



Contributor: Jill Knight **Grade Level:** 2nd and 3rd

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

2nd and 3rd Grade Level – Tennessee – Addresses Common Core Standards

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

Introduce the concept of critical thinking skills to the students.

3. Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:

- Who was George Washington? Accept answers.
- What kind of person was George Washington?
- How can we find out about the character of a person?

Read some library books about George Washington to the class to get them familiar with him.

Easy book suggestions are:

- I am George Washington, by Brad Meltzer
- George Washington and his Dog, by Frank Murphy
- Who Was George Washington, By True Kelley and Roberta Edwards

4. Introduction of the topic:

Discuss how to use the terms 'brainstorm' and 'different points of view' with the class.

5. Procedure for instruction:

Divide the class into groups and let them make a creative list of the characteristics about George Washington.

Using the list from each group, describe the character of George Washington using the letters of his last name.

Example: W-Worthy. A-Awesome. S-Soldier. H-Hero. I- Important.

N-Nice. G-Giving. T-Trusted. O-Obedient. N-Neighborly

Each group will make a vertical chart listing the characteristics they think best describes George Washington. Display all the lists to be used in a class discussion.

Each group will select a spokesperson to explain why these adjectives were chosen to describe George Washington.

The class will vote on which characteristic best describes the first president.

6. Assessment of Understanding:

Evaluation: Each student will copy the class list. Then they will write a sentence explaining why they agree with the adjectives selected. If a student does not agree with any of the characteristics, they must write a sentence explaining why. All the students will turn in their lists. If there are any changes, read another book about George Washington and take a class vote to see if the description should be changed.