

Name _____

Founding Minds Answer Key

1. He led the American army to victory.
2. He respected democracy and wanted leaders chosen by the people.
3. Examples: the lightning rod, the first public library, or the fire department.
4. "Father of the Constitution" because he helped write and shape the document.
5. They all helped build and guide the United States through leadership, ideas, and writing the nation's founding documents.

Teacher's Guide

- **Objective:** Build historical reading comprehension and civic understanding by introducing key Founders' contributions to the U.S. Constitution.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - *For younger or struggling readers:* Read the bios aloud and highlight key vocabulary like *democracy*, *freedom*, and *inventor*.
 - *For advanced students:* Have them compare the Founders' leadership styles or contributions.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Create "Founding Father Trading Cards" where students summarize each man's achievements on illustrated cards.
 - Have students act out a short "Founders' Meeting" dialogue discussing freedom or fairness.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Ask students to write a mini-bio of a modern leader who shares similar values.
 - Link to civics: discuss how the Constitution continues to shape American life today.
 - Incorporate art by having students draw symbols that represent each Founder's main contribution.