People Who Shaped America

Read how three people helped change the nation.

SS24.2.13a "Research and explain the importance of individual founders and significant figures who shaped the nation."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one thing each person did. Circle the words that tell why it mattered to the nation.

Three People, Lasting Changes

1. In 1776, people in the American colonies wanted to govern themselves. George Washington led their army in a war against Britain. Years later, he became the first U.S. president. He showed that a president could leave office and let someone else lead.

2. Benjamin Franklin worked with other leaders to write the Declaration of Independence. During the war, he traveled to France. He asked its leaders to help the colonies. France sent soldiers and ships. That help made it easier for the colonies to win.

3. Many years later, Frederick Douglass spoke to crowds about slavery. He had escaped slavery himself. He told people that no one should be owned by another person. His words helped people see why the nation needed to end slavery.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why did it matter that Washington left office?

2. How did Franklin help the colonies win the war?

3. How did Douglass help change people's minds about slavery?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose two people from the passage. Write three sentences for a museum sign: tell how their work was alike, how it was different, and why both are worth remembering.

ANSWER KEY

People Who Shaped America

GRADE 2 · SS24.2.13a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one thing each person did. Circle the words that tell why it mattered to the nation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did it matter that Washington left office?	**He showed that a president could leave office and let someone else lead.**
2	How did Franklin help the colonies win the war?	**He asked France for help, and France sent soldiers and ships.**
3	How did Douglass help change people's minds about slavery?	**His words helped people see why slavery needed to end.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Franklin and Douglass both used words to ask people to make a change. Franklin asked France to help the colonies win a war, but Douglass asked people to end slavery. We remember them because each helped make the nation more free.

Accept any accurate action and its effect from the passage for the markings. For the museum sign, accept any two people if the comparison and reason to remember them are supported by the passage.