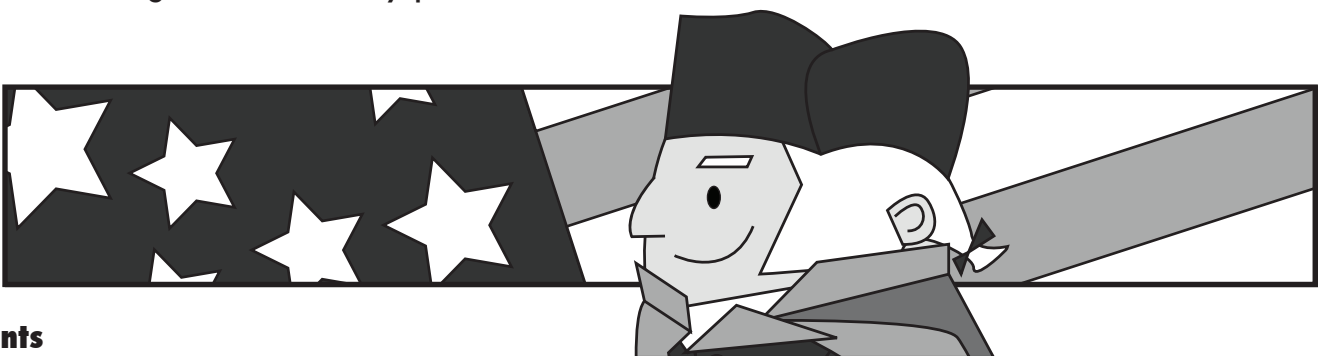


# Fact Finding

Have you ever heard something about yourself that wasn't true? Rumors and gossip can be unpleasant, especially when they're not even correct! Sometimes, when a person is admired, stories about the things they did get exaggerated, or made to sound larger-than-life, to match their heroic deeds.

Read the following statements about George Washington, our first president. Can you tell what's true and what isn't? If you're stuck, you can go on the Internet or go to a library to find a book about his life.

1. George Washington towered over most men. He was six feet two inches tall! **TRUE or FALSE**
2. When he was a child, he demonstrated his incredible strength by throwing a coin all the way across the mile-wide Potomac River. **TRUE or FALSE**
3. He was brave even in his teens, responsible for surveying and exploring large parts of the western Virginia wilderness. **TRUE or FALSE**
4. Our first president didn't have a very good dental plan: by the time he was an adult, he had lost all his teeth. His fake teeth were made of wood. **TRUE or FALSE**
5. Washington bred mules because he thought the animals were stronger than horses or donkeys. **TRUE or FALSE**
6. He was a big fan of composting! **TRUE or FALSE**
7. Since it was fashionable at the time, Washington wore a powdered wig whenever he went out in public. **TRUE or FALSE**
8. Before he was elected president, he was a very rich and wealthy businessman. **TRUE or FALSE**
9. He visited every single state during his first term in office. **TRUE or FALSE**
10. Washington was the only president that did not live in the White House. **TRUE or FALSE**



## Hints

2. Throwing anything this far is not really possible – even for American heroes.
4. He did have fake teeth, but they were made of wax, Plaster of Paris and metal.
7. Washington wasn't the sort of guy who followed fashion trends. He just wore (and powdered) his own hair.
8. He was actually a humble farmer before he became our president.