

DISCOVER AMERICA

Course 27 - Teacher Guide



Parting Principles:
Perspectives from
Washington's Farewell
Address

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Second Grade Teacher Guide



source: Canva

George Washington sculpture in Boston, Massachusetts

Key Themes

- Unity and National Identity
- Political Parties and Factionalism
- Foreign Relations and Neutrality
- Public Morality and Civic Virtue
- Legacy of Leadership
- Change and Continuity
- Responsibility of Citizenship
- The Role of Education

Core Values

- Community
- Liberty
- Life

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to

- Explain what a farewell address is and its significance for leaders, particularly George Washington.
- Identify the main ideas presented in Washington's Farewell Address, focusing on themes such as unity, cooperation, and leadership.
- Explain why George Washington emphasized the importance of unity in his address and how it relates to the strength of the nation.
- Recognize Washington's warnings about political parties and how they can create division, impacting the nation's unity.
- Collaborate to create a graphic organizer that outlines the key messages of Washington's Farewell Address, promoting teamwork and collaboration.
- Discuss how the lessons from Washington's Farewell Address can be applied to their own lives and the importance of cooperation in their communities.

source: Canva



Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Key Terms



- 01 **caution:** being careful and thinking before you act.
- 02 **Constitution:** a special document that tells how our government works.
- 03 **crisis:** a time when something very serious or dangerous happens, and it needs to be fixed quickly.
- 04 **Farewell Address:** a special speech or letter given by a leader, like a president, when they are leaving their job.
- 05 **political party:** a group of people who share similar ideas about how the government should work and what laws should be made.
- 06 **resources:** things that people use to help them live, work, and grow.
- 07 **retirement:** when someone stops working, usually after many years in their job. It often happens when people reach a certain age or feel they have done enough in their careers.
- 08 **sacrifice:** giving up something important or special for the sake of someone else or for a bigger purpose

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Key Terms

- 09 **Senate:** part of the United States government that helps make laws.
- 10 **Union:** refers to the United States as a whole, especially when talking about how the states work together as one country.
- 11 **unity:** coming together as one and working together.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

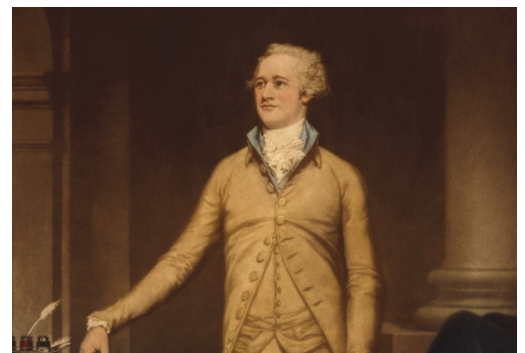
Let's start by pretending we are leaving a fun place, like a playground or a birthday party! What are some things we might do when we say goodbye? [Encourage students to demonstrate waving, saying goodbye, giving hugs, or high-fives.] Great job, everyone! Just like how we say goodbye, presidents have their own special way of leaving office.

ASK Students

What are some ways you think presidents might say goodbye when they finish their time in office?

TELL Students

Presidents often say goodbye by giving speeches or writing letters to share their thoughts and hopes for the future. They want to leave their country in a good place, just like when we say goodbye to our friends by wishing them well. This is exactly what George Washington did in his Farewell Address. A **Farewell Address** is a special speech or letter given by a leader, like a president, when they are leaving their job. In this address, they share important thoughts, advice, and hopes for the future. It is a way for them to say goodbye and encourage the people to work together and continue to care for their country. George Washington's Farewell Address is one of the most famous examples, where he shared his wisdom about unity and staying strong as a nation. **Unity** means coming together as one and working together. It is like a team where everyone helps each other and shares the same goals.



George Washington

source: Canva

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Introduction



TELL Students *(continued)*

When people are united, they support each other and make things better as a group. Just like how friends stick together to have fun and solve problems! George Washington used this special moment to share important advice with everyone about how to keep our country strong and united.

ASK Students

What do you think George Washington wanted to tell the people in his Farewell Address, and why do you think it was important for him to share that advice as he was leaving office?

TELL Students

George Washington wanted to encourage the people to work together and remain united, reminding them of the importance of caring for their country. He understood that his experiences as president could help guide future leaders and citizens. This advice was essential because he wanted to set a strong foundation for America, so it could thrive long after his presidency ended.

ASK Students

Why do you think it was important for George Washington to remind the people about working together and caring for their country? How do you think that can help us today?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

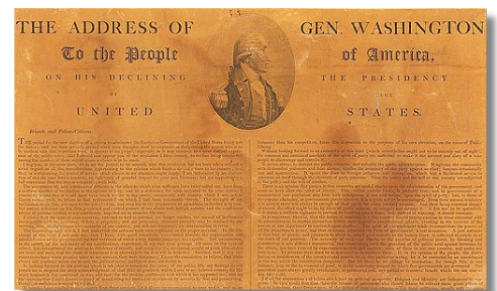
It was important for George Washington to remind the people about working together because a strong nation depends on unity and cooperation. When everyone cares for their country and supports each other, it helps build a better future. Washington understood that his experiences as president could provide valuable lessons for everyone, helping them to work together even after he stepped down.

ASK Students

How do you think George Washington announced that he would not be returning to office?

TELL Students

George Washington announced he would not be returning to office by writing a thoughtful letter to the people. He wanted to make sure they understood his decision clearly and share his feelings about his time as president. Washington was known for being respectful and sincere, so he would have wanted to express his gratitude and offer advice for the future in a way that would inspire and guide the country. In this public letter, published on September 19, 1796, in Philadelphia's *American Daily Advertiser*, Washington announced his retirement and shared advice to help Americans build a strong, free, and secure nation for future generations. **Retirement** is when someone stops working, usually after many years in their job. It often happens when people reach a certain age or feel they have done enough in their careers.



Farewell Address

source: [Wikipedia](https://www.wikipedia.org)

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Introduction



TELL Students *(continued)*

When someone retires, they can enjoy more free time to do things they love, like spending time with family, traveling, or picking up new hobbies. In the case of George Washington, he retired from being president to spend more time at home and share his wisdom with others. He wanted to ensure that the values and lessons he learned during his time as president would guide the country even after he was gone.

ASK Students

What did George Washington want people to remember and follow after he retired from being president? Why do you think it is important for leaders to share their advice with others?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

George Washington wanted people to remember the importance of unity and working together for the good of the country. It is important for leaders to share their advice because it helps others learn from their experiences and make better decisions in the future. Just like your mom, teacher, or coach gives you advice based on their experiences, George Washington provided valuable guidance to his fellow Americans. His farewell wasn't just a goodbye; it was a message that continues to teach us today! To remember Washington's advice, let's sing a fun song about him! The song title is, "George Washington's Farewell," and we will sing it to the melody of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"



giving advice

source: Canva

Lyrics:

*George Washington, farewell,
Gave us wisdom, hear him tell.
Stay united, work as one,
Peace and freedom for everyone.
Don't let factions pull apart,
Lead with kindness, that's the start.
George Washington, farewell,
Gave us wisdom, hear him tell.*

Now that we have learned about how presidents say goodbye and the wisdom they share, let's remember the important lessons George Washington left for us.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Introduction

ASK Students

Can anyone tell me one thing you think is important from his Farewell Address?

TELL Students

One important thing from George Washington's Farewell Address is his message about unity. He encouraged Americans to work together and support each other, reminding everyone that a strong, united country is essential for success and happiness. This idea helps guide leaders and citizens even today.

Let's watch another episode of Star Spangled Adventures to learn more!

WATCH

Star Spangled Adventures Cartoon Ep. 27:
George Washington's Farewell Address



Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

TELL Students

In 1796, George Washington had been the president for more than seven years, and his second term was almost over. Today, presidents can only serve two terms, which is a total of eight years, but back then, there were no rules about how long someone could be president.

ASK Students

What do you think is important about George Washington deciding to stop being president after two terms, especially since there weren't any rules about it back then?

TELL Students

It is important that George Washington chose to stop being president after two terms because it showed that he valued the idea of sharing power and letting others take on leadership roles. He believed that a good leader should put the needs of the country first, even if it meant stepping aside. George Washington could have decided to run for a third term and keep being president, but he didn't want to. He was ready to retire and spend time at home. In his Farewell Address, he talked to the American people about why he didn't want to be president anymore. Many of these people had fought with him in the Revolutionary War and had supported him as their first president. Washington wanted to make sure they understood his reasons for stepping down and the importance of unity and good leadership.



source: [Wikipedia](https://www.wikipedia.org/)

Revolutionary War

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

ASK Students

Why do you think it was a brave decision for George Washington to choose not to run for a third term as president, and how do you think this decision helped shape the future of our country?

TELL Students

It was a brave decision for George Washington to choose not to run for a third term because it showed he was more focused on what was best for the country rather than his own power. By stepping aside, he set an example for future leaders about the importance of sharing power and ensuring that no one person has too much control. However, at first, Washington wanted to stop being president after his first term. But there was a problem brewing between Britain and France, and the United States was in danger of getting involved. His friends urged him to stay and help the country during this tough time. They believed he could lead the nation wisely and help keep it safe. This shows that even great leaders sometimes face tough choices, and Washington felt a sense of duty to protect his country.

ASK Students

Why do you think George Washington's decision to step aside after two terms was so important, and how do you think his choice to stay during a difficult time helped the country?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

TELL Students

George Washington's decision to step aside after two terms was important because it helped establish a tradition of limited presidential power, which shows that leadership is about serving the people rather than seeking personal gain. By choosing to stay during a challenging time, he provided stability and guidance, helping the nation navigate through uncertainty. When he finally decided to retire, Washington wrote his Farewell Address. In it, he shared important advice with the country. He told everyone to stick together and be united, to be careful about political groups that might cause disagreements, and to avoid getting too involved in other countries' problems. His words were meant to encourage cooperation and caution, reminding Americans to prioritize unity for the good of the nation. **Caution** means being careful and thinking before you act. It is about paying attention to what might happen and making smart choices to stay safe. For example, if you see a wet floor, you might walk slowly so you don't slip. Being cautious helps keep us safe and avoids problems!



source: Canva

cooperation

ASK Students

Why do you think it was important for George Washington to encourage unity and caution in his Farewell Address, and how can we practice being cautious and working together in our own lives?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

TELL Students

It was important for George Washington to encourage unity and caution because he wanted to remind everyone that working together makes the country stronger. When we cooperate and think carefully about our choices, we help keep ourselves and others safe. By doing this in our own lives, like helping a friend or being careful when playing, we contribute to a positive environment. By choosing to step down after two terms, George Washington set a great example for future presidents. He showed that it was important to put the country first and that sometimes, it's good to let someone else take the lead. Washington also knew that as the first president, he would set an example for future presidents. If he were to die while in office, people might think that presidents were elected for life, just like kings.



King George III

source: [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:George_III_1762.jpg)

ASK Students

Why do you think setting an example of unity and caution was so important for George Washington as the first president, and how can we apply those lessons in our own lives today?

TELL Students

Setting an example of unity and caution was important for George Washington as the first president because he wanted to show that strong leadership involves working together and making wise choices for the good of the country. By encouraging these values, he helped create a foundation for future leaders to follow.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

TELL Students *(continued)*

In our own lives, we can apply these lessons by collaborating with others, being considerate of our decisions, and understanding that sometimes, it is best to let others take charge for the benefit of everyone. By 1796, America was safe from getting involved in the war between Britain and France, and it was clear that it was time for Washington to step down. This would show that the president's job was to serve the people, not just to hold onto power.

ASK Students

Why do you think George Washington's example of unity and caution is still important for leaders today, and how can we practice these values in our daily lives?

TELL Students

George Washington's example of unity and caution is still important for leaders today because it reminds us that effective leadership is about serving others and making choices that benefit everyone. By practicing these values in our daily lives—like working together with friends, being thoughtful about our actions, and knowing when to let others lead—we can create a positive environment and strengthen our communities. In his Farewell Address, Washington explained why he was retiring and thanked the American people for their support and for the honors they had given him. He also shared some important advice and warned about dangers that could harm America.



source: [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Washington)

George Washington

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

ASK Students

What do you think are some of the important pieces of advice that George Washington shared in his Farewell Address, and why do you think they are still relevant for us today?

TELL Students

Some important pieces of advice that George Washington shared in his Farewell Address included the need for unity among the states, caution about political disagreements, and the importance of staying out of foreign conflicts.

These messages are still relevant today because they remind us that working together and being careful about our decisions can help keep our country strong and safe. At that time, America was a young country trying to establish itself. The Constitution was less than 10 years old, and the Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments to the Constitution) was less than 5 years old. The **Constitution** is a special document that tells how our government works. It explains the rules and rights that help keep our country fair and safe. The Constitution was written a long time ago, and it helps make sure everyone is treated equally and has a say in how things are done. It is like a big guide for our country! The capital, Washington D.C., was still being built, and the federal government was in Philadelphia. America had just faced a big crisis with France and Britain, Spain still controlled the land west of the Mississippi River, and the British still had a presence in Canada. A **crisis** is a time when something very serious or dangerous happens, and it needs to be fixed quickly. It can be a problem that makes people worried or scared, like a big storm, a health emergency, or a conflict. During a crisis, people work together to solve the problem and help each other stay safe.



U.S. Constitution

source: Canva

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

ASK Students

Why did George Washington emphasize unity and caution in his Farewell Address, especially considering that America was still a young country facing many challenges?

TELL Students

George Washington talked about unity and being careful in his Farewell Address because he knew that America was a young country that needed to work together to be strong. There were many challenges ahead, like the possibility of conflicts with stronger countries. He wanted everyone to support each other to keep the new government safe and fair. This meant that working together and making smart choices were very important. The idea of a government for the people was new, and there was no promise it would work. America had beautiful land with a lot of resources, which might attract other powerful countries that wanted it for themselves. **Resources** are things that people use to help them live, work, and grow. This can include natural things like water, trees, and minerals, as well as things like food, money, and tools. Resources are important because they help us meet our needs and make life better!



source: Canva

resources

ASK Students

Why do you think it was important for George Washington to encourage people to work together and support each other during the early years of America?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

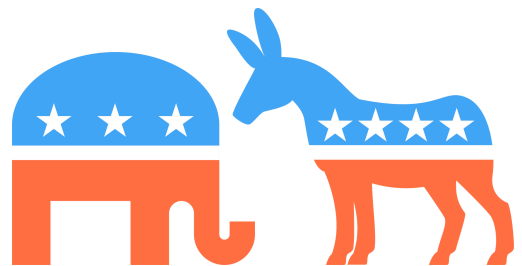
TELL Students

It was important for George Washington to encourage people to work together and support each other because the early years of America were filled with challenges. He knew that if the country was divided by political parties, it could weaken the government and make it harder to solve problems. Washington wanted everyone to feel included and united so that the nation could be strong and fair for all. In addition, two new political parties had started to form: the Southern Democratic-Republicans and the New England Federalists. A **political party** is a group of people who share similar ideas about how the government should work and what laws should be made. Members of a political party work together to help get their ideas and candidates elected. In the United States, there are two main political parties: the Democrats and the Republicans.

Each party has its own beliefs and goals for the country, and they compete in elections to see who will make important decisions for everyone.

George Washington wanted to be president for all of America, not just for one political party.

He believed that if the country was divided, it wouldn't survive. Washington thought that dividing Americans by political parties and where they lived could harm our national unity and put our freedom at risk.



main political party symbols

source: Canva

ASK Students

Why did George Washington believe it was important for everyone in America to work together instead of being divided by political parties? How can working together help our country?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

TELL Students

In his Farewell Address, Washington stressed how important the Union is. The **Union** refers to the United States as a whole, especially when talking about how the states work together as one country. It represents the idea that all the states are joined together to form a single nation. The Union is important because it helps ensure that everyone has rights and can live freely, working together for the good of all. When people talk about "preserving the Union," they mean keeping the country strong and united. The Union brings Americans together and protects their right to live freely. He also warned that being divided by regions, political parties, and getting too involved with other countries could threaten our unity and the future safety of our nation.

ASK Students

Why do you think it was so important for George Washington to stress the need for unity and careful decision-making in his Farewell Address, especially given the challenges facing the young nation?

TELL Students

It was important for George Washington to stress the need for unity and careful decision-making in his Farewell Address because he wanted to help guide the young nation through its challenges. By emphasizing unity, he aimed to remind everyone that coming together as one is essential for overcoming difficulties. Careful decision-making helps ensure that choices benefit the whole country rather than just a few people.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

ASK Students

Why do you think unity is so important for a country facing challenges, and how can feeling proud of our nation help us work together to make it stronger?

TELL Students

Washington talked about what brings Americans together. It is our national pride and the freedom we enjoy because many people have made sacrifices for us. **Sacrifice** means giving up something important or special for the sake of someone else or for a bigger purpose. It could be giving up your time, comfort, or something you really like to help a friend or to support a cause. For example, a soldier might sacrifice their safety to protect their country, or a friend might share their favorite toy even if they want to keep it for themselves. Sacrifice shows how much we care about others and what's important. We also come together to keep working hard to make our country the best it can be. The unity of our country is what allows us to have our freedom, and because we care about our freedom, we should work to protect that unity.



soldier

source: Canva

ASK Students

How did this sense of unity prepare the way for future leaders?

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Lesson

TELL Students

Shortly after Washington's Farewell Address was published, John Adams was elected as the second president of the United States. Washington went back to his home at Mount Vernon, where he lived for less than three years before he sadly passed away from a throat infection on December 14, 1799. Washington's wisdom in his Farewell Address is still important today. Every year, the United States Senate reads this address to remind everyone about the importance of unity in our country's history and future. The **Senate** is a part of the United States government that helps make laws. It is made up of people called senators, who represent each state. Each state has two senators, no matter how big or small it is. Senators talk about ideas for new laws, decide if they should be passed, and work together to help keep the country running smoothly. Washington's advice is a special gift for all Americans who want to learn from his example and help keep America free, strong, and safe. Let's watch an exciting Learn More with Liberty video and a Patriot of the Week to learn more!



John Adams

source: Canva

WATCH

[Learn More With Liberty: The Power of Unity](#)



WATCH

[Patriot of the Week: George Washington](#)



Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Washington's Farewell Party



Objective

Help second graders understand George Washington's Farewell Address and the importance of unity and cooperation through creating goodbye cards and a collaborative goodbye banner.

Materials Needed

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Stickers or stamps for decoration
- A large piece of poster board or chart paper for the banner
- A soft ball or plush toy
- Chart paper or a whiteboard

Introduction

- Gather students in a circle and remind them of how we say goodbye when leaving fun places like a playground or a birthday party.
- Discuss how leaders, like George Washington, also say goodbye in special ways, such as giving speeches or writing letters.

Goodbye Demonstration

- Ask students to demonstrate different ways to say goodbye, like waving, giving hugs, or high-fives.
- Explain that Washington's farewell was a big goodbye message to everyone in America.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Washington's Farewell Party



Discussion on Farewell Addresses

- Ask students how they think presidents might share their thoughts when they leave office. Write their ideas on the board.
- Introduce the concept of a Farewell Address and explain that Washington used his to talk about unity and caring for the country.

Create Goodbye Cards

- Give each student a piece of construction paper to fold into a card.
- Ask them to write a message inside their card that reflects what they think George Washington wanted to convey in his Farewell Address, such as the importance of unity and helping each other.
- Encourage students to decorate their cards with drawings and stickers.

Goodbye Banner

- Set up a large piece of poster board or chart paper for the goodbye banner.
- Have students write or dictate messages that capture the spirit of Washington's farewell. This could include phrases about working together, caring for the country, or supporting one another.
- Encourage students to add drawings and decorations to make the banner colorful and meaningful.

Goodbye Circle

- Gather students in a circle again. Pass around a soft ball. When a student catches the ball, they can share one thing they wrote on their card or express something they appreciate about unity.
- After sharing, they will pass the ball to another student.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Washington's Farewell Party



Wrap-Up Discussion

- Review the key points from Washington's Farewell Address and highlight the importance of unity and cooperation.
- Ask students how they can practice these values in their daily lives, both in school and at home.

Display

Hang the goodbye banner in the classroom and have a designated area for the cards so everyone can see and read the messages.


Conclusion

This interactive activity allows students to express their thoughts about friendship and farewell in a creative way. By creating goodbye cards and a collaborative banner, they connect their personal experiences to George Washington's important farewell message while reinforcing the values of unity and cooperation.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Farewell Address

Graphic Organizer



Objective

Help second graders understand the key messages of George Washington's Farewell Address by creating a graphic organizer that outlines his main ideas.

Materials Needed

- Large sheets of paper or poster board (one for each group)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Sticky notes
- Chart paper with a sample graphic organizer template
- Scissors and glue (optional for embellishments)

Review of the Farewell Address

- Start by briefly reviewing who George Washington was and the significance of his Farewell Address.
- Explain that his address included important messages about unity, cooperation, and the future of the country.

Introduce the Graphic Organizer


Show students a simple graphic organizer template on chart paper. It can include sections for:

- Main Ideas: What Washington wanted to communicate.
- Unity: Why he thought working together was important.
- Advice: Key pieces of advice he shared.
- Warnings: Things he warned about, like political parties and foreign involvement.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade

Farewell Address

Graphic Organizer



Group Division

- Divide the class into small groups of 3-4 students.
- Assign each group one section of the graphic organizer to focus on.

Group Research and Discussion

- Give each group a large sheet of paper or poster board.
- Ask them to brainstorm and discuss what they think Washington communicated in their assigned section.
- Encourage students to use markers to write down their thoughts, draw pictures, or create symbols that represent their ideas.


Create the Graphic Organizer

- Have each group illustrate their section of the graphic organizer on the poster board.
- Once finished, they can present their section to the class, explaining what they wrote and why it is important.

Combine the Sections

- After all groups have presented, help students combine their sections into a larger graphic organizer that represents Washington's entire farewell message.
- You can use a bulletin board or a wall space in the classroom to display the completed graphic organizer.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Farewell Address Graphic Organizer



Wrap-Up Discussion

Gather the class and review the graphic organizer. Ask questions to reinforce the key messages from Washington's address:

- "What did Washington say about unity?"
- "Why is it important to listen to leaders' advice?"
- "How can we apply these lessons today?"

Conclusion

This graphic organizer activity allows students to collaboratively explore the important messages in George Washington's Farewell Address while developing their understanding of unity and leadership. By presenting their ideas and creating a visual representation, students engage with the material in a meaningful way.

Washington's Farewell Address - Second Grade Resources

- <https://constitutioncenter.org/the-constitution/amendments/amendment-xxii>
- <https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/george-washington-s-farewell-address/>
- <https://teachingamericanhistory.org/document/farewell-address-4/?swcfpc=1>
- https://billofrightsinstitute.org/primary-sources/washingtons-farewell-address?gad=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwvdajBhBEEiwAeMh1U2Yr-AbDD049KZfby1dmc9XGBbs1SY737Ui6eMjxp-N-pH6PfFKAEroCRIYQAvD_BwE
- <https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/george-washington-s-farewell-address/>
- <https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/george-washington-s-farewell-address/>

[illegible]