revolutionary War. What caused it? Which countries fought it? Which country won?
4. On a map, show the distance between Virginia and New York. This is the distance Washington and his troops traveled.
5. Get a map. Show your home. Show Washington's home.

Speech/Physical Education

1. Imagine that you want to be president. Give a speech telling why you would be a great president. Try to make people want to vote for you.
2. George Washington's favorite foods were ice cream and fish. Talk to a friend. Tell the friend about your favorite things. Ask your friend about his or her favorite things.
3. Washington is on the U.S. quarter. Name the people on the penny, nickel, dime, half dollar, dollar bill, five dollar bill, ten dollar bill, and twenty dollar bill.
4. Name two places named for George Washington.
5. Washington is on Mt. Rushmore. Find out who else is on Mt. Rushmore. Tell who each person was and why he is important.

Science/Math

1. Visit the dentist. Have the dentist tell you how to keep your teeth healthy. Then you won't have problems with your teeth as George Washington did!
2. Find out some good ways to make a toothache better if you can't get to a dentist. Ask your parents and relatives for ideas.
3. How many baby teeth does a person have? How many adult teeth? Show these numbers on a chart.
4. George Washington came from Virginia. Figure out how far Virginia is from your home state.
5. George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. How old would he be this year? He died in 1799. How many years have passed since he died?
6. There were 16 stars on the flag when Washington left office. How many stars are on the flag today? How many have been added?
7. There were 3,929,214 people in America when George Washington died. There are approximately 295,734,134 people in America today. How many more people are in America today than in George Washington's day?
8. George Washington was 6 feet 2 inches tall. Figure out how tall he was in inches.

Alternate Assessment

1. Work with some friends. Act out the scene when the dentist pulls George Washington's rotten tooth.
2. Read another book about George Washington. Tell some of the new facts you learned about him.
3. Write a song about our presidents. Include at least five presidents. Sing your song for some friends.
4. Show the class how to brush your teeth the right way to keep them healthy.

Vocabulary

Match each word to its meaning. Write the letter in the space.

- | | | |
|-------|-------------|-------------------|
| _____ | 1. battle | A. shredded |
| _____ | 2. rotten | B. big fight |
| _____ | 3. mush | C. decayed |
| _____ | 4. dawn | D. big smile |
| _____ | 5. grin | E. savage, brutal |
| _____ | 6. invaded | F. ran away |
| _____ | 7. fierce | G. daybreak |
| _____ | 8. sentinel | H. attacked |
| _____ | 9. tatters | I. guard |
| _____ | 10. fled | J. soft food |

Comprehension Test A

Part I: Order (20 points)

Put the events in order. Write the numbers on the lines.

- _____ Washington was elected president but was afraid to smile.
- _____ Washington got to New York as the British ships sailed in.
- _____ Washington got false teeth that fit well.
- _____ Washington crossed the Delaware River. More teeth fell out.
- _____ Washington's soldiers built forts to protect themselves against the British.

Part II: The Life of George Washington (20 points)

Underline the two things that George Washington did *not* do.

1. George Washington wrote a letter to his dentist. He asked his dentist to come help him.
2. George Washington lost all his teeth.
3. He saved all the teeth he had lost. He had every one of them.
4. George Washington fought the Revolutionary War.
5. He rubbed oil on his sore teeth.
6. George Washington ate a lot of soft foods.
7. He stuck his teeth in his mouth with glue.

Part III: True/False (20 points)

Mark these sentences T if they are true or F if they are false.

- _____ 1. George Washington was not a real person.
- _____ 2. Washington lost a tooth when he ate a nut.
- _____ 3. Washington did not go to war when his teeth hurt.
- _____ 4. An artist painted Washington's portrait. The artist puffed up his sunken cheeks with cotton balls.
- _____ 5. George Washington wore his hair in a pony tail.

Part IV: Essay (40 points)

Choose one. Answer in complete sentences.

1. Tell George Washington how to take care of his teeth. Write three sentences or more.
2. Explain what happened in the Revolutionary War. What did George Washington do? Write three sentences or more.
3. Pick a picture you liked. Tell about it. Write three sentences or more.
4. Tell what you learned about George Washington. Write three sentences or more.

Comprehension Test B

Part I: Story Events (20 points)

Circle the two events that are *not* part of the story.

1. George Washington fought in the Revolutionary War.
2. A dentist pulled out one of his rotten teeth.
3. Washington got to New York as the British ships sailed in.
4. George Washington pulled out all his teeth because they hurt.
5. He rubbed oil on his sore teeth.
6. George Washington got badly hurt in a battle. He almost died.
7. Washington got false teeth that fit well.

Part II: Fill in the Blank (20 points)

Circle the word to complete each sentence.

1. George Washington lost all his (**teeth, toes**).
2. Washington's soldiers built (**ships, forts**) to protect themselves against the British.
3. Washington was elected (**president, mayor**).
4. Washington was afraid to (**rule, smile**).
5. Washington crossed the (**Atlantic Ocean, Delaware River**).

Part III: True/False (20 points)

Mark the following statements T if they are true or F if they are false.

- _____ 1. All his life, George Washington had problems with his teeth.
- _____ 2. George Washington took his dentist with him every place he went.
- _____ 3. The picture of George Washington looked like Martha's granny!
- _____ 4. George Washington's teeth were made of wood.
- _____ 5. This is a true story.

Part IV: Essay (40 points)

Choose one. Answer in complete sentences.

1. Explain why George Washington is famous. Write three sentences or more.
2. Tell what foods George Washington ate. Explain why he ate these foods. Write three sentences or more.
3. Tell how George Washington got false teeth. Write three sentences or more.
4. George Washington was born in 1732. He died in 1799. Explain how George Washington's life might be different today. Write three sentences or more.

Answer Key

Vocabulary Test

- 1. B 6. H
- 2. C 7. E
- 3. J 8. I
- 4. G 9. A
- 5. D 10. F

COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Order (20 points)

- ___4___ Washington was elected president but was afraid to smile.
- ___1___ Washington got to New York as the British ships sailed in.
- ___5___ Washington got false teeth that fit well.
- ___3___ Washington crossed the Delaware River. More teeth fell out.
- ___2___ Washington's soldiers built forts to protect themselves against the British.

Part II: The Life of George Washington (20 points)

3. He saved all the teeth he had lost. He had every one of them.
7. He stuck his teeth in his mouth with glue.

Part III: True/False (20 points)

- 1. F
- 2. T
- 3. F
- 4. T
- 5. T

Part IV: Essay (40 Points)

Answers will vary.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

Part I: Story Events (20 points)

4. George Washington pulled out all his teeth because they hurt.
6. George Washington got badly hurt in a battle.

Part II: Fill in the Blank (20 points)

- 1. teeth
- 2. forts
- 3. president
- 4. smile
- 5. Delaware River

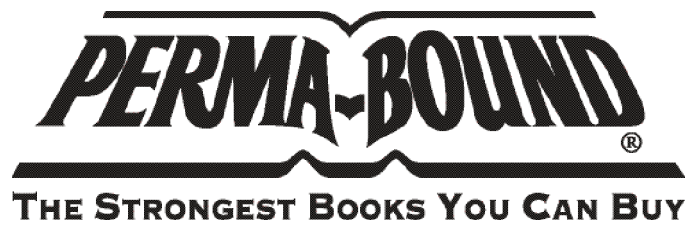
Part III: True/False (20 points)

- 1. T

- 2. F
- 3. T
- 4. F
- 5. T

Part IV: Essay (40 Points)

Answers will vary.



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