



Bullet Journaling with George Washington: Farm Report, 12 January 1793

Students will learn...

- How Washington's character influenced his business practices
- To organize their daily schedule

You will need...

- [Farm Report, 12 January 1793](#)
 - Bullet Journal Examples
 - *Optional:* Bullet Journal (BuJo) Templates
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Opener: Washington's Farm Reports

- Ask your students what it takes to be a good businessperson? How do they keep track of their supplies and money?
- Now tell your students that Washington considered himself before anything as a farmer and businessman. What do they think Washington recorded? What would he have done when he was away from Mt. Vernon during the Revolutionary War and his Presidency?
- Show your students Washington's Farm Reports. What does he have his estate manager, Anthony Whiting, record while he is in Philadelphia during his first presidential term? Why are these things important?
- Also, point out that the labor Washington asked for was the work being done by his enslaved workers. Washington kept detailed records on the labor they performed- sometimes this is the only evidence we have of those people.
- Ask them what this shows about Washington's character?

Task: Make Your Own Bullet Journal

- Tell your students that their task is to make a similar record for their school work, but in the style of a bullet journal.

A Bullet Journal (BuJo) is a way of keeping track of your past, present, and future. It is a blank journal that people can make a schedule, a to-do list, future goals, daily reflections, etc. It is customized to what a person wants to record and how elaborate they want it to be.

- Show different examples of bullet journals.
 - Have your students pick the things they want to record in their BuJo and have them start making those spreads (themed pages).
 - *Optional:* If they are having trouble with creativity, give them the BuJo templates.
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Closer: Recording

- Tell your students to write in their bullet journal for a week.
- Come back and reflect:
 - Was it hard or easy to do?
 - Did you wait a few days and fill in back pages or did you do it daily?
 - Did it start off very complex and become simpler as it went on? Vice versa?
 - Was it practical? Did it help your organization or was it bothersome?
 - What does Whiting's layout and information say him and Washington?