

## **SORT IT OUT: IS IT WASHINGTON OR LINCOLN?**

Learning Objectives: Students will

1. Explain the reason for the celebration of Presidents' Day.
2. Identify information about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, who helped shape our nation.
3. Apply their critical thinking skills by categorizing information.

TEKS: SS K.1A, 2A, 14A,B&C, 1.1A, 2A, 17A,B&D

Materials Needed: Children's literature books about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln such as The Picture Book of George Washington and The Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln by David Adler or Rookie Biographies about Washington and Lincoln by Wil Mara, copies of the attached "Sort Chart: Is It Washington or Lincoln?", sets of the attached Washington and Lincoln "Sort Cards", cut apart and put into baggies or envelopes, copies of the "Presidents' Day BINGO" cards, glue, markers for Bingo such as beans, small sticky notes or construction paper squares

Vocabulary: Birthday, celebration, holiday, honor, observe, president, Presidents' Day

Teaching Strategy:

1. Ask if anyone in the class has a birthday during the month of February. Ask students if they know the names of any presidents who were born in February. Inform students that George Washington was born on February 22 and his birthday became an official federal holiday in 1885. Ask students: What are some of the reasons why our country would celebrate Washington's Birthday? (First President of the United States, "Father of Our Country," president of the Constitutional Convention, commanded the Continental Army during the American Revolution.)
2. Tell students that Abraham Lincoln, our 16<sup>th</sup> president, was also born in February (February 12). Many states observe or use to observe Lincoln's Birthday as a state holiday. Over the years the celebration of Washington's Birthday and that of Abraham Lincoln have been called Presidents' Day. Ask students about the importance of Presidents' Day. Why should we honor past presidents?

3. To provide background information about the lives of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, the teacher should read his/her favorite children's literature books about each president to the class. (See suggested literature listed in the "Materials Needed" section of this lesson.)
4. Give each student a "Sort Chart" and a set of the Washington and Lincoln "Sort Cards". Explain to students that they should sort the picture cards and place them in the correct column on the "Sort Chart" to indicate if the picture/graphic is about Washington or Lincoln.
5. Review the correct answers with the class. (Optional: Challenge students to create a story about George Washington or Abraham Lincoln using the "sort cards" as prompts. The story may be shared verbally or put in written form.)
6. To conclude the lesson, give each student a "Presidents' Day BINGO" card. Instruct students to randomly glue their Washington and Lincoln "Sort Cards" on the Bingo card until every square is filled.
7. Tell students that they are now going to play a game of Bingo. Give each student some Bingo markers and instruct them concerning on the rules of the game. Students may declare a Bingo when they have filled four squares vertically, horizontally, or diagonally.
8. Using a master set of Washington and Lincoln "Sort Cards," the teacher should draw a card and then create a statement or question to go with the card. (Example: log cabin=the type of house Abraham Lincoln lived in when he was young.)
9. The winner or winners of the Bingo game may receive a reward if the teacher chooses.

Extension for Gifted/talented: Have students conduct research on two other presidents and create a set of graphic picture cards representing information about each of them. Students should then create a game using the cards and teach it to the class.

## **SORT CHART: WASHINGTON OR LINCOLN?**



**George Washington**

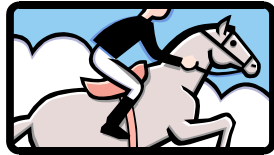


**Abraham Lincoln**

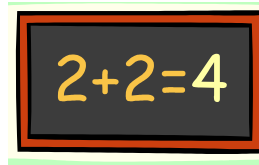
# WASHINGTON SORT CARDS



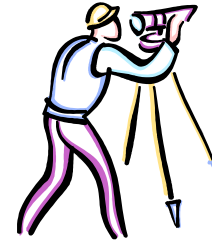
Born in Virginia



Horseback Riding



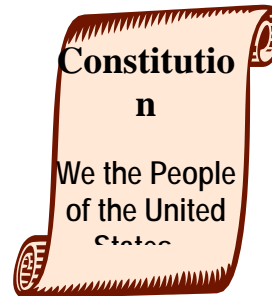
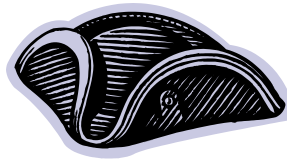
Loved  
Mathematics



Surveyor

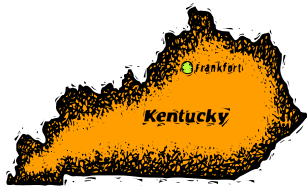


Mt. Vernon



First  
President

# LINCOLN SORT CARDS



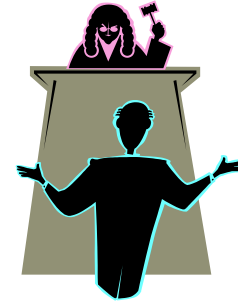
Born in Kentucky



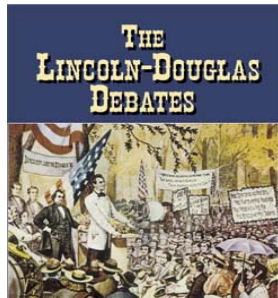
Lived in a Log Cabin



Loved Reading Books



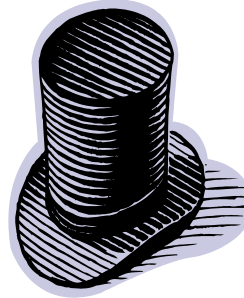
Lawyer



Debater



Civil War



Stovepipe Hat



Shot by  
John Wilkes Booth

# PRESIDENT'S DAY BINGO
