

# Build a Family Tree

**Background Information:** George Washington was very interested in his family history. For example, he kept family records in their family Bible. His records for the plantation also helps us trace the families of some of the enslaved people who lived at Mount Vernon in the 18th century. One such example is Phillip Lee, who was the son of Lucy and Frank Lee and the grandson of Doll.

## Main Ideas:

- Family history can be important for both individuals and history professionals.
- Although family history can be difficult to research, a lot is known about Washington's family due to the records left behind.
- The families of enslaved individuals are often hard hard to find due to a lack of records.

## Skills:

- Research
- Analysis
- Discussion



## Questions to Consider:

1. How do we know about the past?
2. Why is it important to study the past?
3. How do you think historians might remember you?



**Washington's  
Family History**



**Lawrence  
Washington**



**Slavery  
Database**

## Instructions:

- Use the template to create a family tree for yourself or a friend and discover connections to the past!
- Start by asking someone in your family about your ancestors or a friend about theirs.
- Fill out the template to the best of your ability, understanding that it is okay to not have all the answers.

## Explore more!

Using the above sources and Mount Vernon website, see if you can create a family tree for one of the many people that lived at Mount Vernon.

# 's Family Tree

(Insert Name Here)

