

Washington Crossing the Delaware, 1851 by Emanuel Leutze [1816 –1868]

1. Compare the size of this twelve by twenty-one foot painting with something in the classroom, such as a wall. How big would the people in the painting appear?
2. Find these items:
 - a. Washington's white horse:
 - b. A man wearing eyeglasses
 - c. A branch floating in the water
3. Describe the men's clothing. Can you explain why they wear a variety of clothing?
4. How did Leutze emphasize Washington and the American flag?
5. Most of the colors in this painting are muted blues, grays, and browns. What bright color did Leutze include?
6. In what part of the picture is this red located?. Why?
7. Describe how Leutze created an illusion of great distance in this painting.
8. Who and what are moving in this scene. Who is standing still?
9. How are they controlling the boat?
10. How do you think they felt when they reached the opposite bank?
11. Have students describe the weather and water conditions. Why isn't it an ideal day for boating?
12. Why would anyone want to cross the Delaware River in this weather?
13. Describe the flag. Even though it is knotted and wrinkled by the wind, find symbols that
14. appear on today's flag. List them here and be clear.
15. Does Washington's boat seem stable to you? Does it seem large enough to you?
16. Why do you think Leutze shows a small boat in this painting?

Historical Connections: French and Indian War; U.S. presidents; Constitutional Convention

Historical Figures: George Washington; John Jay; Alexander Hamilton; the Marquis de Lafayette

Civics: U.S. Constitution; powers and duties of the three branches of government

Geography: cities of colonial and Revolutionary America (Boston, Philadelphia, etc.)

Literary Connections and Primary Documents: *George Washington's Birthday: Wondering*, Bobbie Katz; "Occasioned by General Washington's Arrival in Philadelphia, On His Way to His Residence in Virginia," Phillip Freneau Washington's Farewell Address (1796); *Federalist Papers* (1787–1788); Virginia Declaration of Rights (1776); Massachusetts Body of Liberties (1641); Mayflower Compact (1620); John Locke's *Treatise of Civil Government* (1690); English Bill of Rights (1689)

Arts: portraiture; Roman Republican and Iroquois images (eagle and clutched arrows)