



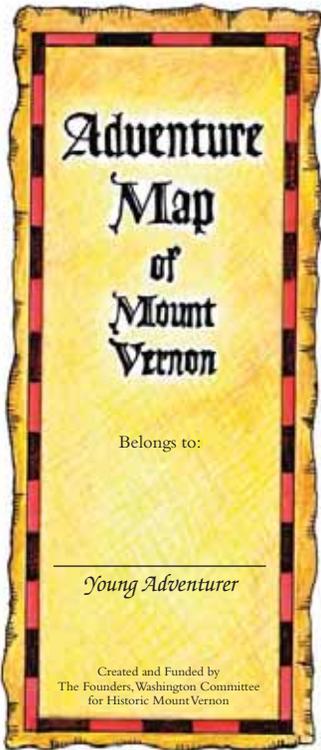
This way to the  
Ford Orientation  
Center and  
the Donald W.  
Reynolds  
Museum &  
Education Center

This way to  
the  
Treading  
Barn and  
the Slave  
Cabin

# ADVENTURE MAP

of  
Mount Vernon

EXIUS ACTA PROBAT  
George Washington



## Directions

Use this adventure map to find the nine puzzle places at Mount Vernon. At each place, look carefully for a clue that will help you solve that puzzle.

One letter in each puzzle answer will be in a box. Use these boxed letters to solve the final puzzle about George Washington.



Washington used his family coat of arms on a bookplate to personalize many of the 884 books in his Mount Vernon library.

## PUZZLE 1

George Washington loved growing plants and trees of all types. Some were orange trees, palm trees and other tropical plants that could not live outside in the cold winters. Washington built a special building for them to live in during the winter. It was heated and had big windows to let in light. It was called a

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## PUZZLE 2

One of George Washington's favorite foods was fish caught in the Potomac River. In the springtime when many fish swam upstream, Mount Vernon's slaves would catch the fish using large

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which were stored in the Salt House. They could catch as many as one million fish in three or four weeks in the spring! The fish were dried and sold in seaports up and down the American coast.

## PUZZLE 3

The last thing George Washington added to his home was a cupola on top of the roof. Because hot air rises, he would open the cupola's windows in the summer to let the heat out. On top of the cupola he put a weathervane that turns and points the direction of the

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It is made to look like a dove with a twig in its mouth – a symbol of peace.

## PUZZLE 4

George Washington wanted his home to be handsome and impressive. He made the outside of the Mansion look like white stone. But stone was very expensive, so Washington really had the outside made of long wood boards. The boards feel like stone because

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was put in the wet paint.

## PUZZLE 5

In Washington's time everything had to be written by hand. George Washington wrote hundreds of letters and kept records on everything that happened on his farm. He hired a clerk to help with all the writing. The clerk would copy things very carefully, and Washington would sign the final letter. The clerk wrote with a pen made from a

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## PUZZLE 6

There were no refrigerators in George Washington's time. Meat was kept from spoiling by rolling it in salt and spices and then drying and smoking it. In the Smokehouse, meat hung from hooks as smoke from a fire cured it. One year, 132 hogs were made into Mrs. Washington's famous smoked

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## PUZZLE 7

When George Washington lived at Mount Vernon, cars, trains, airplanes, and bicycles had not yet been invented. He still managed to visit all thirteen original colonies, and used this stable to house his many forms of transportation. The Father of Our Country traveled by riding horseback, in wagons, carriages, or in a coach pulled by

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## PUZZLE 8

George Washington had many cows, sheep, horses, mules and pigs at Mount Vernon. To keep the animals from getting too close to the Mansion, he built a low wall into the hill. It was better than a fence, because you couldn't see it! If you were playing on the lawn and didn't know the wall was there, you might fall off it and everyone would laugh. This may be why these walls, made of

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were called ha-ha walls.

## PUZZLE 9

More than 300 slaves lived at Mount Vernon and worked in George Washington's Mansion, gardens out-buildings, and on his outlying farms. Many slaves spent their entire lives at Mount Vernon and are buried not far from the tomb of George Washington. The Slave Memorial was built to pay tribute to the many African Americans who are buried here in unmarked graves. The monument is encircled by the words *Faith, Hope* and

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## FINAL PUZZLE

George Washington was the leader of the American Revolution, and was the first president of the United States. He was also liked and respected by almost everyone. Because of this, one person wrote that George Washington was "First in War, First in Peace, and First in the hearts of his

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8 9 1 3 2 5 Y 6 7 4

In each puzzle you solved, one letter in your answer is in a box. Write the boxed letter from each puzzle in the blank with the same number. On the map, X marks the spot where a message will tell you if you have solved the puzzle correctly!