



## Lesson Plan

### Our Founding Mothers

- Inform students that there were important women who helped build the United States into the nation that it is. Show students the [Founding Mothers of the United States](#) video.
- Instruct students to choose a Founding Mother they are interested in learning more about. Students may choose from any of the Founding Mothers noted on the blog or one of the others mentioned in the videos including the following:
  - Martha Washington
  - Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton
  - Betsy Ross
  - Deborah Sampson
  - Dolly Madison
- Have students use the search engine *Kiddle* to research their chosen Founding Mother. Alternatively, have students type the name of the historical figure and add “for kids” into Google. From there, have students select an age-appropriate encyclopedia such as *Kids Encyclopedia*, *Britannica for Kids*, or *National Geographic for Kids* with a related entry.
- Instruct students to gather the following important information about the Founding Mother’s life:
  - date and place of birth
  - information about early life, such as family and schooling information
  - notable contributions to their community and the founding of the United States
  - any other interesting information students would like to include
- As students conduct their research, have them take notes in their journal or on a separate sheet of paper. Inform or remind students that they should use their own words when taking notes. Using the exact words of another author is considered plagiarism and should be avoided.
- Remind students that a biography is a written story of a person’s life told by another person. Instruct students to use their notes to write a biography of their founding father or mother with an introductory sentence, two to three short paragraphs sharing what they learned about that person’s life, and a concluding sentence.
- Once students finish, have them read and edit their work using the CUPS method (checking for capitalization, understanding through clear and complete sentences, and correct punctuation and spelling).
- Consider having students share their writing with one another throughout the week.

#### Approx. Time



- 45 minutes

#### Big Questions



- What character traits do you think the Founding Mothers might have had?

#### Resources



- **The Founding Mothers of the United States**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jcjAKHdjyA0>

#### Source



- *Exploring Near and Far: Social Studies Foundations | Second Grade*