



Honoring the Spirit of America

www.museumofpatriotism.org

“The Washington Monument”

Grades 3-8

Objective: The student will define the word, “monument”, identify why the Washington Monument is important, and design a new monument for a president.

This objective covers GPS requirement **SSKH2(e)**
(For teachers outside the state of Georgia, check your local or state education curriculum to see what requirements this lesson plan may satisfy.)

Materials:

- Board/chart paper
- teacher-selected books or materials on monuments honoring U.S. presidents
- paper
- pencils
- crayons/colored pencils
- Website on the Washington Monument
 - <http://tourofdc.org/monuments/washington-monument/>
- optional: materials to build a model of a monument

Procedure:

1. Create a word web on the board with the words “Famous Monuments” in the middle. Have students add all the famous monuments they know to the word web. Point out which of the monuments listed honor presidents.
2. Hopefully, students will list the Washington Monument in the word web. If not, bring it into the discussion, and inform students that they will be studying it today.
3. Using the information from the website listed above, divide students into six groups. Have each group summarize one section from the website. Section titles include: 1) The Washington Monument, 2) Washington During the Revolutionary War, 3) Washington, the First President, 4) Washington in Retirement, 5) History of the Washington Monument, and the 6) Monument in Statistics. Have each group share their summaries with the class.
4. Now that the students have gained an understanding of the Washington Monument, inform them that it is their turn to create a monument. Have students design a new

- monument for a president. Have students brainstorm which president they would honor with a monument. Once all students have chosen a president, have them sit in president groups, where everyone in the group chose the same president.
5. Have students think of an image and design to create for that president. Pass out drawing paper. Have students work together to create a design for the monument.
 6. Once a design is established, have students write a paragraph telling the reason why they chose that particular president. Students should also write a second paragraph detailing the design for the monument.
 7. Have groups present their completed designs to the class. Take a class vote on the most favorite design.
 8. **Optional:** Let the class choose one design to build as a model. Let students choose the materials for the model.

Assessment:

Evaluate students' paragraphs, designs, and presentations.

Resources

Education World

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/01-1/lp223_02.shtml