



Famous Americans (K)

Home:School Connections

Unit Overview

Students will travel through time learning legends, stories, and historical accounts of Powhatan, Pocahontas, George Washington, Betsy Ross, and Abraham Lincoln. The study of these famous Americans will help them begin to understand the differences between past and present and the roles these people have played in our country's history.

Key Terms and Concepts

Your student may come home using some new vocabulary. Here are just a few so you can continue the conversation:

- long ago, past, present
- real v. make-believe
- history
- president
- settler
- American Indian

Home Support

There are a number of ways you can support your student during this unit. These are just a few suggestions:

- Visit [Mt. Vernon](#), the home of George Washington, and make the abstract into a concrete connection for your child.
- Take a [virtual trip to Jamestown](#). Talk with your child about how Powhatan and Pocahontas helped settlers here.
- Have your child make an American flag out of construction paper and discuss Betsy Ross, who is believed to have made the first flag.
- Talk about honesty and why it is important. Be sure to give examples of what honest means. Remind your child that Lincoln was called "Honest Abe".
- If you see Disney's *Pocahontas*, be sure to talk to your child about the differences of the film and real life. Remember, she married John Rolfe not John Smith!



Books and Websites

Here are some books you can read to your child.

- Rookie Biographies Series by various authors (Series includes Washington, Franklin, Lincoln, and Carver)
- **A Picture Book Of...** by David Adler (Series includes Washington and Lincoln)
- Pebbles First Biography Series by various authors (Series includes Pocahontas, Washington, and Lincoln)
- **Keep on Sewing Betsy Ross** by Michael Dahl

There are many kid-friendly websites to explore the past. A few worth checking out are:

- [Mrs. P's Famous Americans](http://www.educationalsynthesis.org/famamer/) [http://www.educationalsynthesis.org/famamer/]
- [Brain Pop, Jr.](http://www.brainpopjr.com/socialstudies/biographies/) [http://www.brainpopjr.com/socialstudies/biographies/]
- [Coloring Pages from EduPics](http://www.edupics.com/) [http://www.edupics.com/]