

Core Skills Analysis

English

- Learned to use descriptive language to explain a famous American monument, the Washington Monument.
- Understood the importance of crafting clear sentences to connect the monument to its historical significance.
- Developed observational and narrative skills by describing elements like the monument's shape, setting, and symbolic representation.
- Practiced persuasive or informational writing by linking a visual symbol to American government and history.

History

- Gained knowledge about the Washington Monument as a symbol of American history and leadership.
- Learned about the monument's connection to George Washington and its significance in representing the nation's past.
- Explored the historical period during which the monument was built and its role in commemorating U.S. independence and governance.
- Understood the importance of monuments in preserving and presenting historical memory to the public.

Social Studies

- Explored the cultural importance of national monuments in shaping American identity and patriotism.
- Developed an understanding of how monuments and symbols relate to the structure and values of American government.
- Learned to connect physical landmarks to broader societal concepts like democracy, leadership, and national unity.
- Reflected on how public spaces and monuments serve as places for civic engagement and education.

Tips

To deepen the student's understanding, encourage a multi-disciplinary approach by combining historical research with creative writing. Arrange a virtual or physical tour of significant monuments, prompting the student to take notes and create a travelogue or photo journal. Facilitate role-playing exercises where the student can imagine being a historical figure connected to the monument, helping to build empathy and historical perspective. Integrate discussions on the role of national symbols in current events to link past and present government practices for a more holistic grasp.

Book Recommendations

- [If You Lived At The Time Of The American Revolution](#) by Kay Moore: An engaging book that introduces young readers to the era surrounding the formation of American government and iconic symbols like monuments.
- [Monumental America](#) by Andy Prentice: A kid-friendly exploration of famous American monuments, their history, and cultural significance.
- [What Is the Washington Monument?](#) by Betsy Maestro: A clear and illustrated guide providing facts about the Washington Monument, perfect for young learners interested in U.S. landmarks.

Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.3: Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions on grade-level topics and texts.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.7: Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources to locate an answer or solve a problem.

Try This Next

- Create a worksheet that asks the student to write a short essay on why monuments like the Washington Monument are important to American history.
- Design a quiz with questions about the history, location, and symbolism of the Washington Monument.
- Drawing task: Sketch the Washington Monument and label its key features, then write a paragraph describing its meaning.
- Writing prompt: Imagine you are George Washington visiting the monument built in your honor. Write a diary entry about your feelings.