**Lucy Biography Answer Key**

**Analysis Routine**

1. Identify the verbs that describe what Lucy did during each day. List the verbs that are related to what happened in the Kitchen. Remember that a **verb** is a word that expresses an action, an occurrence, or a state of being and is necessary to make a statement.

start the fire, prepare, preserve, store, cook, raised chickens, spin, knit

1. George and Martha Washington and their farm managers wrote down most of what we know about Lucy’s life. How might their records of her life be different than Lucy’s thoughts about her own life?   
     
   George and Martha Washington and their farm managers’ perspectives are very factual. We get a lot of details about what and when she was working. We are missing information about Lucy’s emotions and feelings throughout her days. This is information we could have gained from hearing her perspective.
2. What is one thing in Lucy’s biography that surprised you?

Answers will vary but should use complete sentences and use evidence from the primary source.

1. Does reading Lucy’s biography change the way you think about slavery or other enslaved people you have learned about? Explain why or why not.

Answers will vary but should use complete sentences and use evidence from the primary sources.

**Lucy Biography**

Lucycame to Mount Vernon as a child, when Martha married George Washington. Lucy was an enslaved cook. She learned how to be a cook from her mother, Doll. Every day as a cook at Mount Vernon was different. The day depended on the season and the number of guests. But, Lucy always got up at 4:00 a.m. to start the fire in the Kitchen and begin to prepare for the meals that would be served. Martha Washington would visit with her after breakfast to discuss the other meals for the day. Other enslaved people from around the estate would bring ingredients to the Kitchen that Lucy would preserve and store for later, or cook with. These ingredients included fruit from the garden and cream from the dairy.

Lucy’s husband, Frank Lee, was responsible for the service of the meals she prepared in the kitchen. Lucy and Frank had at least four children together, Edmund, Mike, Phill, and Patty. The family lived in one of the small wood cabins near the Mansion. In addition to cooking for the household, Lucy also raised chickens for her own family to eat or to sell. Although her day was often non-stop, she was instructed, if she did have a break, to spin and knit for the Washington family.