

# EXPLORE!



EDUCATION

## FAMOUS FACES

Take a trip through time to learn about famous Virginians, see items that belonged to them, and think about why we remember them today. What do you guys think are important things to be remembered for? What do you think is a good way to remember people who have done some of those things?



### Christopher Newport

I call this a spaghetti map because there are so many noodles! What colors do you see? They show us all the places people were moving from - have any of you guys lived somewhere other than Virginia? Christopher Newport, the red spaghetti noodle, came from England in 1607 to settle Jamestown and explore to Richmond!

### Pocahontas and John Smith

However, Virginia Indians called the Powhatans already lived here! One of them, Pocahontas, became friends with the English explorer John Smith. They learned each other's language and worked together to keep peace between the Powhatans and the English for a short time. You can also see an early map of Virginia that John Smith made below Pocahontas's portrait!



### George Washington

Has anyone ever heard of George Washington? He did a lot of things to be remembered for! He helped us become a country and served as our 1st president. Today, we remember him, and our other Presidents, on a holiday called Presidents' Day in February. We even have a letter he wrote and a painting of his wife, Martha!

### Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was another Virginian president who helped us become a country! He wrote something called The Declaration of Independence on a desk like this. The Declaration of Independence is celebrated every year on the 4th of July. Do any of you celebrate the 4th of July? What do you do?





## Patrick Henry

Patrick Henry is a third person who lived at the same time as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. He helped us become a country by giving speeches that inspired people. These are his actual glasses - people said that when he was about to give a really passionate speech he would push his glasses to the top of his head. We have a picture of that on the wall over here!



## Sacagawea

All of the people we have talked about so far have lived or explored in Virginia. But you don't have to be a Virginian to have made an impact in Virginia. Sacagawea helped Virginia explorers Lewis and Clark learn about new parts of the United States by translating between Native American tribes and showing them how to live off the land. We remember her help by putting her on a coin. Who else do we remember by putting them on money?



## Maggie Lena Walker

Maggie Walker was the first African-American woman president of a bank. In the past, being black or being a woman made certain jobs harder, so she had to work twice as hard to accomplish her goals. She also helped as a schoolteacher and businesswoman to fight for equal rights for African-Americans and women.



## Arthur Ashe

Arthur Ashe is another African-American who had to work twice as hard to accomplish his goals. Arthur Ashe won three of the biggest tournaments - he was a champion! However, he was forced to leave Richmond as a child to play in the best tennis competitions because black players couldn't compete against white players. Is it fair to discriminate based on the color of his skin?



**TEACHER GUIDE: The additional information and resources below can help you and your students explore the story of Virginia through the stories of individuals. as you explore, have students think about how we remember people and what makes people worth remembering. Feel free to talk about other people in the gallery as well!**



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## FAMOUS FACES

1. Explorer Map: This map shows when early settlers from various European countries got to the Americas. Jamestown is the first permanent English colony in North America. I Extension Activity: Ask students if they know anything about different countries, or anyone from a different country.
2. Pocahontas Portraits: Behind us we have two portraits of Pocahontas. One is based on the only image we have of her done by someone who actually met her, and one is completely imagined. The one where she is dressed in English clothes is based on an image engraved during the year she was in England after she married John Rolfe. John Smith's map is below, and would have been drawn to show the natural resources of Virginia, as well as the fact that Indians already lived there. I Extension Activity: One way we remember Pocahontas is by learning about the Powhatan life - explore the canoe and artifacts on the other side of the room. Can you find the statue of Pocahontas?
3. George Washington: George Washington is often known as the "sword" of the Revolution, since he fought for the colonies to gain freedom. We have many items that belonged to him, including some letters and diaries. Presidents' Day was originally celebrated on his birthday, but today celebrates all presidents, and their work. I Did You Know: Virginia has had more presidents than any other state?
4. Thomas Jefferson: Thomas Jefferson is often known as the "pen" of the Revolution, since he wrote the Declaration of Independence, which expressed the desire of the colonies to break away from England. I Extension Activity: Think about how much longer it would take to write in the past, with no computers.
5. Patrick Henry: Patrick Henry was often known as the "voice" of the Revolution, since he made speeches to convince people to support the war. His most famous speech said "give me liberty, or give me death" and took place right here in Richmond, at St. John's Church in Church Hill. I Extension Activity: Everybody make glasses with your hands. Now push them on top of your head! What is something you believe is right?
6. Sacagawea: The United States of America wasn't always the shape it was now. Sacagawea helped to explore as we were learning more about new parts of the country. We can also find George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Thomas Jefferson on coins and paper bills. I Extension Activity: Look at the State of Change touch map behind the Conestoga Wagon to see how the shape of the country has changed.
7. Maggie L. Walker: Maggie L. Walker is representative of the parallel economies and segregated lifestyles that grew as a direct result of Jim Crow era laws and policies. She spent her life working to aid the black community and showed success despite adversity. I Did You Know: Her house has been turned into a museum that you can visit?
8. Arthur Ashe: Arthur Ashe showed early promise in tennis, but Richmond's courts and tournaments were segregated. He had to move to St. Louis to train, and is still the only black man to have won the US Open, Australian Open, or Wimbledon (much less all three). You can see a statue of Arthur Ashe on Monument Avenue in Richmond. I Extension Activity: What sports do you guys like to play?

# CREATE!



EDUCATION

FAMOUS FACES

We have talked a lot about famous Virginians that we remember through learning their stories, saving objects that belonged to them and creating pictures or statues of them. But you don't have to be famous to make a difference in your community. Your community can be something big, like the state of Virginia, or it can be smaller - maybe just your town or your school. Who is someone in your life that you think does good things and is worth remembering? Why? Draw a picture of that person on the money below!

