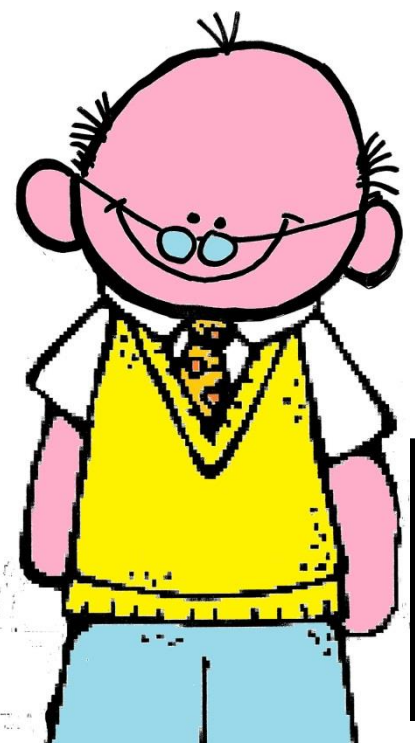


BEFORE *THEY WERE* FAMOUS



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Samples

Zayda G.

George Washington: The Farmer

George Washington? The president found on our most useful U.S. currency coin, the quarter? When I hear this name the first thought that comes to mind is this, along with all the important attributes which he imputed into our nation which we learn about in history class at a considerably young age. However, after enlightening myself with a broad amount of information on who George Washington was before his presidency, the name, to me, means more than a general who lead in a battle or a president who helped to establish the national government that we read about in our textbooks.

This name represents innovation. I think that this is someone who is truly inspiring and is often overlooked on the smaller things he did as a farmer which geared us in the right direction to become better citizens. George Washington, in my opinion, is a breakthrough and a perfect example of being ingenious. His vision for his two passions- farming and his country- were oddly connected so much so that being a farmer helped shaped him to what he is most known for today. He developed great leadership skills while being an agricultural innovator.

I truly believe that a person's early years structure their character. For Washington in particular, his agricultural roots shaped him into an appreciable person because of his background which consisted of hard work and motivation in order to increase the productivity of his farms. Through careful experimentation and observation Washington learned what worked best for everything in.....

Lizbeth C.

George Washington: The Farmer

The first words that can be associated to George Washington are, "founding father" however there is so much more to those two words. Yes, to me he represents a founding father but the name George Washington goes beyond that. His name is deep rooted into the patriotism and American culture we indulge in today. George Washington means freedom, liberty, innovation, and prosperity. George Washington is a name I learned as a child and was taught to automatically connect respect with.

Therefore, the name George Washington has a meaning closely tied to the very up most definition of foundation. He's the root of this country I call home. He's the foundation that established the importance of having an independent nation where its citizens are the leaders and main contributors of the continuous advancement in society. The name George Washington to me means being able through self-drive achieve a higher wellbeing for yourself and those around you besides the minimum opportunities and quantity of obstacles.

The way you are raised and what you encounter growing up shapes your mentality, thoughts, and goals. However I believe the character you have also has a lot to do with it, if you are one with a weak mind the struggles your encounters in your early stages of life will only bring you down. However, if you are one who has tough character every single hardship you face.....

The "Before They Were Famous" essay writing contest is designed to encourage students to become creative thinkers and writers, expand their knowledge about historical figures who helped shape America/Louisiana (before they became famous) and discover parallels from history that can be applied today.

What do you think of when you hear the name "George Washington/Andy Jackson/Huey Long"? Is it an accomplished general on the battlefield or the first governor of Louisiana? What about a farmer/Indian fighter/teacher?

Students from (JGHS), competed to have their essay on "George Washington: the Farmer" published on *GlennBeck.com* and receive a scholarship to support their educational goals.

Our Louisiana project offers no scholarship but offer grades and a chance to expand the students' knowledge about Louisiana's famous figures – male and female.

After getting this idea from a recent Glenn Beck program, I thought "*Why not do the same thing for Louisiana Famous People?*" From there I created a list of people who are NOW famous but were not before.

Have students select from the list or create one of your own, then have them write a short, 250-300 word "pre-bio" on one of the Louisiana historical figures. It should be in complete sentences, proper/grammatical sentence structure, in complete proper paragraph form.

My own list might include:

Any Louisiana governor

Clementine Hunter

Etienne de Bore

Henry de Tonti

Jacques Villere

Jean Lafitte

Marie Laveau

LaSalle

St. Denise

A.P. Tureaud

Philimon Thomas

Britney Spears

Harriet Beecher Stowe

Zachary Taylor

Sir Edward Pakenham

Bonnie Parker

Pelican Girls

Julien Poydras

Mary Landrieu

Elvis Presley

John Law

William Seymour

Henry Miller Shreve

Huddie Ledbetter

Jerry Lee Lewis

Pete Fountain

Wynton Marsalis

Edmund McIlhenny

John McNeese

William Mumford

Marie Therese Coin Coin

Clyde Barrow

Andrew Jackson

Carl Austin Weiss

Kate Chopin

Clair Chennault

Paul Cyr

Hernando De Soto

David Duke

David Farragut

Hale Boggs

Andrew Higgins

Al Hirt

Homer Plessy

John Slidell

Fulwar Skipwith

Richard Taylor

Louis Armstrong

Charles Aubry

P.G.T. Beauregard

And others



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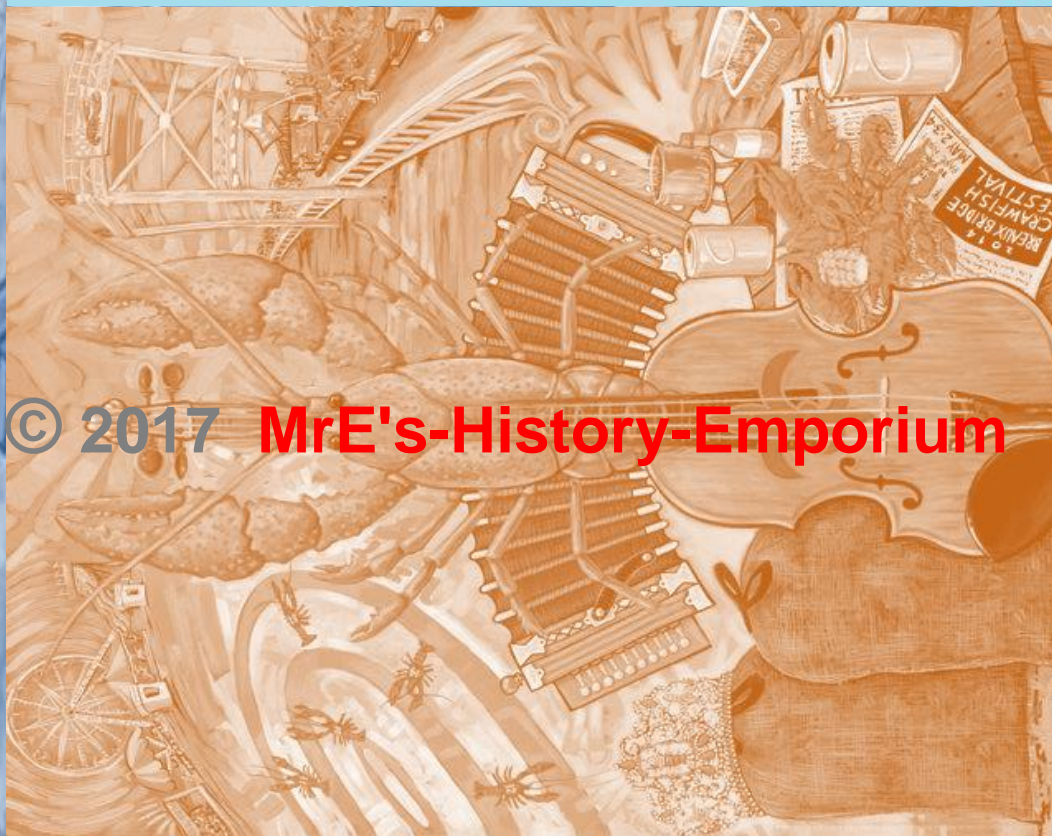
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