

Teacher's Guide for COBBLESTONE 30 Greatest Americans

January 2010

By Linda M. Andersen, School Counselor at Eastover-Central Elementary School in Fayetteville, North Carolina

Goal: to celebrate Cobblestone's 30-year anniversary by honoring the 30 greatest Americans—those who have inspired on a national scale.

"Abraham Lincoln" by Harold Holtzer (Pages 4-5)

Pre-reading: Look at the photograph. Which war is this? What are some word clues?

Vocabulary Check: graver, quarrel, authority, emerged, inaugurated, seceded, competence, tragedy, preserve, despairing, steadfastly, rejected, triumphed, malice, strive, seized, rebellious, emancipation, antiwar, initially, preserved, tremendous, rallied, devastated, reconstruct, reuniting, committed, embittered, sympathizer, and triumph.

Comprehension Check:

1. What issue made Lincoln's presidency extra challenging?
2. Lincoln said that if democracy was defeated, it would not ever appear anywhere again. Do you agree? Why or why not?
3. What was Lincoln's reaction to suggestions that he leave the South alone?
4. What did emancipation change? What did it not change?
5. Tell about the Union generals.
6. Why did Lincoln have difficulty with his Cabinet?
7. What effect did Lincoln's speeches have on people?
8. Tell what kind of effect Lincoln had on his enemies?
9. How did Lincoln describe slavery?
10. Tell two significant things that happened in April 1865.
11. Many historians consider Lincoln the greatest U.S. president ever. Do you agree? Why or why not?

Art/Social Studies:

- Each student creates a black stovepipe hat like Lincoln wore. Throughout this issue's study, students place the hat on their desk each time a statement about Lincoln is made or Lincoln's name is mentioned.

Writing Activity:

- Pretend to be a young child. Write a letter to Lincoln suggesting how to personally handle the stress of war. Tell Lincoln what has helped you when you were worried about something.

"Jackie Robinson" and "Babe Ruth" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 6)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture and tell what sport this is? What team? What player?

Vocabulary Check: segregated, league, opposition, taunts, slurs, vicious, inducted, popularity, exploded, and recognized.

Comprehension Check:

1. What is meant by breaking "through baseball's color line?"
2. Why did Branch Rickey, the general manager, want to bring black players into the major leagues?
3. What did Rickey mean when he said, "No, Jackie, I want a player with guts enough *not* to fight back?"
4. When Jackie Robinson signed with the Brooklyn dodgers, he made history. Explain.
5. Who was the first sports celebrity?
6. What is Yankee Stadium's nickname? How did it get it?
7. Compare and contrast Jackie Robinson and Babe Ruth.

Writing Activity:

- Write a tip to Babe Ruth from Jackie Robinson.
- Write a tip to Jackie Robinson from Babe Ruth.

"Thomas Edison" by Karen Bradley Cain and Meg Chorlian (Page 7)

Pre-reading: Can you tell what the man is holding? Can you name two other things he invented?

Vocabulary Check: invented, experimented, torpedoes, production, flops, recognized, imaginable, exotic, tinkering, patents, fascinated, and evolved.

Comprehension Check:

1. Did Edison let failure get him down? How do you know?
2. Tell about one of his failures.
3. Do you think Thomas Edison would like to be called the "Wizard of Menlo Park?" Why or why not?
4. Did Edison have a wide variety of projects? How does the author describe it?
5. What does the number of patents earned say about Edison? Could it mean something else too?

Writing Activity:

- Pretend to be placing inventory in the invention factory. List five things you would stock.

Bulletin Board/Research:

- Research and discover more of Edison's inventions. Clip photographs of items Edison invented or improved. Create a bulletin board in honor of Thomas Edison.

"Susan B. Anthony" by Elizabeth Elkins (Pages 8-9)

Pre-reading: Do you know why Susan B. Anthony is nominated as one of the 30 Greatest Americans?

Vocabulary Check: illegally, traditional, suffrage, activism, temperance, antislavery, partnership, effective, conventions, thunderbolts, campaigned, and persuaded.

Comprehension Check:

1. How was Susan B. Anthony honored in a way no woman had ever been before?
2. Why did Susan B. Anthony insist on being arrested like a criminal?
3. Tell about the partnership of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.
4. Name at least three rights Anthony campaigned for.
5. What does the article mean when it says "she paved the way ..."

Art:

- Draw a WANTED poster of women who voted illegally.
- Draw a poster advertising the sale of Susan B. Anthony coins.
- Discuss the meaning of the posters.

"Henry Ford" by Kelly Poltrack (Pages 8-9)

Pre-reading: Why do you think Henry Ford was nominated as one of the 30 Greatest Americans when he wasn't the first to invent an automobile?

Vocabulary Check: reliable, tinkering, commonplace, innovative, ingenuity, traction, efficiently, skyrocketed, ultimately, scoffed, innovations, restricted, and inexpensive.

Comprehension Check:

1. What does it mean "to lighten the workload?"
2. Tell about some of Henry Ford's "good business decisions."
3. What was the initial reaction of other manufacturers to Ford's business decisions?
4. What does it mean to "follow suit?"

Research/Writing Activity:

- Talk with your oldest living relative. Interview them and learn what old cars they can remember their family owning. What year model was it? What memories do they have of that car? Write up some of the experiences.
- Interview family members and learn if any ancestors worked in automotive manufacturing or repair. Write up some of the experiences.

Social Studies Field Trip:

- Visit a transportation museum.
- Arrange a ride in an old automobile. Some collectors offer this service for payment.
- Attend a car show. Ask the owners questions.

"Franklin D. Roosevelt" by Elizabeth Elkins (pages 10-11)

Pre-reading: Look at the photographs and read the picture caption. Was Franklin D. Roosevelt's popularity restricted to the United States? How can you tell?

Vocabulary Check: depression, confront, despite, halted, crippling, regained, invalid, illusion, vaccine, resumed, assumed, bleak, subsidize, criticized, domestic, nonintervention, mobilized, strategy, essential, ultimately, surrendered, inspiring, and buoyed.

Comprehension Check:

1. What quote spoken by Franklin D. Roosevelt reminded Americans to stop worrying?
2. What economic conditions made Roosevelt's presidency so challenging?
3. How did Americans reassure Franklin D. Roosevelt that they had faith in his leadership?

Research:

- New Deal
- Polio
- March of Dimes
- The Great Depression
- Winston Churchill
- Joseph Stalin

Art:

- Illustrate the last sentence in this article.

Drama

- Assign roles: FDR, Americans--crew on a boat. Dramatize the last sentence in this article. FDR shouts encouragement to the crew. The crew stays afloat and eventually ties up and steps on shore.

"Elvis Presley" by Jason Patenaude (Page 12)

Pre-reading: Name three things you know about Elvis Presley and his music.

Vocabulary Check: segregated, boundaries, cultural, rebellion, influence, security, impressionable, boundaries, popularity, undiminished, inspiration, gyrating, impersonators, and celebrities.

Comprehension Check:

1. How did Elvis Presley's music break down cultural boundaries?
2. Elvis Presley is recognized by three music halls of fame. Which ones?
3. Why is Elvis Presley unique in his music recognition?
4. Why do you think the FBI called him a "danger to the security of the United States?"
5. Tell how the *Ed Sullivan Show* featured Elvis Presley in 1956. Tell why this was done.

Drama:

- Pretend to be an Elvis impersonator. Play a song and lip synch.

Art/Research:

- Sketch a costume design for Elvis. He was known for wearing very decorative outfits near the end of his career. You may want to do some research before beginning your design.

"George Gershwin" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 12)

Vocabulary Check: compositions, rhapsody, and symphonic

Comprehension Check:

1. Tell about Gershwin's style of music?
2. George Gershwin wrote "Rhapsody in Blue." What is unique about this composition?
3. How do you think Gershwin went from being a songwriter to a composer?

Research:

- Tin Pan Alley
- Composer
- Mozart
- Beethoven
- Listen to one or more of George Gershwin's pieces.

"James Marshall" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 13)

Pre-reading: What picture clue helps you to know that John Marshall is well respected?

Vocabulary Check: reputation, appointed, transform, invalid, conflicted, permanent, supreme, interpret, conflicted, enforced, overturn, integrity, and transformed

Comprehension Check:

1. It has been said that James Marshall put the public good above his own. What does that mean?
2. Explain the Court's "voice."
3. What is judicial review?

4. What did Marshall mean when he said, "the Constitution needed to be the permanent, supreme law for the country?"
5. Marshall believed the Supreme Court should interpret and defend the Constitution. Why do you think some people disagreed with him? What were they afraid of?
6. What does it mean if the Supreme Court overturns a decision made by the lower state court?
7. Which is more powerful today—state or federal government?
8. Marshall was chief justice for 34 years. Did he have more power at the beginning or the end of his service?

Art:

- Draw a set of scales that shows the balance of power of state and federal government.

Research:

- John Marshall's other careers
- Other justices on the Supreme Court
- Supreme Court

"Harriet Tubman" by Mark Clemens (Pages 14-15)

Pre-reading: What comes to mind when you hear Harriet Tubman's name?

Vocabulary Check: rebellious streak, abolitionists, illiterate, pretended, suspicion, capture, betterment, donated suffrage, perils, and enslaved.

Comprehension Check:

1. What nickname did Harriet earn?
2. What did the slaves nickname the North?
3. Why were people hunting for Harriet Tubman?
4. Tell about Tubman's involvement in the Civil War.
5. Tell of her efforts for women's rights.
6. How did she spend her retirement?
7. What personality traits would be necessary for a guide on the Underground Railroad?

Writing Activity:

- Write a cinquain about Harriet Tubman. A cinquain is a poem with five lines: Line 1—one word (the title). Line 2—two words that describe the title. Line 3—three words that tell action. Line 4—four words that express the feeling. Line 5—one word that recalls the title. (Other poetry forms may be substituted.)

"Jonas Salk" by Marcia Amidon Lusted, illustrated by Lisa Fields (Pages 14-15)

Pre-reading: What occupation do you think is illustrated here?

Vocabulary Check: epidemic, paralyzing, infantile paralysis, infecting, crippled, gratitude, citation, and vanquished.

Comprehension Check:

1. What was the nation desperate for?
2. Why was the March of Dimes formed?
3. Why was it obvious that Jonas Salk believed in his vaccine?
4. What is meant by "human guinea pigs?"
5. What made Jonas Salk's vaccine different from others that were available?
6. Why did Jonas Salk refuse to patent his finding?

Writing Activity:

- Write a note of thanks to Jonas Salk. Tell him how your world is different today because of him.
- Ask if any member of your family had polio. Conduct an interview, if possible. Write what you learn.

Research:

- Polio
- Presidential Medal of Freedom
- Jonas Salk

"Cesar Chavez" by Diane L. Brooks, illustrated by Lori McElrath-Eslick (Pages 16-17)

Pre-reading: What can you tell about the setting? What does it appear that the person in front is doing?

Vocabulary Check: toiled, migrant, boycott, ultimately, effective, impact, and inspire.

Comprehension Check:

1. Tell about the Bracero Program.
2. What was Chavez trying to organize?
3. What was Chavez's attitude toward violence?
4. Chavez compared the progress to what type of labor?
5. What were some of the nonviolent acts used to encourage change?
6. What caused 26 growers to sign contracts with the union in 1968?

Research:

- Migrant worker
- National Farm Workers Association
- Cesar Chavez
- Community Service Organization (CSO)

Art:

- Draw a collage or a quilt that shows crops migrant workers picked by hand. See the introductory paragraph for a listing.

"Benjamin Franklin" by Elizabeth Elkins (Pages 18-19)

Pre-reading: Do you know any quotes by Benjamin Franklin?

Vocabulary Check: negotiator, diplomat, and proposed.

Comprehension Check:

1. How involved was Franklin in the decision to fight for independence from Britain?
2. Tell of some of Benjamin Franklin's ideas that changed the city of Philadelphia.
3. Why do you think Franklin formed the Junto?
4. What career choices did Franklin make?
5. Name one of Franklin's inventions.
6. How did Franklin's publications allow illiterate people to "read?"

Research:

- *Poor Richard's Almanack*
- Armonica

Art:

- Illustrate what is meant by this statement: "Franklin had both the big and small pictures in mind."

Writing Activity:

- If Franklin could be interviewed today, what would be two questions you would ask him?
- Franklin is often drawn flying a kite in an electrical storm. What caption would you make to go with that illustration?

"Jane Addams" by Tom Pfannkoch (Page 19)

Vocabulary Check: desperate, refuse, immigrant, toiled, sweatshops, inferior, occupied, strode, situation, conflict, resolved, inheritance, social status, settlement, criticism, ambitiously, influence, advocated, alternative, international, commitment, and fortunate

Comprehension Check:

1. Describe Chicago in the late 1800s.
2. What are sweatshops? What were conditions like?
3. What happened to change this hopeless situation?
4. Describe the settlement house Jane Addams visited in Europe.
5. Jane Addams decided to help immigrants in Chicago. What was her parent's reaction?
6. What was the community's initial reaction to the Hull-House?
7. Tell of the success of the Hull-House. How did it influence others?
8. What did Addams do to help children who stayed at home alone while parents worked?
9. What honor did Jane Addams earn in 1931?
10. Volunteers offer programs to immigrant families. Why?

Writing Activity:

- Make a list of things you would need to learn if you were moving to a country where English was not spoken.
- Pretend to be an immigrant in Chicago. Write a letter to Jane Addams thanking her for the chance to learn new things at the settlement house.

"Horace Mann" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 20)

Vocabulary Check: ironies, supported, common, charity, formal, institutes, salaries, funded, advocate, recruiting, and opportunity.

Comprehension Check:

1. The author states, "in one of life's greatest ironies, Horace Mann never had any formal education as a boy." Why is this one of life's greatest ironies?
2. Horace Mann thought it was important for citizens in a democracy to be educated. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
3. How did wealthy children get an education? How did poor students get an education?
4. What did Horace Mann do to help children's education?
5. What are common schools?
6. Why do you think Horace Mann was in favor of recruiting and training women as teachers?

Writing Activity:

- Pretend to be one of the first children to go to a public school. Write a thank you note to Horace Mann. Tell him what you want to be when you grow up.

"Noah Webster" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 20)

Vocabulary Check: references, pronunciation, patriotic, devoted, and accomplished.

Comprehension Check:

1. What did Noah Webster think all American school children needed?
2. Webster accomplished his goal. Explain.
3. How can you tell that Noah Webster was determined to reach his goal?
4. Why did Noah Webster include patriotic readings and fables in his "Blue-Backed Speller?"

Research:

- Read a story, letter, diary entry, etc. that is written in the 1800s or before. Locate words that are not spelled like today. Are there expressions that you do not understand?
- Noah Webster
- "Blue-Backed Speller"

"Louis Sullivan" by Elizabeth Elkins, illustrated by Lisa Fields (Page 20-21)

Pre-reading: Why is Louis Sullivan standing in front of tall buildings?

Vocabulary Check: residents, gutted, destruction, architectural, skyscraper, suspended, survive, and geometric.

Comprehension Check:

1. Sullivan believed in Chicago even after the Great Fire of 1871. How can you tell?
2. What was an example of architecture from the "Chicago School?"
3. What made multistoried buildings possible?
4. Tell how Sullivan's vision of a skyscraper was different than earlier designs.
5. Where was the first skyscraper built?

Art:

- Build a community of skyscrapers out of blocks or cardboard boxes.
- Draw a row of skyscrapers. If completing this project with a class, place each sheet of art paper side by side to create a mural.

"Theodore Roosevelt" by Shari Lyn Zuber (Pages 22-23)

Pre-reading: Look at the photographs and picture caption. What can you tell about Theodore Roosevelt?

Vocabulary Check: willed, politician, reform, corrupt, resigned, corruption, enthusiasm, redefined, executive, industrialization, immense, monopolies, antitrust, enacting, conservation, legacies, emerging, isolated, global, interfere, implying, conflicts, international, engineering, stalemate, brokered, negotiations, and reckon.

Comprehension Check:

1. What is a "square deal?"
2. Why was Theodore Roosevelt called the "Trust-Buster?"
3. Tell of Roosevelt's work in New York .
4. What group did Roosevelt organize and lead in the Spanish-American War.
5. What influence did Roosevelt have on preservation of land and resources?
6. How did Roosevelt look out for unhealthy working conditions?
7. Explain the philosophy of "speak softly and carry a big stick."

8. What engineering feat did he support?
9. Roosevelt became known as a person of peace. What award was he given?
10. What did the naval fleet accomplish in 1907? What did this signify to the world?

Art:

- Picture yourself with Theodore Roosevelt. What would be the setting? What would you be doing? Draw what you are imagining.

Writing Activity:

- Pretend to be on a field trip with your classmates in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. When you arrived, you saw someone approaching on horseback. It was Theodore Roosevelt. Write about how surprised you were to see the president.

“Did You Know?” by Meg Chorlian, illustrated by Chris Ware (Pages 24-25)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures and captions. Which one is the most comical to you? Which is one you don't know much about?

Vocabulary Check: superior, respected, graciously, defeat, impresses, passionate, injustices, singlehandedly, antilynching, expedition, endured, capsized, industrialist, investments, billionaire, monopolistic, philanthropic, and enormous.

Comprehension Check:

1. Robert E. Lee had a choice to make. What was it?
2. How did Lee's men feel about him and his leadership?
3. Which side had more supplies and more troops?
4. How long did the war last?
5. How did Lee handle defeat?
6. How did Ida B. Wells-Barnett treat the man who tried to remove her from the train?
7. What causes did Ida B. Wells-Barnett fight for?
8. Sacagawea was a guide and an interpreter. Tell of ways she assisted the exploration.
9. Why is John D. Rockefeller given an honorable mention? Was it because of his extreme wealth? If not, what was it?
10. John D. Rockefeller set up the first philanthropic foundations. What does that mean?
11. What influence do Rockefeller's actions have on wealthy people today?

Writing Activity:

- What might be the bird's response to Robert E. Lee?
- Write a description of Sacagawea as she saves documents and supplies when a boat nearly capsized.

Art:

- Draw a poster to support Ida B. Wells-Barnett's antilynching campaign.
- Draw a wheel barrel filled with bags of money. Label each bag with causes that you would support if you had millions to give away.

“The Wright Brothers” by Mike Weinstein (Pages 26-27)

Pre-reading: Do you know where the first flight took place?

Vocabulary Check: propellers, experimentation, aviation, and inspiration.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why do you think many people refused to believe that air flight had happened?
2. The Wright brothers exchanged ideas. How was this helpful?
3. How much education did the Wright brothers have?
4. Tell how designing, repairing, and experimenting assisted their discovery.
5. What birds inspired their wing design?
6. How did the Wright Brothers test their wing designs?
7. How did the Wright Brothers learn to control the airplane before flying it?
8. How long did the Wright Brothers visit Kitty Hawk before flying?
9. What do jets use today that was learned from the Wright brothers?

Art:

- Draw a collage that features facts about the Wright brothers and things they studied and accomplished before their first flight.

“Robert Goddard” by Beth Bohac (Page 27)

Vocabulary Check: experiments, convinced, loneliness, mocked, and pursued.

Comprehension Check:

1. What is Robert Goddard’s scientific accomplishment?
2. What can you say about Robert Goddard’s attitude toward his experiments?
3. Why did few people know of Goddard’s work?
4. What is Goddard’s nickname?
5. What does modern spacecraft use that Goddard designed?

Art:

- Draw a picture of rocket flight and humans reaching the stars.

“Martin Luther King, Jr.” by Jim Haskins (Pages 28-29)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures and the caption. What was the march’s purpose?

Vocabulary Check: protest, orator, conviction, boycott, passive resistance, civil disobedience, segregation, assassin, crucial, media, antisegregation, and commemorating

Comprehension Check:

1. What qualities made Martin Luther King, Jr. an effective leader?
2. What was King’s weapon?
3. Who answered King’s call?
4. What influence did the media have?
5. Explain why “people had a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws.”
6. Describe responses to the protests.
7. What was meant by the “spiritual strategy” for the civil rights protests?
8. Name ways King was honored.
9. Name ways King was mistreated.

Research:

- “Letter From a Birmingham Jail”
- “I Have a Dream” speech
- Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
- Freedom Rides

- Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi
- Bus boycott of 1955-1956
- Rev. Ralph Abernathy

Art:

- Illustrate the contrast of segregation and integration.
- Illustrate the contrast of King being honored and being mistreated.
- Design a poster commemorating Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

"Rosa Parks" by Andrew Matthews (Page 29)

Comprehension Check:

1. Describe how one act sparked the civil rights movement.
2. What did Rosa Park's peaceful action show?
3. What does the author mean when he says "Parks was tired, both physically and spiritually...?"
4. What ways have you stood up peacefully for injustice?
5. What is meant by "second-class citizens?"

Research:

- Montgomery (Alabama) Bus Boycott
- Rosa Parks

"William Lloyd Garrison" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 30)

Pre-reading: Read the quote beside the photograph. What do you think Garrison means?

Vocabulary Check: creed, moderation, equivocate, immediate, radical, secede, wavered, emancipation, and barred.

Comprehension Check:

1. What was William Lloyd Garrison's goal? Did he accomplish it?
2. Comment on this statement: "Many people thought that freed slaves could never successfully become part of American society."
3. What was William Lloyd Garrison's opinion toward this attitude?
4. Why did William Lloyd Garrison feel that the U.S. Constitution was an illegal document?
5. What was your reaction to his burning of the document?
6. What part of the country did Garrison suggest should succeed? Why?
7. Name ways Garrison was mistreated.
8. What was Garrison's opinion of women?
9. Why do you think that Garrison never, in 35 years, missed a single week of publishing his newspaper?
10. Read the last sentence in this article. Do you agree with this summary of William Lloyd Garrison? Why or why not?

Research:

- *Liberator* (antislavery newspaper)
- American Anti-Slavery Society

"John Adams" by Andrew Matthews (Page 31)

Vocabulary Check: rebellious, massacre, threatened, guaranteed, convinced, sacrifices, secured, critical, engage, and diplomatic.

Comprehension Check:

1. What words describe John Adams' personality?
2. Why does the author describe Boston as a "hotbed of rebellious ideas" in 1760?
3. Why did Adams make a great defense attorney?
4. Why was he willing to risk mistreatment to defend the British soldiers?
5. How did Adams get loans for the Revolutionary cause?

Art/Bulletin Board:

- Create a poster of Adams for President.
- This article states that "Adams's voice was the loudest when it came to discussing independence." Illustrate issues that he would have spoken loudly. Make the illustrations and words accompanying them graduated in size according to their importance.

"Andy Warhol" by Jason Patenaude, illustrated by Lisa Fields (Pages 32-33)

Pre-reading: What is Andy Warhol's occupation? Does the border remind you of Andy Warhol's work? If so, in what way?

Vocabulary Check: impact, critical, vastly, entrepreneurial, excluded, craftsmanship, ironically, criticizing, and redefine.

Comprehension Check:

1. Do you agree with Napoleon Bonapart's statement (opening sentence) or not? Tell why.
2. What type items do Pop artists use for art pieces?
3. What would Warhol think of You Tube and reality TV programs? Why?
4. How did Warhol challenge "people to reconsider and redefine their own meanings of 'art?'"

Art:

- Illustrate the contrast between commercial products as art and criticism of consumer culture.
- Illustrate the contrast between Warhol's criticism of our consumer culture and his wealth for painting it.

"Georgia O'Keefe" by Jason Patenaude (Page 33)

Vocabulary Check: dominated, imitated, abstract, captured, and influential.

Comprehension Check:

1. Tell how Georgia O'Keefe "shook things up."
2. Name some of Georgia O'Keefe's honors.
3. What was O'Keefe's view of art?

Art:

- Concentrate on an emotion and what comes to mind when you think of that emotion. Illustrate your thoughts and feelings.

"Eleanor Roosevelt" by Jayne D. Pettit (Pages 34-35)

Pre-reading: Look at the photographs and picture caption. How does Eleanor's work for human rights enlarge its view?

Vocabulary Check: oppressed, transformed, oppressed, ambitions, prided, sweatshops, misfortunes, plunged, canteen, embroiled, gripped, delegation, deny, reputation, sealed, and redefined.

Comprehension Check:

1. Eleanor Roosevelt is described as being shy. Tell if that got in her way.
2. Name at least two social injustices in the early 1900s.
3. Eleanor Roosevelt was aware of several social injustices. What happened next?
4. How did Eleanor Roosevelt earn the nickname "the willing workhorse?"
5. Tell what is meant by "Eleanor became her husband's legs..."
6. What did Roosevelt promise in his New Deal government programs?
7. How did Eleanor Roosevelt help Jewish people?
8. President Harry S. Truman respected Eleanor Roosevelt. What did he appoint her to do?
9. What does the author mean when she says "she (Eleanor Roosevelt) remains an example of a bright light during some of the darkest days in American history?" (final sentence)

Writing Activity:

- Make a list of things to include in a newspaper article honoring Eleanor Roosevelt's accomplishments. Create a name for the article.

Art/Bulletin Board:

- Draw a poster with the slogan "Eleanor Everywhere."
- Draw a poster with the slogan "First Lady of the World"
- Draw a poster with the slogan "the willing workhorse"
- Combine these and other illustrations to salute Eleanor Roosevelt

"John Muir" by Helen Wieman Bledsoe (Page 36)

Pre-reading: Look at the photograph of John Muir. Focus on the setting. How do you think he feels about the wilderness?

Vocabulary Check: rugged, lashed, buffeting, proposed, unique, refused, convinced, sequoia, conservation, existence, committed, preserving, awareness, connections, environmental, passionately, and forcefully.

Comprehension Check:

1. Look at the photograph again. Read the first sentence of the article. What is the contrast?
2. Tell about how Muir arranged it so he could experience wind blowing through trees.
3. What was Muir's approach for protecting the wilderness?
4. Who did Muir convince to help with preservation? What happened as a result?
5. What nickname has John Muir been given?

Art/Music/Writing/Drama Activity:

- Create an activity/project that celebrates John Muir's contribution to preserving the wilderness. Make a poster. Create words for a song using a familiar tune (such as the theme song for Daniel Boone's old TV series), or write a short poem or skit in John Muir's honor.

"Henry David Thoreau" by Andrea Matthews (Page 36)

Vocabulary Check: idyllic, harmony, conscience, and unjust

Comprehension Check:

1. What effect did Henry David Thoreau think nature had on people?
2. Give an example of Thoreau's passive resistance.
3. Name one person who may have modeled his approach after Thoreau.

Art:

- Draw a poster that shows Thoreau's belief--no to taxes as long as there is war and slavery.

"We the People" by Beth Turin-Weston (Page 37)

Pre-reading: With what important document is James Madison pictured?

Vocabulary Check: constitutional, delegates, confederation, eloquent, persuasion, capacity, profound, influential, interpreter, extensive, consent, accurately, extensive, appointed, representation, proportional, judiciary, ratification, Federalist, amendments, and infancy.

Comprehension:

1. What did James Madison believe the United States needed?
2. Why did James Madison stand out in the crowd?
3. Why did James Madison take such good notes?
4. What is proportional power?
5. What was the purpose of "The Federalist Papers?"
6. What do you think was James Madison's greatest role?

Writing Activity:

- List two events that you would want James Madison to accurately record. For example: The final inning of your baseball game.
- Rank in order of importance the top three accomplishments of James Madison. Do you think he would agree with your list? Why or why not?

"Alice Paul" by Elizabeth Scholl (Pages 38-39)

Pre-reading: What do you think Alice Paul is doing in the photograph?

Vocabulary Check: psychiatric ward, suffragist, participating, decades, publicity, harassing, protests, effective, militant actions, generate, strategically, inauguration, unanimously, petition, generated, radical, accused, denying, used, hypocrisy, brutally, sentinel, apparent, and milestone

Comprehension Check:

1. Describe a silent protest.
2. What does it mean to learn something firsthand?
3. Paul and Burns had a plan. What would they organize?
4. Name one of their publicity events.
5. What was unique about the National woman's Party?

Social Studies/Math:

- Draw a time line for the suffrage movement. Draw a voting booth to represent reaching the end of the journey.

Art:

- Alice Paul was known for her radical ideas. Draw a poster of light bulbs (ideas) and list some of her radical ideas.

"Lucy Burns" by Andrew Matthews (Page 38)

Vocabulary Check: radical, focusing, strategy, effective, self-sacrifice, force-feedings, arrested, attitudes, and commitment.

Comprehension Check:

1. Tell what made Alice Paul and Lucy Burns' partnership effective?
2. What actions helped change attitudes toward women?
3. What were the leaders fighting for?

Writing Activity:

- Tell how you are more like Alice Paul or Lucy Burns.
- Tell how the team is more effective than one individual.

"Mark Twain" by Carmelle L. LaMothe (Pages 40-41)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures and the captions. What can you tell about Mark Twain's popularity and style?

Vocabulary Check: apologies, preface, incorporated, applied, realism, sequel, appalling, banned, immoral, controversial, portrayal, reinforcing, racist, stereotypes, civilized, society, shed, prejudices, inferior, runaway, mannerisms, unique, spin, , international, and distinctly.

Comprehension Check:

1. Mark Twain made no apologies for his writing. Comment on that.
2. Twain says that a storyteller has power over his audience. How did Twain use this?
3. Why did some states ban *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* when it was first published?
4. How does the ride down the Mississippi River change Huck and Jim?
5. What title has Mark Twain earned for his writing?
6. What did his publisher call him?

Writing Activity:

- Make a list of elements your favorite books contain. For example: rhyming words.

"Walt Whitman" by Mark Clemens (Page 41)

Vocabulary Check: traditional mold, constructed, format, emerging, tragedy, assassination, and dynamic.

Comprehension Check:

1. How did Walt Whitman change the way poetry was defined?
2. What nicknames was Walt Whitman given?
3. What does it mean when it says "his poetry broke the traditional mold?"

Writing Activity:

- Make a list of topics Walt Whitman might have written about.

"Thomas Jefferson" by Montana Rogers, illustrated by Ron Bucalo (Pages 42-43)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures. What can you tell about Thomas Jefferson?

Vocabulary Check: traitor, primary, condemning, conviction, dramatically, negotiated, passionate, and potential.

Comprehension Check:

1. What was Thomas Jefferson's most important job during the Revolutionary War?
2. What was Jefferson disappointed that Congress removed from the Declaration of Independence?

3. The author states that "Jefferson was one of America's great thinkers." Name one proof of that found in this article.

Art/Writing Activity:

- Write Jefferson's views on rights. Pretend you have been commissioned to design a nickel to salute Thomas Jefferson's views. Create one.

"Alexander Hamilton" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Pages 42-43)

Vocabulary Check: ratification, essays, and aide

Comprehension Check:

1. Prove that Alexander Hamilton got caught up in the cause for Independence.
2. If Hamilton were a present-day student, what school subjects would be his best? Why?

Research

- The Federalist Papers
- Alexander Hamilton's youth

"Nikola Tesla" by Mary Beth Cox and Andrew Matthews, illustrated by Lisa Fields (Page 43)

Pre-reading: Look at the illustration. What scientific studies may have interested Nikola Tesla?

Vocabulary Check: incandescent, rival, simultaneously, transmitter, confidence, plagued, materialized, and ultimately.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why would Nikola Tesla not be surprised by wireless connections?
2. In what two fields did Tesla experiment?
3. What type current did Tesla develop?
4. Tesla demonstrated how to transmit information, but he was not content. What else was he trying to accomplish?
5. Tesla never produced a world wireless system. His research has led to some success at MIT. Tell about it.

Writing Activity:

- Pretend to be Tesla and conducting scientific studies in a remote section of Colorado. Write some observations about lightning and experiments with a magnifying transmitter.

"George Washington" by Andrew Matthews (Pages 44-45)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures of George Washington. How would you describe him? What would you guess he is like personally?

Vocabulary Check: pivotal, delegates, nominated, dealt, ultimately, unravel, despite, unanimous, diverse, constant, establishing, devotion, confidence, and declined.

Comprehension Check:

1. What do you think the author means by "his quiet leadership?"
2. What message did his clothing send when he went to the First Continental Congress?
3. Why do you think Washington was willing to lead the Continental Army?
4. Why wasn't The Articles of Confederation sufficient?

5. What were some of the early difficulties faced by the United States of America?
6. Tell positive qualities about Washington's leadership style.
7. Why does the author describe George Washington as great?

Art/Drama/Writing Activity:

- Make a list of George Washington's quiet leadership qualities. Create posters and banners that recognize these traits. Assign one student to play the role of George Washington. He will need to design a costume. Also, assign one student to be a member of Washington's Cabinet. This person writes a brief announcement to be read to Washington. It proclaims that a quiet crowd has gathered to honor George Washington's quiet style of leadership. The Cabinet member declares, "Let the parade begin!" Washington is asked to march forward. Observers hold posters and banners and remain quiet. Waves and salutes are appropriate.

"Frederick Douglass" by Mark Clemens (Page 46)

Vocabulary Check: separated, detection, injustice, humanity, dedicated, abolitionist, lecture circuit, enlistment, ensure, inequalities, orator, statesman, reformer, suffrage, and humanity.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why didn't Frederick get told that his mother died?
2. Why did Frederick change his name?
3. What did Frederick decide to do with his life?
4. How did his plans expand?
5. What did Frederick Douglass do with his life after the Civil War ended?
6. Contrast the beginning and ending of Frederick's life.

Writing Activity:

- Pretend to be Frederick Douglass. Write a letter to Abraham Lincoln and thank him for issuing the Emancipation Proclamation.
- Have Abraham Lincoln respond to Frederick Douglass' thank you note.

"Going Global—Great Americans, Take 2—Albert Einstein" by Marcia Amidon Lusted, illustrated by Bryan Langdo (Page 47)

Vocabulary Check: immigrant, contributions, relativity, threatened, and recognized.

Comprehension Check:

1. What might have happened to Albert Einstein if he had not escaped the Nazis in Germany?
2. Where is Albert Einstein's name recognized?
3. What words come to mind when you hear Albert Einstein's name?

"An Ancient Hero" (Page 47)

Comprehension Check:

1. Have you ever been called "Hercules?" What did the person mean by it?
2. Describe what a Greek hero looks like.

"To the Rescue!" –Creature Feature (Back Cover)

Vocabulary Check: diphtheria, epidemic, serum, commemorates, mounted, and remains.

Comprehension Check:

1. What kind of dog is Balto, the creature feature and hero?

2. What is Balto's mission?
3. Name three ways Balto's memory is honored.

Writing Activity:

- Write about a time a dog did a heroic deed. This can be based on a true story or a fictional book character or movie.