

February 2013



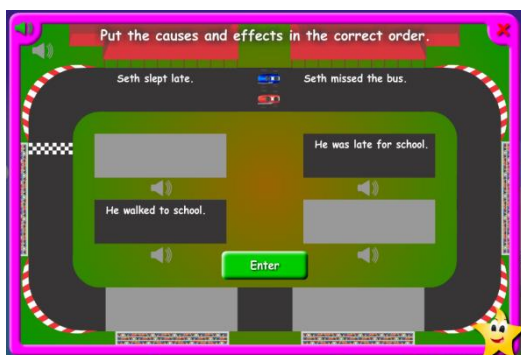
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## *This Month's New Resources*

### *K-2 Cause and Effect*

This month we added a new K-2 StarrMatica Lesson – *Cause and Effect*. To access the new lesson, login to your teacher account and choose the K-2 button. Then choose the Reading castle and Cause and Effect as your topic. Be sure to check out one of our favorites listed below.



### *Fix The Track*

*Place the causes and effects in the correct order to fix the race track.*

## *Donors Choose*

We are excited to announce that StarrMatica is now available for request through the Donors Choose program! Donors Choose is a website where teachers can submit projects and anyone can browse and donate to see those projects fulfilled. Submit your project at [www.donorschoose.org](http://www.donorschoose.org) and request StarrMatica to be fulfilled through Donors Choose Vendor AKJ Books.

## *StarrMatica is Hiring!*

Because of our tremendous growth in 2012, we are adding a *Member Relations Coordinator*.

Information about the position can be found here:

<http://www.starmatica.com/employment/memberrelations>

If you are interested, we would love to hear from you!



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# Lexile Levels

This month, we added Lexile levels to all of our reading stories. This addition will help you to better plan your instruction and to identify stories appropriate for specific students. This addition will also help as you integrate stories into your instruction according to the Common Core Text Measures which use Lexile levels as one of the measures of text complexity.

A story's Lexile level is displayed in search results next to a book icon. If an activity or assessment contains several stories, the Lexile levels for each story are listed in the order the stories appear. A list of StarrMatica's stories and their corresponding Lexile levels [can be viewed by clicking here](#).

<p> <a href="#">Literature IV: New House</a> ★</p> <p>Read and listen to <i>New House</i>. Then answer genre questions.</p> <p> Lexile level: 1000</p>	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Genre</td> <td>P</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </table>	Genre	P	6
Genre	P	6		
<p> <a href="#">Genre Bee</a> ★</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Genre</td> <td>P</td> <td>4,5,6</td> </tr> </table>	Genre	P	4,5,6
Genre	P	4,5,6		
<p> <a href="#">Enrichment: Porquoi</a> ★ </p> <p>Try to predict a <i>porquoi</i> explanation from the title of a story. After reading the story, type your understanding of the actual explanation and compare it to the author's summary. Stories include: <i>The Origin of the Coconut</i> (3rd), <i>How The Rainbow Came to Be</i> (3rd), <i>How Rabbit Got His Long Ears</i> (3rd), <i>Why Giraffe Can't Speak</i> (4th), and <i>Kangaroo's Long Tail and Wombat's Flat Ears</i> (6th).</p> <p> Lexile levels: 740, 540, 590, 700, 1040</p>	 <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Genre</td> <td>P</td> <td>3,4,5,6</td> </tr> </table>	Genre	P	3,4,5,6
Genre	P	3,4,5,6		

## Search Update

If your school does not have classroom management accounts, as of this morning you will notice an update to your search feature. This upgraded experience allows you to click the tabs at the top of the search to easily access all three search areas: Topics, Standards, and Texts.

### Links Search

Subject: 
 Grades: 
 Type:



*Facebook Highlights*

[Isle of Tune](#)

[Animations for Kids](#)

[Base Ten](#)



*Twitter Highlights*

[3D Models](#)

[Science Fair Ideas](#)

[Thing Link](#)



*Blog Highlights*

[Construction Problem Solving](#)

[Bloom's Taxonomy Part 3: Applying](#)

# Special Holiday Insert

## Interactive Activities for Presidents' Day

(Click the images below to visit the sites.)

### Inside the Voting Booth

**STEP INSIDE the VOTING BOOTH**

- What a DIFFERENCE One Vote Makes
- Step into a Voting TIME MACHINE
- Cast YOUR Vote
- How YOU Can Be Part of AN ELECTION

### IF YOU WERE PRESIDENT

As President, you cannot do your job alone. You must choose a team of advisors who will help you make important, and often difficult, decisions.

Pick your top three advisors by clicking within the circle. Make your decision wisely as you cannot take back a nomination!

- Francesca Famous** is a generous celebrity who is admired by the public, but has no professional experience. She's very rich and donated lots of money to help get you elected. If you don't select her, she may refuse to help pay for your reelection.
- Dr. Teresa Thermometer** is a well-known, but respected, physician. She's been practicing medicine for more than 30 years. She's a Democrat who's in favor of increasing taxes to provide health care for all Americans.
- General Betsy Battle** is a high-ranking officer in the Army. She's a Republican who served in former President George Bush's cabinet. She's in favor of increasing military spending and sending more American troops to trouble areas like the Middle East and Africa.
- Thomas Teacher** is an experienced educator who supports smaller schools and smaller classes. He's a Democrat who's in favor of increasing taxes to help pay for more teachers in poor school districts.
- Will Treehugger** is a Republican who favors preserving national parks and establishing higher pollution standards. He also opposes offshore drilling for oil in Florida and California.

Back to Games and Quizzes

### If You Were President....

### JOB APPLICATION

President of the United States of America

First Name:

I am a:

I live in:

My favorite animal is:

My favorite sport is:

**NEXT**

### The Portrait Puzzler: Who Am I?

INSTRUCTIONS: For each question asked, select the portrait of the person that best answers the question

I felt the colonies should be independent from England, and wrote this in Common Sense. I also felt that "these were the times that try men's souls."

John Hancock, Abigail Adams, John Adams, Martha Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Paine

John Hancock by William Smith, 1775; Abigail Adams by Raphaelle Peale, 1804; John Adams by John Trumbull, c. 1793; Martha Washington by an unidentified artist, 1800-1825; Thomas Jefferson by Gilbert Stuart, 1766; Sir of Charles Francis Adams; Benjamin Franklin by Joseph Bredt Duplessis, c. 1785; Sir of the Morris and Queen's Quay Foundation; Alexander Hamilton by James Sharples, c. 1796; Thomas Paine's William Sharp, 1793

All images are details and are from the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

### Portrait for Kids

LET'S SOLVE A MYSTERY!

In this case-solving mystery, a curator has found a half-finished portrait of President George Washington by the great artist Gilbert Stuart. Curators at the National Portrait Gallery collect and care for thousands of paintings of people, and research and interpret what the paintings tell us about the people and the person in the portrait. Curators find out a lot about a painting by following clues, just like a detective does. Here, we see George Washington, but the portrait doesn't look complete. Can you help find the missing parts?

Follow the clues to find the missing parts of the portrait. Use the red X's to uncover hidden parts of the portrait. Each correct answer will add a piece to the portrait--and help you learn something about the portrait.

**Solve the Mystery**

## George Washington

### The Real Face of George Washington

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### Presidential Portraits

Translation: This man appears on both sides of the one-cent coin.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Options: Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, Franklin D. Roosevelt, George Washington, John F. Kennedy

Drag and drop your choice here.

### George Washington Quiz

Introduction

George Washington was the first president of the United States. He was well known in the military of the American Revolution and as a vital instrument in the shaping and founding of the constitution and the United States. How much do you know about George Washington?

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**Start**



### Abraham Lincoln Quiz

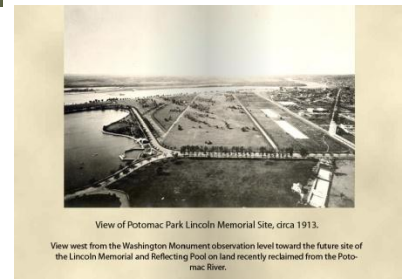
Introduction

Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States of America. As President, he was very concerned about the expansion of slavery and worked very hard to abolish it. Many historians rank President Lincoln among the greatest Presidents in America's history. Take this quiz to find out just how much you know about the 16th President of the United States.

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**Start**

## Abraham Lincoln



eBook Note: Turn the page. Then click your mouse to make the page fully open.