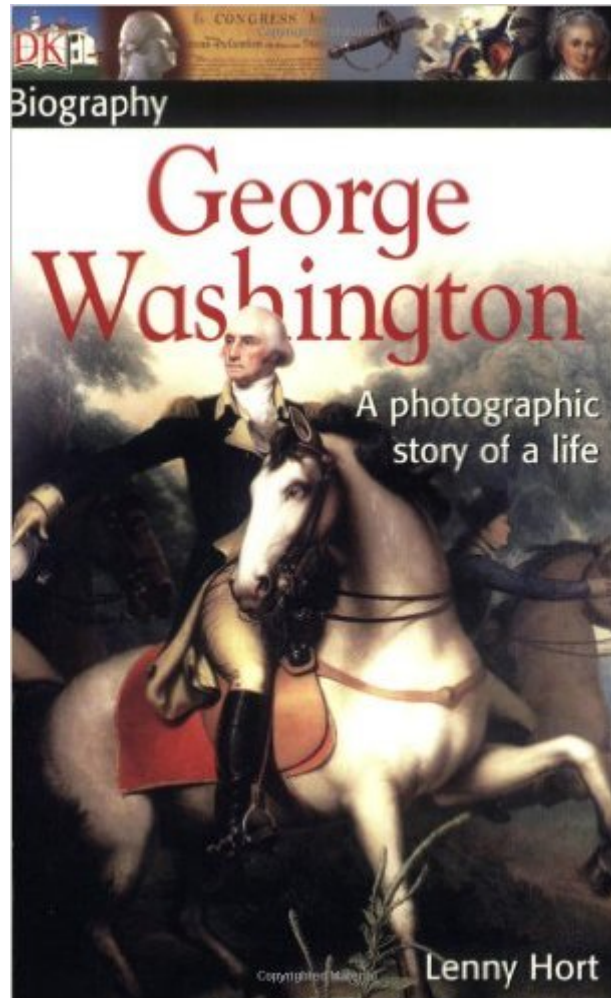


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# DK Biography: George Washington



## Synopsis

George Washington is often called the father of our country. He beat the odds to lead the Continental Army to victory in the Revolutionary War, served as first president of the United States, and then retired from public life to farm Virginia's largest plantation. In this groundbreaking new series, DK brings together fresh voices and DK design values to give readers the most information-packed, visually exciting biographies on the market today. Full-color photographs of people, places, and artifacts, and sidebars on related subjects add dimension and relevance to stories of famous lives that students will love to read. Modern scholarship and a variety of narrative approaches give today's reader a chance to explore the extraordinary world of George Washington. This new way of looking at classic subjects creates a unique reading experience that breathes life into the book-report and summer-reading repertoire. Supports the Common Core State Standards.

## Book Information

Series: DK Biography

Paperback: 128 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #504,778 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #171 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Political](#) #869 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical](#) #3417 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History](#)

Age Range: 10 - 17 years

Grade Level: 5 - 12

## Customer Reviews

I would give it 2 stars, but does have excellent pictures, as is the custom of DK books, so I suppose it deserves a 3 overall, but no more. This is, overall, NOT a good kid's biography of George Washington. I am a Chinese American, recently naturalized, and in preparation of homeschooling my kids I got this book with high expectations. I've always known that Washington was voted unanimously into presidency, and I want to know why - what is so great about this guy? I finished the

book and cannot tell you why. The book never explained it, except the author hints here and there that the people thought highly of Washington for no apparent reason: "The new commander was an instant American idol...Congress voted him a gold medal and Harvard University awarded the unschooled general an honorary doctor's degree before he had commanded a single battle." (p.45) The latest trend in historical studies appears to be an overwhelming interest in digging up dirt of previously respected figures. While slow to praise, this book is quick to point out that Washington "swore...till the leaves shook on the trees" (p.64) on one occasion according to some observer, and "Washington was known to pay slaves who volunteered to have teeth yanked out and used in his dentures." (p.80) Is it really necessary to report that some guy heard Washington swear one time? And does it make sense to yank teeth out of people - if one needs human teeth for dentures, why not get it out of corpses? In the end, the book makes sure you know that "Washington was no saint...no military genius, and he lost many more battles than he won." (p.115) Trust me, by the time you get to the end, your brain will not be thinking of Washington as a saint at all, so the sentence is worthless except to reveal the author's goal: to dispel any misconceptions out there that might consider Washington a saint. The book is crummy because it messed up on page 71. I can't imagine DK making such a fatal publishing error. The last line of p.71 reads "to surprise Cornwallis at Yorktown. Washington himself" Washington himself what? I turned over the page and read the first line: "Martha was there, and so were her son, Jacky." I guess I'll never know what Washington himself did. I am a fan of DK publishing, as they always come up with top quality work, but this book is seriously shaking my faith in them. Hopefully it is an isolated incident.

I purchased this book for my thirteen year old grandson, by his request. He wanted to read about George Washington. My grandson began to like history about two years ago (and that was a long arduous process to show him the value of history). And yes, "we" had a lesson on the Revolutionary War. Now, on his own, he has asked for non-fiction books on presidents. George Washington was the first president he requested. I have not personally read this book. My job is to find age appropriate books he can read. (I've gone through the seventh grade 5 times! 4 times as an adult!) My grandson has an interest in war(s)--yes, we studied WWI and WWII together. Boys have a different mind-set than girls. Boys have difficulty finding themselves, boys are into "play". With the advent of video war games he plays with his father and older brother (who happens to be an avid reader); something finally "clicked" with my youngest grandson and now he wants to read about the men who made history. I am grateful he wants to read -it's empowering and he's interested in these men and their lives. He's a thinker, so I hope through reading he will learn about the characters of

the men he has selected to read about.

My nine-year-old actually decided upon this book. She was given the choice of any book in the store and picked this one because of the photographic layout. This particular book provides a fun method to learn about a historic figure without becoming bored with the material. My daughter is a visual learner. So this particular style of writing, encouraged her to keep turning the page. Overall, a very informative story that entertains even young readers. Very appropriate also for completing homework assignments. What I also enjoyed about the book was the "bubbles" of information that defined terms for younger readers. For example, page 10 uses the word plantation in the text and the page provides a description of the meaning of the word plantation. These type of additions truly help the young reader learn something new.

I read this book, as did my 11 and 9 year old boys as part of our homeschool. I really loved this book because it was factual. It didn't go too much into the controversial things, but it doesn't give an inaccurate "god-like" view of George Washington in skipping over them. It gives you the facts- and you'll see from the facts that he was an amazing man. This is probably the best book for young readers of a historical biography I have ever read. I wish they were all written as well as this one.

This book is good and it tells you all about George Washington's life. George Washington was born February 22, 1732. He lived in Virginia, fought in wars, and he surrendered a war. He became a President. He married a woman named Martha. He went to New York and melted a statue of King George 3. His first year as a President went good but he got surgery to remove a tumor. One of his enemies of war had 30,000 troops! Washington's army was in cold weather and was low on warm clothing and food. When he was riding in snow, hail, and rain and the next day he had a sore throat and he died on December 14, 1799. I admire George Washington because he was a president and he risked his life at war.

To expect anything from this publication other than shallow and misleading would be correct. To the father of our country deserves only the best. I recommend Sacred Fire by Dr Peter Lillback. It is a treasure that you will be proud to own.

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