

Close Reading with Paired Texts

Level 2



Engaging Lessons
to Improve
Comprehension

Authors

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SHELL EDUCATION

Johnny Appleseed

By Christine Dugan

Johnny Appleseed lived long ago. He was born in 1774. His real name was John Chapman. He was famous for planting apple trees.

Some stories claim that he just spread seeds around. But Johnny knew a lot about trees. He knew where they should grow. He set up nurseries. These are places for trees to grow. The trees were sold to people. Then, people planted the trees on their land.

Johnny wanted apple trees to grow over large areas of land. He wanted to protect things in nature.

This story has been passed down over the years. Some facts are true. Some facts have been exaggerated. It is a tall tale that many people know.

One reason Johnny Appleseed is famous is because he was a warm and kind man. He treated others very nicely. He lived a simple life. He cared deeply about animals and looked after things in nature. He is a hero. He is admired for his good nature and his good deeds.



Old Johnny Appleseed

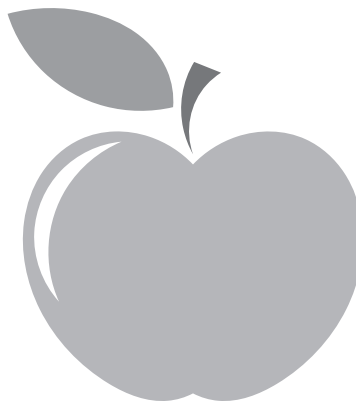
Anonymous

Grandpa stopped, and from the grass at our feet,
Picked up an apple, large, juicy, and sweet;
Then took out his jackknife, and, cutting a slice,
Said, as we ate it, "Isn't it nice

To have such apples to eat and enjoy?
Well, there weren't very many when I was a boy,
For the country was new—e'en food was scant;
We had hardly enough to keep us from want,

And this good man, as he rode around,
Oft eating and sleeping upon the ground,
Always carried and planted apple seeds—
Not for himself, but for others' needs.

The apple seeds grew, and we, today,
Eat of the fruit planted by the way."



When They Grow Up

By Debra Housel

Joe and Tess already know what they want to do when they grow up. Both of them want to work in a hospital. They read books about doctors and nurses. They read about the way the human body works, too. Joe and Tess talk to doctors and nurses. They ask how they can learn to be a doctor or a nurse, too. The doctors are very patient. They answer all of their questions. The doctors are glad that Joe and Tess want to follow in their footsteps.

Joe and Tess have already learned a lot. When they grow up, they will go to college and study hard. They will become great doctors or nurses.



Name: _____ Date: _____

What Will You Be?

By Sharon Coan

What will you be when you are grown?
What is the job you dream you will own?
What are the things that you must learn
To do what you wish and money earn?

There are so many jobs you can do!
You can work at home or work at a zoo.
You can teach, or preach, or fix computers;
You can farm, build houses, or sell motor scooters.

Whatever you think you might be at this time,
Chances are great that you'll change your mind.
So work hard at school to build the foundations
For learning to learn in all situations.



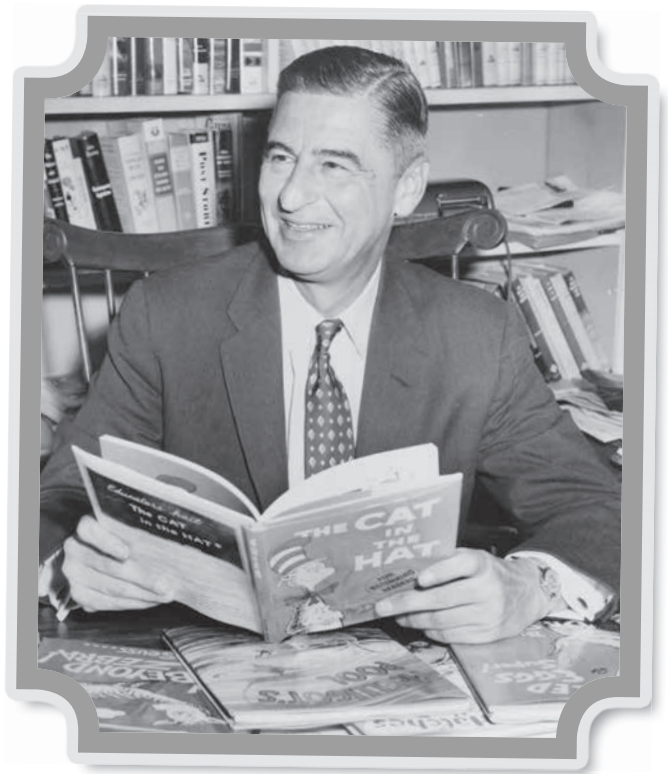
About the Author—Dr. Seuss

Theodor Seuss Geisel, more commonly known as Dr. Seuss, was born on March 2, 1904, in Springfield, Massachusetts. As a young boy, Geisel loved funny stories, drawing, and animals. He grew up near a zoo, which he would visit quite often. Geisel liked to draw the animals he saw there, although his animals always looked a little different and strange. Geisel's parents encouraged their son's playful imagination but also taught him the importance of hard work and a good education.

Geisel graduated from college in 1925 and traveled to England to attend Oxford University where he studied literature. He was going to become a professor, yet Geisel's true passion was still drawing. Many different magazines hired Geisel as a cartoonist.

Then in 1937, his first book, *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street* was published under the name Dr. Seuss. Geisel wrote and illustrated many more books for children over the years. In 1957, a publishing company asked Geisel to write a book for beginning readers. The publisher gave him a list of words to use. The book Geisel wrote became one of his most famous books of all time. It was called *The Cat in the Hat*.

Geisel continued to write children's books and even won the Pulitzer Prize in 1984. In 1990, he published his last book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* He passed away the following year. Geisel's famously funny and colorful stories continue to delight readers young and old. More than 600 million copies of his books have been sold worldwide.



The Rhyming Author

Adapted from a piece by Cathy Davis

- Student 1:** This is the story of a famous author and illustrator who wrote mostly in rhymes. His name was Theodor Seuss Geisel. He became known around the world as Dr. Seuss.
- Student 2:** When he was a little boy, his mother chanted bedtime rhymes to help him get to sleep. He later said that he learned how to make rhymes from his mother.
- Student 3:** In 1936, he wrote his first book, *And to Think That I Saw it on Mulberry Street*. Twenty-seven publishers rejected it. But a friend published it for him, and the book had some success.
- Student 4:** Geisel published the book under the pen name “Dr. Seuss.” He used the name Seuss because it was his mother’s maiden name. He added “Dr.” to it because he planned to be a professor.
- Student 1:** When he first started to write, students learned to read with books where the same words were repeated over and over. In 1954, a man named John Hershey wrote a report about the schools. He said that one reason the children had trouble learning to read was because the books were so boring.
- Student 2:** Geisel’s publishers thought that he could write a book that would be fun to read. That’s when he wrote *The Cat in the Hat*. It was an instant success!
- Student 3:** He kept writing other books like *Green Eggs and Ham* and *The Lorax*. He wrote 44 children’s books in all. Most of his books are rhyming books.
- Student 4:** Today, school children remember Dr. Seuss by celebrating his birthday with the Read Across America program. Dr. Seuss died in 1991, but his books continue to make reading fun.



All About Money

There are four main coins used in the United States.



penny
1¢



nickel
5¢



dime
10¢



quarter
25¢

You can use different coins to show the same amount. Here are different ways to show 25¢.



25

⋮



10



20



25



5



10



15



20



25



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



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25

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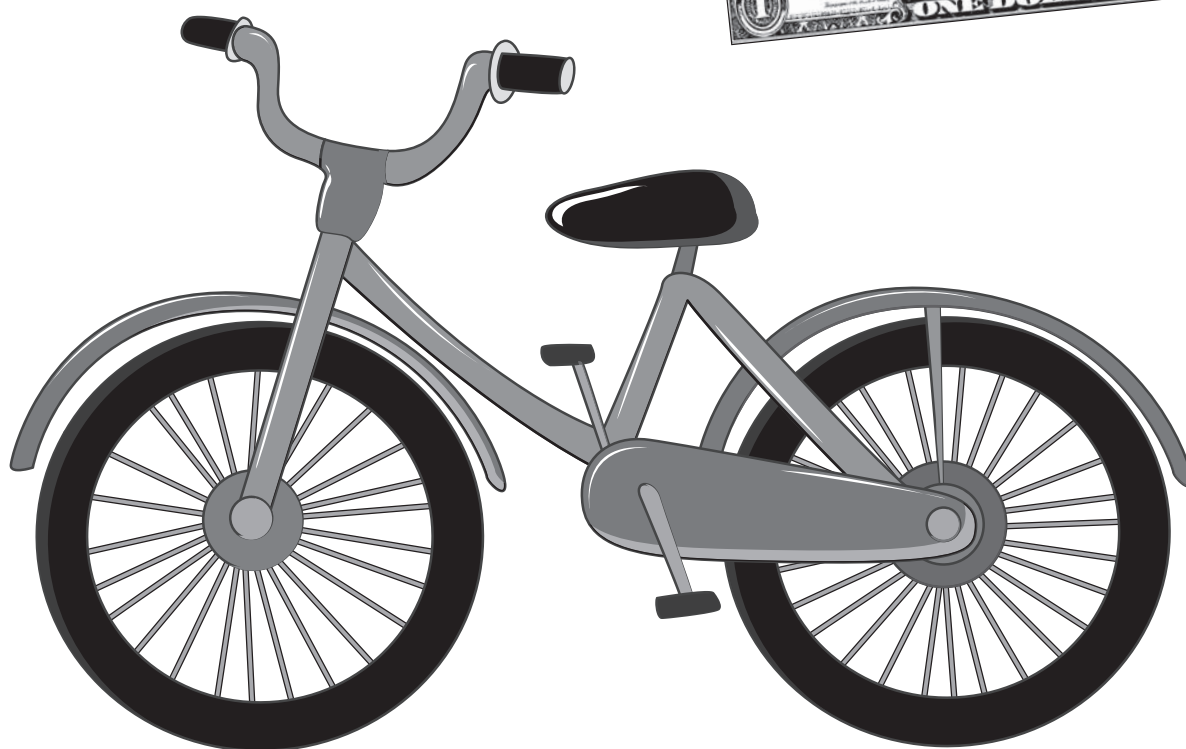
Money Counts Rap

By Linda Arnold

One, two, three, four, five.
Money counts, no jive!

A dollar buys a red balloon
Or candy if you like
But if you keep on saving,
You could buy a brand new bike!

Four quarters make a dollar bill,
One hundred pennies, too.
But, if you saved a million . . .
Just think what you could do!



Using a Table

You can use a table to help you solve problems. A table can be created using the information below.

You have decided to begin recycling at your house. You have set up boxes in your garage to store the items you will be recycling and have located a recycling center close to your house. The Keep Earth Clean Recycling Center offers 5¢ for every can you bring them. It is time to start collecting cans!

Number of Cans	Amount Earned
1	5¢
2	10¢
3	15¢
4	20¢
5	25¢
6	30¢
7	35¢
8	40¢
9	45¢
10	50¢



Learning About Recycling

“Wait!” yelled Victor. “What do you think you are doing?”

Samantha stopped just as her hand was about to drop a soda can into the trash can. “I was going to throw away my soda can,” said Samantha.

Victor responded, “Why would you throw away a can?” Victor rolled his eyes. “We recycle at my house. Come here, I will show you where we put our cans.”

Victor took Samantha out to the garage. Lined up against the wall were three boxes, each with a label. There was one box for newspaper, one box for cans, and one box for glass. Samantha dropped her empty can in the box as she asked, “What are you going to do with all of those cans?”

Victor told Samantha that once a month his family takes the boxes to the recycling center. “The recycling center pays ten cents for every item we bring them.”

Samantha was amazed. “You mean, you get paid for bringing in the empty cans? So if you bring in ten cans, you get a dollar?”

“Yes,” said Victor, “the money is nice, but it is more than that. We are helping keep our environment clean. If we recycle more, fewer new cans have to be made. That means the landfills don’t fill up as quickly.”

Samantha exclaimed, “I want to help our environment, too! Your family has made it very easy.”

Victor replied, “My mom set up these three boxes out in the garage. It is easy to just drop the items into the correct boxes. On the day we go to the recycling center, we can just take the boxes with us.”

Samantha smiled. “I think I am going to set up recycling boxes in my garage, too.” As she headed out the door, Samantha said, “I don’t think I will ever throw away another can.”



At the Beach

Hank owns a shop at the beach that rents equipment to tourists. He has just increased his prices for the summer season. Here are his new rates.



Carlos is at the beach. He has \$40. He wants to rent a paddleboat for an hour. After he uses the paddleboat, he wants to rent a boogie board. For how long can he rent a boogie board?

Think

How much money does Carlos have? **\$40**

How much will it cost to rent a paddleboat for one hour? **\$25**

How much money does Carlos have after he rents the paddleboat?

$$\begin{array}{r} \$40 \\ -\$25 \\ \hline \$15 \end{array}$$

For how many hours can he rent a boogie board with \$15?

$$\$15 \div \$5 = \text{three hours}$$

Going on a Trip

Adapted from a piece by Margot Kinberg

Jeff and his family had big plans last summer. They were going to vacation at the beach. Jeff knew he would want money to spend on the trip.

Jeff worked hard for weeks to earn money. He washed 10 cars. Each person paid \$5. His mother hired Jeff to work around the house, too. She paid Jeff \$15. Jeff wondered if he would have enough money to spend on all the things he knew he would want.

Jeff added up all the money he had earned. He added the \$50 he made washing cars to the \$15 his mother gave him and figured out he had a total of \$65.

Jeff estimated that he would want at least \$25 for a sweatshirt for himself. He also wanted to spend \$15 on gifts for his friends. He didn't know if there would be arcades at the beach, but in case there were, he wanted \$10 for the arcade. And of course, he would want a few dollars for snacks, too.

Jeff added the cost of a sweatshirt, gifts, and money for the arcade and got \$50. Great! His plan worked. He had earned enough money. Jeff even had enough left over for snacks!



Life in the Desert

Howard Rice

One of the most interesting biomes in the world is the desert. Deserts are dry areas of land that get less than 10 inches (25.4 centimeters) of water each year. Even though there is little water in a desert, there is plant and animal life there.

The seeds of desert plants may wait a long time underground. Once there is rain, they grow and bloom quickly. Other plants have long, deep roots that reach far below the ground for water. Some plants, such as cactuses, have spines useful for protection against animals trying to get water stored inside the leaves.

Animals in the desert have found ways to live with little water. Some sleep during the dry season. Some are able to live without water for a long time. Many sleep during the day and come out at night when it is cooler. Some even reuse the water that is already inside of them!

Desert life is not for everyone. The heat and lack of water make it difficult. But as the many plants and animals there show us, it can be done!



In the Desert

Sunlight sizzles all around.
Heated sand across the ground.
Prickled cactuses abound.
Where is water to be found?

Lizards darting in the sun.
Banded geckos on the run.
Find the shade 'til day is done.
Avoid the silent scorpion!

Moonbeams cast a hazy light.
Unseen rustles cause a fright.
Starry skies are quite a sight.
Scorching day turns frigid night.



Disappearing Rainforests

What makes a forest a rainforest? Rainforests get between 98 and 177 inches (250 and 450 centimeters) of rain every year. This moist environment is home to millions of types of plants and animals. Scientists believe that half of the species of plants and animals in the world are in rainforests. They also know that many types of plants and animals have not yet been discovered.

But people have been chopping down rainforests for years. People use the land for farms and buildings. They use the trees for wood, paper, medicines, and more. These things are important, but our rainforests are important, too. Many of our rainforests are gone forever. In some parts of the world, 80 percent of the rainforests have been chopped down. We need to protect the rainforests before it is too late.



Saving the Red-Eyed Tree Frog

As a family takes a tour in a rainforest, they learn about the rainforest and red-eyed tree frogs.

Guide: Be on the lookout for red-eyed tree frogs while we are on the tour.

Sara: Do they have red eyes? *(opening eyes wide with a questioning look)*

Kevin: Do they live in trees? *(looking up high with a questioning look)*

Father: Yes, their name tells a lot about them. They have red eyes and they live in trees.

Guide: Some red-eyed tree frogs even spend their entire lives in the trees. That is why it is important to protect the rainforests, their home.

Mother: But I have read that the rainforests are in trouble. *(with concern)*

Kevin: What do you mean? What kind of trouble? *(shrugging shoulders and with alarm)*

Guide: Look around the forest. The plants and trees are everywhere. Plants help keep our air clean. They also help cool the air.

Father: But many people cut down the trees in the rainforest. *(with concern)*

Sara: It takes many years for a forest to grow back.

Guide: That is right. When we cut down trees, we lose part of the forest.

Kevin: That's sad, but what can we do to save the forest? *(with interest)*

Sara: We can teach people more about rainforests. We can be sure everyone knows how important they are.

Father: You can share what you know with others.

Kevin: When I get home, I will tell my friends about the forest. I want them to know about animals like the red-eyed tree frog. *(with determination)*

Guide: What a great idea! The more people know, the better chance the plants and animals have that live in rainforests. *(with excitement)*

Landforms

Earth's surface is always changing. Change can happen quickly. A landslide is one example of a quick change. The ground moves and the surface slips down a slope. The surface changed in a moment! Sometimes, change happens much more slowly. Erosion is a slow process. Rock or soil gradually wear away. This is caused by water, wind, or ice. They change the surface.

A landform is a natural formation of rock and dirt found on Earth. Landforms come in all shapes and sizes. They include entire mountain ranges and small hills. A landform might be as large as a continent or as small as a pond. Landforms are made by a force of nature. This force could be wind, water, or ice.

Many landforms are shaped by water. Valleys and canyons are similar landforms. How are they different? Canyons are more narrow and surrounded by steep sides. Valleys are situated between hills or mountains. Both often have rivers running through them.

Hills and mountains are landforms. A hill is raised land with a gentle slope. A mountain is usually higher, with a definite peak. Mesas belong to this group, too. They are known as table mountains. Mesas are elevated like mountains with flat tops and steep sides. They are formed by erosion and weathering.

The opposite of these raised forms are the plains. Plains are landforms that are flat and broad. Plains have low elevation.

Landforms help us describe land areas in a more accurate way. Look around you. Which landforms can you see?



The Bear Went Over the Mountain

The bear went over the mountain.
The bear went over the mountain.
The bear went over the mountain
To see what he could see.

The bear asked, "What is a mountain?"
The bear asked, "What is a mountain?"
The bear asked, "What is a mountain?"

And the teacher said, "It is a summit with steep sides made of rock and dirt and found all over Earth, including in the oceans."

The bear went through the valley.
The bear went through the valley.
The bear went through the valley
To see what he could see.

The bear asked, "What is a valley?"
The bear asked, "What is a valley?"
The bear asked, "What is a valley?"

And the teacher said, "It is a long depression running between mountains or hills where the land is low and water often flows."

The bear went across the river.
The bear went across the river.
The bear went across the river
To see what he could see.

The bear asked, "What is a river?"
The bear asked, "What is a river?"
The bear asked, "What is a river?"

And the teacher said, "It is a large, natural stream of freshwater filled with plants and animals that helps to support an ecosystem."

The bear went on to college.
The bear went on to college.
The bear went on to college
So he could learn some more!



Different Kinds of Living

Life in the city is not like country living. Urban areas have more people. People live closer together in cities. There are more buildings. Big cities have more cars and roads. Some people say that life moves faster in the city. There is always a lot going on. People are out at all times. It can be loud.



People in rural areas have space to move. They live close to nature. They may even grow plants or raise animals for a living. Life is quiet there. They do not hear the sounds of the city.

Suburbs are found in between cities and the country. These smaller towns border big cities. Suburbs are smaller and quieter than cities. It may be easier for people to get around. Many families live there. There are parks for kids. Adults can commute to the city for work.



Cities, suburbs, and rural areas can be close together. A large city may be surrounded by suburbs. Just beyond the suburbs are quieter, rural areas. It may take a few hours to get there.

Sometimes city dwellers like to visit the country. Country folks may like to spend time in the city, too. Most people are happy to go back home, wherever that may be.



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Country Mouse and the City Mouse

There once was a mouse that lived in the country and another one that lived in the city. One day, they each decided to go out for an adventure to see another part of the world. The country mouse went to the city and the city mouse went to the country.

At first, the city mouse loved the clean fresh air of the country. He enjoyed picking berries to eat. He loved the open space.

The country mouse loved the city. He loved the hustle and bustle. He loved watching all the busy people going about their day. There was lots of food available to him without having to look too hard.

When evening came, the city mouse began to look for a place to sleep for the night. All at once, a huge owl swooped down and tried to catch the city mouse. The city mouse ran back to the city as fast as his little legs could carry him. Although he liked to visit the country, he decided that he loved city life more.

The country mouse also started to look for a place to sleep for the night. As he was looking up at one of the huge skyscrapers, a car screeched by, nearly running over him. The country mouse ran back to the country as fast as his little legs could go. Although he liked to visit the city, he decided that country life was better.

The moral of the story is: there is no place like home!

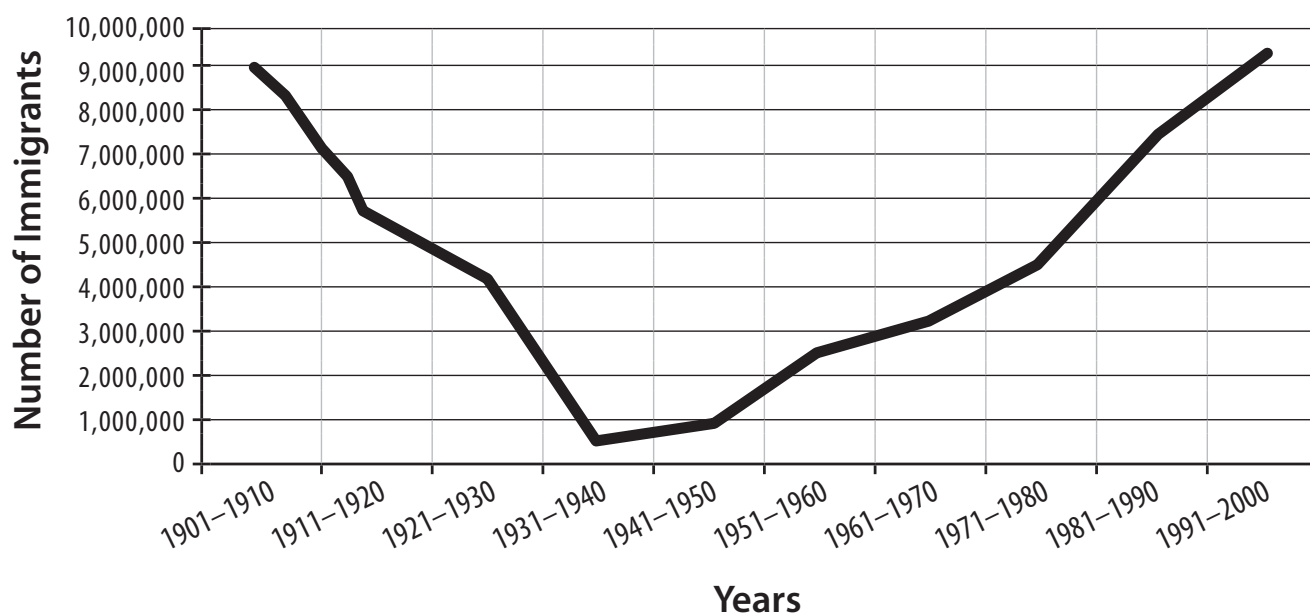


New Americans

Millions of immigrants have come to the United States from all over the world. Immigrants are people who move to a country from another country. People move here for many reasons. They may move for jobs, to be closer to family, or for the hope of a better life.

Most of the people who live in the United States have either immigrated themselves or are descendants of immigrants. Some times in history have had more immigrants than others. This graph shows the number of immigrants to the United States during 10-year periods beginning in 1901.

Immigration to America



Moving Forward

Adapted from a piece by Christine Dugan

Narrator: Life is about to change for Sophia. Her family is moving. But Great-Gram understands how Sophia is feeling. Great-Gram moved when she was a young girl, too.

Great-Gram: Sophia, I know that moving can be hard. I had to move when I was about your age. My family left our homeland of Russia in 1917 and came to America. We had to leave quickly and only take a few things with us.

Sophia: Why did you leave Russia?

Great-Gram: Our country was not safe. The people in charge were unkind to us.

Sophia: Is that when you came to America?

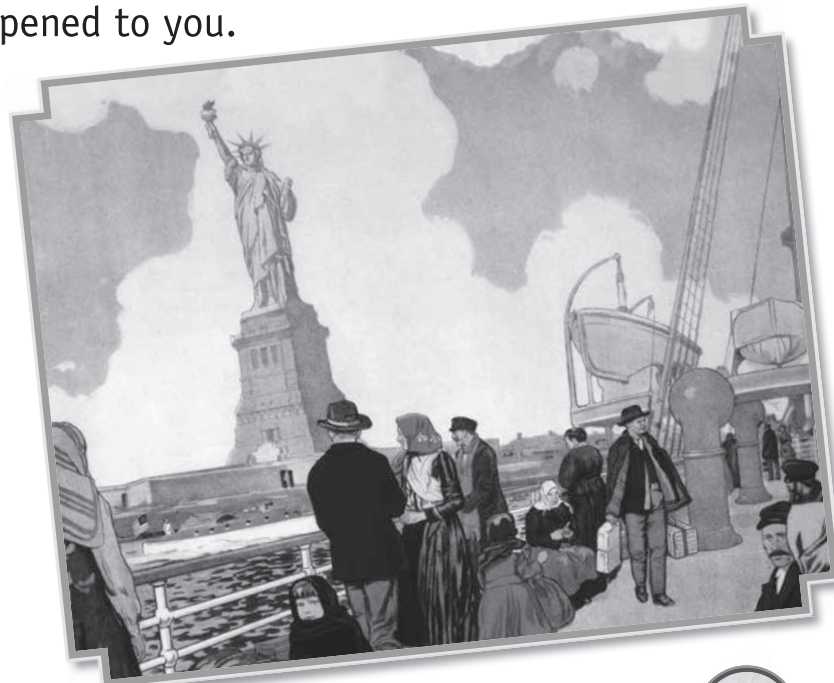
Great-Gram: Yes, we took a boat to America. The trip took many days, and we were all very scared.

Sophia: Why were you scared?

Great-Gram: The trip to America can be difficult for immigrants. In the past, large ships carried many, many people. Some of them got sick or even died.

Sophia: I had no idea that happened to you. You were so brave!

Great-Gram: And you will be, too, Sophia dear!



Washington's Timeline

Adapted from a piece by Kelly Rodgers

His face is on the one-dollar bill. It is on the quarter, too. His picture may be on your classroom wall. George Washington is all around!

Cities are named after him. Streets are named after him, too. Even some schools share his name. His birthday is a holiday. Why do you think we celebrate Washington's birthday every year?

Read the timeline to find out some important events in Washington's life.

1732	Born in the Virginia colony
1754	Soldier in the French and Indian War
1759	Marries Martha Custis
1759–1774	Farms at Mount Vernon
1775	Chosen to lead the Colonial Army in the American Revolution
1783	Helps win the American Revolution
1787	Chosen to lead the meeting about America's new government
1789	Becomes America's first president
1799	Dies at Mount Vernon
1848	Construction begins on Washington Monument
1879	Birthday becomes a holiday
1884	Washington Monument is completed

The Great George Washington

Who do we say could not tell a lie
When he chopped down the cherry tree?
Who led the American army
To its amazing victory?
Who was the people's only choice
To lead the new government?
Of course, it's George Washington,
America's first president!

Who was a farmer and a soldier,
Then a general brave and true?
Who helped the struggling army
Know exactly what to do?
Who had a dream for a country
In which each citizen was free?
Of course, it's George Washington,
No greater man than he!

Who was a hero in his time
And still a hero for today?
Who said no to a kingship
And generously stepped away?
Who is a leader we admire,
Whose praises we still sing?
Of course, it's George Washington;
All hail! Let freedom ring!

