



The Patriot's Companion

Volume 1 – Issue 9

April 2011



April 19th –
Patriots Day

April Presidents Happy Birthday!



Thomas Jefferson
4/13/1743
3rd President

James Buchanan
4/23/1791
15th President



Ulysses S. Grant
4/27/1822
18th President

James Monroe
4/28/1758
5th President



Welcome to the 9-12 Project Idaho's family newsletter, **Please share with family & friends.**

Got ideas for an article, feedback on this issue, **add someone to our distribution list?** Send email to sfsmllbiz@aol.com and include 9-12 Newsletter in the Subject line.

Please check "Events" on the [9-12 Project Idaho website](http://www.9-12projectidaho.com) for upcoming activities!

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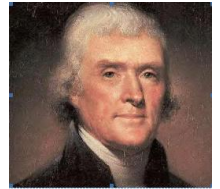
Meet our Founders Series...

Thomas Jefferson – Renaissance Man

By Patricia Gall, 9-12 Project Education Committee (and UVA graduate)

Farmer, lawyer, father, statesman, scholar, naturalist, architect, inventor, linguist, philosopher, prolific writer, musician, foodie...

The more I studied Mr. Jefferson to write this article, the more shallow our recent presidents became by comparison. It is not possible to do justice to his lifetime pursuits and achievements in the length of this article, but I hope it interests you enough to study more about him – and to expect more from our future presidents.



Most Americans know Thomas Jefferson as the author of the Declaration of Independence and the 3rd President of the United States, but there is so much more that he accomplished. Although most Americans today remember him for his public duties, he was the happiest when he could spend time at his home, Monticello.

From an early age, he never stopped reading and learning. He did not just dabble in the areas listed above, he made contributions in these and other fields of interest.

Mr. Jefferson, as he is called even today at the University of Virginia, had a classical education equivalent to anything available in Europe at the time. He was fluent in at least 5 languages and studied the texts in their source language (Latin, Greek, French, Italian, Spanish, English). There is evidence that he had an interest in other languages as well such as Anglo Saxon and multiple American Indian dialects.

While other young men at the time prided themselves in completing their study of the law in one year or less, young Jefferson spent five years studying with George Wythe, a prominent lawyer and future signer of the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson's passion for learning continued and during the five years with Wythe, he not only focused on law but on educating himself in "languages, physics, agriculture, mathematics, philosophy, chemistry, anatomy, zoology, botany, religion, politics, history, literature, rhetoric, and virtually every other subject imaginable..."¹ He did become a successful lawyer and handled nearly 1000 cases between 1767 and 1774.

His interest in politics was sparked while he was studying in Williamsburg and often attended sessions of the Virginia House of Burgesses. He listened spellbound the day that Patrick Henry gave his impassioned defense of his resolutions against the Stamp Act – the famous "If this be treason, make the most of it" speech. Henry's devotion to freedom was a great influence on Jefferson. (Continued on Page 2)

I...place economy among the first and most important of republican virtues, and public debt as the greatest of the dangers to be feared.

~Thomas Jefferson

John F. Kennedy held a dinner in the White House for a group of the brightest minds in the nation at that time. He made this statement: "I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered at the White House - with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

"It is when people forget God that tyrants forge their chains" -
Patrick Henry

"The man who reads nothing at all is better educated than the man who reads nothing but newspapers."

~Thos. Jefferson

His own political career started when he was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1769. He became widely known both in the colonies and in Great Britain in 1774, when his instructions for the delegates to the Continental Congress were published as "A Summary View of the Rights of British America." The pamphlet used natural rights theory to argue that "kings are servants, not proprietors, of the people" and it became known as "Mr. Jefferson's Bill of Rights." This quickly established him as a leader of the American cause.

Mr. Jefferson gave much to ensure the solid establishment of our country. From "Mr. Jefferson's Bill of Rights" in 1774 to his final retirement from public life in 1809 after his second term as President, he never wavered from his devotion to personal liberty and a republican form of government.

Everything was not always rosy and the friction between Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton during Washington's presidency was notorious. But as much as he disagreed with Hamilton's push to establish a central bank and to assume the war debts of the states at the national level, Jefferson was willing to support a compromise that was necessary to save the young nation.

The United States had accumulated over \$50 million of debt during the time of the Articles of Confederation (a very large sum for a fledgling nation). The states still had \$25 million of war debt. As a country, we needed to continue to borrow from Europe, but they were getting nervous about the resolve of the states to stick together (some were threatening to break up) and the ability of the U.S. to repay the debt. Mr. Jefferson knew that something had to be done to retain confidence in the new nation. He and James Madison, the leader in the House of Representatives, agreed to help get Hamilton's bills passed in exchange for Hamilton's agreement to help get the seat of government moved to the "Potomac area" – Washington, DC.

Jefferson's accomplishments during his public life are numerous (See History Trivia). His accomplishments in his personal life are equally numerous, but less well known. He amassed a huge library not once but twice after the first one was destroyed in a fire. His second library became the start of the Library of Congress. He was an inventor and built many farming implements and devices for his home. He was a tinsmith and made locks & keys. He was an architect and designed both Monticello and the University of Virginia. He worked in the fields with his slaves and knew all the plantings and trees at Monticello. He was president of the American Philosophical Society for two decades. He was described as a college professor who knew everything.

Along the path from lawyer to President, Jefferson continued to educate himself in matters of State and in personal pursuits. He honed his interest in food, wine and agriculture and developed a fondness for French cooking and wine. Back in the U.S., he had a "French kitchen" mixed with American cuisine. French fries were first served during his term at the White House. His taste for French wine was well known and for most of his life, he had wine shipped over from France.

(Continued on Page 3)

Not only did Jefferson bring his love for French cooking back to Virginia, he introduced the French to some of the foods from America – including his favorite apples.

After Mr. Jefferson retired permanently to Monticello, he spent much time in his gardens planting and watching his plants grow – always keeping meticulous notes. He constantly looked for new plants to cultivate including some heritage plants that are still grown at Monticello today. (Still questioning if he was a ‘foodie’ of his day?)

One of his greatest personal achievements was the founding of the University of Virginia in 1819, the first nonsectarian university in the United States. He was involved in designing the curriculum, recruiting the faculty and designing the Academical Village including the Rotunda.

Mr. Jefferson’s family was an important part of his life. He married a young widow on New Year’s Day 1772. Their first night at Monticello was spent with a bottle of wine in a cold, dark house since they arrived late in the middle of a blizzard after the servants had already retired for the night.

During the next twelve years, he endured much sadness in his life. Although the Jefferson’s had six children before Martha sadly passed away at the young age of 33 years old, only two daughters reach adulthood. In early 1776, his mother had a stroke and passed away suddenly. For the next five weeks, he suffered migraine headaches, a malady that persisted throughout his life. In 1782, when he suffered the devastating loss of his wife, according to his daughter’s account, “he kept his room three weeks, and I was never a moment from his side. He walked almost incessantly night and day, only lying down occasionally...” Between 1775 and 1784, he lost his mother, his wife, three daughters and one son. For the rest of his life, he was devoted to his two remaining daughters and his grandchildren.

At the end of his life, he wrote the inscription for his gravestone with what he considered his greatest achievements – with no mention of his public offices.

*Author of the Declaration of Independence
Passing the statute of Religious Freedom in Virginia
Founding of the University of Virginia*

He requested no funeral services be held for his burial, however, many services were held and eulogies read across the country. One eulogy that captured the mood of the country...

“The grief that such a man is dead may well be assuaged by the proud consolation that such a man has lived.”



Monticello

FEATURED LOCAL BUSINESS

Feature Your Business

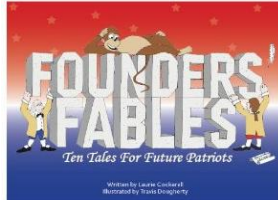
We will feature a local 9-12 business in each newsletter as a fund-raiser for our 9-12 group. Putting in a short advertisement for your business would cost a \$50 donation to 9-12 Project Idaho. We need your business card and a short blurb to tell us what you do in a way that makes us all want to rush over to your business!

For more information, please contact:
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Historic Events in April

- April 8, 1913 – The 17th Amendment was ratified
- April 12, 1945 – Harry Truman became 33rd US President following FDR's death
- April 14, 1865 – Abraham Lincoln was assassinated
- April 15, 1865 – Andrew Johnson became 17th US President
- April 17, 1790 – Benjamin Franklin died
- April 18, 1775 – Paul Revere's ride
- April 19, 1775 – The Battles of Lexington & Concord – Shot Heard Round the World
- April 20, 1775 – British began siege of Boston
- April 27, 1773 – British passed the Tea Act
- April 30, 1789 – George Washington inaugurated as 1st US President

Children's Book Recommendation



Founders' Fables: Ten Tales for Future Patriots,
Laurie Cockerell and Travis Dougherty

Available at Amazon for \$10.00

Laurie Cockerell believes many families want to instill a love for America and an appreciation for the principles our nation was founded upon. When she realized that there are very few books that are truly aimed at the elementary student's interests and abilities, she decided to do something about it.

...Each story is introduced with a quote from a Founding Father. Then the fun begins with rhyming stories and humorous illustrations that will engage and amuse both younger and older readers.

Cockerell illustrates conservative American values often assumed too complicated for children. She tackles national debt, eminent domain, self-reliance, government intervention, and free speech.

Each fable is followed by a suggested art project and two short sets of questions, one for younger children and another for older readers. The questions and activities offer opportunities for deeper learning and conversations between children and parents or grandparents.

The illustrations and rhymes of the fables are best suited to 5- to 12-year-olds, but some of the questions for older children may spark fruitful conversations among teens and adults.

You can download a free sample chapter www.foundersfables.com. The website also offers a list of a dozen family activities that encourage more learning about the Founding Fathers.

About the Author: Laurie Cockerell is a former elementary school teacher, a mother of four and a current homeschooling mom. She has worked extensively with children as a soccer coach, choir teacher, tutor, public school teacher and church volunteer. "Founders' Fables" is her first children's book.

Emergency Prep

Creature Comforts: 5 Things to Add to Your Preparedness Plans

Posted By Samara On March 7, 2011

We all know the importance of storing basics - food, water, weapons. But it is the little things that will not only keep us physically alive, but mentally sane as well. Don't overlook those things that help relieve stress and keep a sense of normalcy even among the chaos.

1) Sweets. Craving. You know the one. Sitting at your keyboard wishing for a milkshake, watching TV craving some cake, waking up in the morning yearning for chocolate...

2) Spices. What is able to turn a pile of boring cooked cabbage into a mini-feast...

3) Sport. We tend to take for granted our ability to flick on the TV, go rent a video, or take in a game at the local sporting event...

4) Smells. Most basic in the smells department is ... deodorant/anti-perspirant! But beyond that...

5) Sips. Water is the basic liquid we all need to survive. But just having water to drink can get a bit boring...

For complete article: Go to [Creature Comforts](#)

~ <http://www.offthegridnews.com>

History Trivia: Thomas Jefferson

By Gail Bartlett, 9-12 Project Education Committee

Thomas Jefferson was a very remarkable man who started learning very early in life and never stopped.

- At 5, began studying under his cousins' tutor.
- At 9, studied Latin, Greek and French.
- At 14, studied classical literature and additional languages.
- At 16, entered the College of William and Mary.
- At 19, studied Law for five years starting under George Wythe.
- At 23, started his own law practice.
- At 25, was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses.
- At 31, wrote the widely circulated "Summary View of the Rights of British America" and retired from his law practice.
- At 32, was a Delegate to the Second Continental Congress.
- At 33, wrote the Declaration of Independence.
- At 33, took three years to revise Virginia's legal code and wrote a Public Education bill and a statute for Religious Freedom.
- At 36, was elected the second Governor of Virginia succeeding Patrick Henry.
- At 40, served in Congress for two years.
- At 41, was the American minister to France and negotiated commercial treaties with European nations along with Ben Franklin and John Adams.
- At 46, served as the first Secretary of State under George Washington.
- At 53, served as Vice President and was elected president of the American Philosophical Society.
- At 55, drafted the Kentucky Resolutions and became the active head of Republican Party.
- At 57, was elected the third president of the United States .
- At 60, obtained the Louisiana Purchase doubling the nation's size.
- At 61, was elected to a second term as President.
- At 65, retired to Monticello .
- At 80, helped President Monroe shape the Monroe Doctrine.
- At 81, almost single-handedly created the University of Virginia and served as its first president.
- At 83, died on the 50th anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence along with John Adams.

History Story: The General Store

By Susan Frickey, 9-12 Education Committee

As communities grew larger and the demand for goods increased, general stores with well-stocked shelves sprang up in small-town America. By 1840, when there were still only 26 states, Americans were shopping in more than 55,000 stores, most of them general stores.

Although each was unique in character, all had one thing in common: a near monopoly in their communities. As a result, prices were high and the selection of individual items was limited, but the range of goods was indeed general. Whether you needed clothing, hardware, medicines, farm tools, notions, ammo, kerosene or even new dishes – the general store was the place to go. All manner of perishable goods were also stocked.

Food was typically doled out by weight from barrels, sacks or boxes, with little regard for cleanliness or purity. Open containers of coffee, lard, salt fish, molasses, grains, pickles, crackers and peppermint all contributed to the pungent aroma of the store.

Many of the sales were made on credit, especially just before a harvest. This was especially true in the post-Civil War South, where merchants offered credit to farmers in exchange for liens against their crops. However, these liens often came with exorbitant interest rates.

Despite sometimes testy relations between shopkeepers and customers, a town's general store was also its social center. One New Englander remembered the store in his hometown as an all-male clubhouse at day's end, in which hard-working, otherwise taciturn men expressed themselves freely. Their favorite thing, when no women were present, was sharing a ribald story told in "the raciest speech God or Satan ever put in the mouth of a man."

Mounting complaints about high prices and limited choices at the general stores eventually – *through American ingenuity and free enterprise I might point out* - led to a whole new concept in retailing: shopping by mail. Introduced in 1872, the first mass-marketing catalog was produced by Chicago-based Montgomery, Ward and Company. The firm began with \$2,400 in capital and a one-page flyer listing 163 items that was mailed to members of the National Grange, America's largest farm organization at the time. It's success grew into a voluminous "wish book" which inspired the introduction of other mail-order houses, most notably Sears, Roebuck & Company which opened for business in 1893 and surpassed Montgomery Ward in size and volume in just seven years.

Store owners ridiculed the idea of mail-order merchandise, but shoppers loved it. Tens of thousands of farmers opted for the convenience, improved selection, better prices and the company's pledge: "Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back."

Then, with the institution of rural free mail delivery in 1896 and parcel post in 1913, the general store began fading into history.

~ from *America's Forgotten History* by Reader's Digest

History Quiz – Which President Did That? (Part 2)

Chip Wood, Personal Liberty Digest

13. Name the first President to appear on television.
- Harry Truman
 - Dwight Eisenhower
 - John F. Kennedy
 - Franklin Roosevelt
14. Name the man who was present as each of three Presidents lay mortally wounded by assassins' bullets.
- Roscoe Conkling
 - James Blaine
 - Robert Lincoln
 - Upton Sinclair
15. Which incumbent Vice President did not win election to the Presidency?
- Martin Van Buren
 - George H. W. Bush
 - Al Gore
 - Thomas Jefferson
16. Which member of the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy later became President himself?
- Lyndon Johnson
 - Jimmy Carter
 - Gerald Ford
 - Richard Nixon
17. Name the only man who has been both President & Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
- John Marshall
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - Herbert Hoover
 - William Howard Taft
18. Name the only President to have been a Rhodes Scholar.
- Jimmy Carter
 - Dwight Eisenhower
 - Bill Clinton
 - John F. Kennedy
19. Name the dog made famous in Richard Nixon's 1952 campaign speech.
- Fala
 - Liberty
 - Checkers
 - Laddie Boy
20. Name the only President buried in Washington, D.C.
- Franklin Roosevelt
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - John F. Kennedy
 - William Howard Taft
21. While dying from cancer, he worked feverishly to complete his memoirs, so the royalties it would earn would provide for his family.
- Harry Truman
 - Dwight Eisenhower
 - James Monroe
 - U. S. Grant
22. Which President started the tradition of tossing out the first ball on baseball's Opening Day?
- Theodore Roosevelt
 - William Howard Taft
 - William McKinley
 - Warren G. Harding
23. Which President received a ticket for speeding in Washington, D.C.?
- U. S. Grant
 - Lyndon Johnson
 - Andrew Johnson
 - Calvin Coolidge
24. Which President's wife was nicknamed Lemonade Lucy for her refusal to serve liquor in the White House?
- U.S. Grant
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - Rutherford Hayes
 - James Garfield
25. Name the only President born on the 4th of July.
- James Madison
 - Calvin Coolidge
 - Franklin Pierce
 - Andrew Jackson

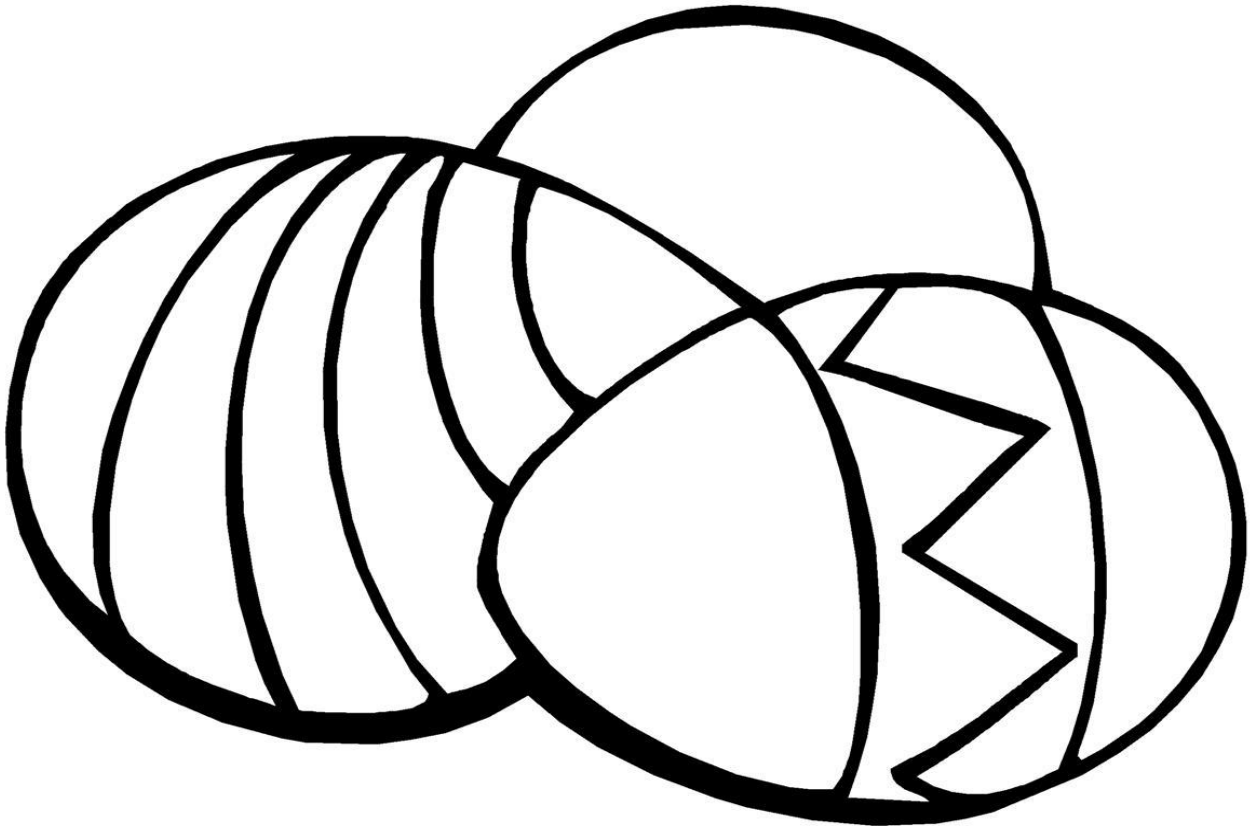
Answer key:

13) d; 14) c; 15) c; 16) c; 17) d; 18) c; 19)c; 20) b; 21) d; 22)b; 23) a; 24) c; 25) b

~ From Personal Liberty Digest:

http://www.personalliberty.com/conservative-politics/government/which-president-did-that/?eiid&rmid=2011_02_18_PLA_PI110218&rriid=38739674

Young Patriot's Corner: Easter Egg Coloring Page



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Young Patriots Corner – Bedtime Story

American Elementary Schools 1600's

By Gail Bartlett, 9-12 Education Committee

In the New World (in the 13 colonies), the first formal schools appeared in the 1630s. The Boston Latin School, which opened in 1635, is considered the first town-supported school with a continuous history.

In 1647, the "old Deluder Satan Act" required that every Massachusetts town of at least 50 households hire a teacher of reading and writing. Towns with a hundred or more households had to operate a grammar school as well. The colonists were mainly concerned that children learned to read and write to "possess knowledge of the Scriptures." If the towns didn't obey the law, they were fined 5 pounds--about \$25.00. So, in New England, public school houses were built although there weren't always proper schoolmasters in them. In the middle colonies, such as Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, education was left to the royal governor and various church groups. In the South, the children of rich planters were taught at home-- usually by tutors from England. Poor children were usually apprenticed to craftsmen.

It wasn't hard to become a teacher in those days. Anyone who could read or write was allowed to teach, as long as they believed in the Church, was loyal to the Crown and kept out of trouble. Often the schoolmaster had to do other things in the town, too, such as digging graves, running errands or leading the choir. Colonial schoolmasters were not paid very much and sometimes received a cow, a pig, apples or some other food for their teaching. In winter, the teacher's fee was sometimes paid with wood for the school fireplace. Children who didn't bring their share of wood had to sit in the coldest part of the room!

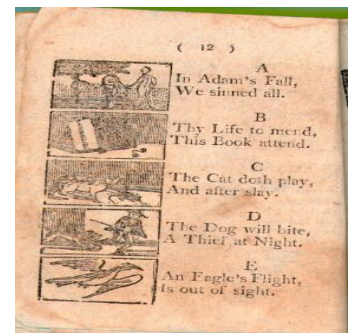
The classroom was an empty-looking place with only chalk or pencils and very little paper and no blackboards. There were never blackboards or maps in colonial schools. To write, the schoolmaster often had to use a stick of charcoal on a piece of birch bark that they pulled off the trees. Whenever the children used pens, they were cut out of goose quills and the schoolmaster made the ink. Boys also wrote with lumps of lead. Students sat on hard benches while the teachers stood behind high desks. When the school master got paid, he usually got more corn and food than he could eat so he'd sell the food for supplies.

After the students learned their alphabet, they then learned to read from the Bible and the Book of Psalms. Boys spent most of their time learning how to write crisp, clean and small. If they wrote like that, no one cared how the words were spelled. Even a school master put an ad in the paper to say he taught "writeing and spilling." Most people spelled the same words in different ways. In 1690, the New England Primer was published and became a popular beginner's textbook and was still in use a hundred years later! The Primer taught spelling, religion and the alphabet. It was a small book, only 3 inches wide by 4 inches long and about 90 pages in length. This required textbook contained pictures and short poems that gave children stern moral lessons, such as,

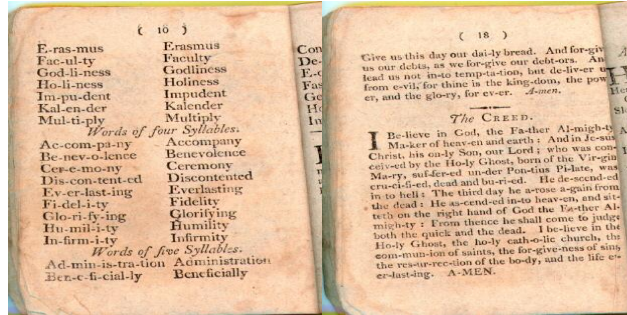
*The idle fool
Is whipt at school!*

In the New England Primer there were rhymes for each letter, such as **D**:

*A Dog Will Bite
A Thief at Night*



There were also lists of spelling words; their words were a lot different than ours!



Everyone had to know the Bible verses, as well.

The boys who learned the New England Primer could go onto another school to learn more. Some boys at the age of 11 went to college and the boys that were rich went to college in England.

American Elementary Schools 1700's

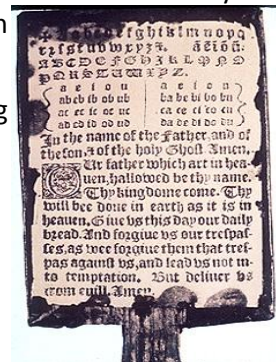
Even in Williamsburg, Pennsylvania in 1774, there were still few schools. So, many parents taught their children to read and write at home using a bible and a hornbook. A hornbook was a wooden board with a handle. A lesson sheet of the ABCs in small and capital letters, some series of syllables and often, the Lord's Prayer, was attached to the board and was protected by a thin layer of cow's horn. Some hornbooks of wealthy families were very fancy, decorated with jewels and leather and included ivory pointers. Most of them were plain and had a string around the handle to be worn around the neck.

People who wrote the early primers and readers used pictures of animals learning to read and write to show that reading and writing were natural and fairly easy processes! By the 1750s, literacy rates (percentage of people who could basically read and write) were the highest in the New England colonies, at about 75% for males and 65% for females. The literacy rates, however, were lower in the Middle and Southern colonies.



Children wrote using a quill dipped in ink, which sometimes blotted on the page, so they sprinkled on pounce. Pounce is a powder-like sand that helps not blotch the page.

Most children wrote in a copybook because paper was so expensive. Wealthy children had a tutor (always a man) teach them privately. Some boys went to grammar school and sometimes even college but never girls. Girls were given lessons on how to run a home. It wasn't even expected for girls to spend any of their time reading! Instead their mothers taught them how to cook, sew, preserve food, direct servants and serve an elegant meal. Some girls were sent to teachers to learn how to sing, play a musical instrument, sew fancy stitchery, to serve tea properly by learning manners and how to carry on a polite conversation. When boys grew older, they could become apprentices to learning to become shopkeepers or craftsmen by working with and watching an adult.



<http://library.thinkquest.org/J002606/1600s.html>