

Important American Leaders

Grade 2 • SOCIAL-STUDIES • Students identify George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King Jr. and explain one simple reason each is historically important. • Standards: D2.His.3.K-2

Read each question about three important American leaders. Write your answer on the line.

1. George Washington was the first _____ of the United States.
2. Martin Luther King Jr. worked to help all people be treated _____.
3. Abraham Lincoln helped to end slavery. What does slavery mean? (a) making people work without freedom (b) going to school
4. Which leader was a general in the army before he became president? (a) Martin Luther King Jr. (b) George Washington
5. Martin Luther King Jr. gave speeches to teach people about peace and fairness. True or False?
6. George Washington is called the Father of Our Country because he helped start the United States. What does this nickname mean? (a) He was everyone's dad (b) He was very important in creating our country
7. Abraham Lincoln was president during a war between the northern and southern states. What is one reason this war was fought?
8. Martin Luther King Jr. believed people should solve problems without fighting. He wanted people to use peaceful ways to make change. What word describes this idea?
9. Why do we remember George Washington as an important leader? Write one reason.
10. All three leaders helped make America better for more people. Write one way Abraham Lincoln OR Martin Luther King Jr. worked for fairness.

Answer Key — Important American Leaders

For the teacher / parent. Do not distribute with the worksheet.

1. president
2. fairly (*Acceptable answers include fairly, equally, the same, or with respect*)
3. a
4. b
5. True
6. b
7. slavery (*Acceptable answers include slavery, to end slavery, or freedom for enslaved people*)
8. nonviolence (*Acceptable answers include nonviolence, peace, peaceful, or working together peacefully*)
9. He was the first president (*Acceptable answers include: He was the first president, He helped start our country, He led the army to help America become free, or He helped create the United States*)
10. Lincoln ended slavery OR King worked for equal rights (*Acceptable answers for Lincoln: He ended slavery, He freed enslaved people, He helped all people be free. Acceptable answers for King: He worked so all people could be treated the same, He worked for equal rights, He wanted fairness for all people*)