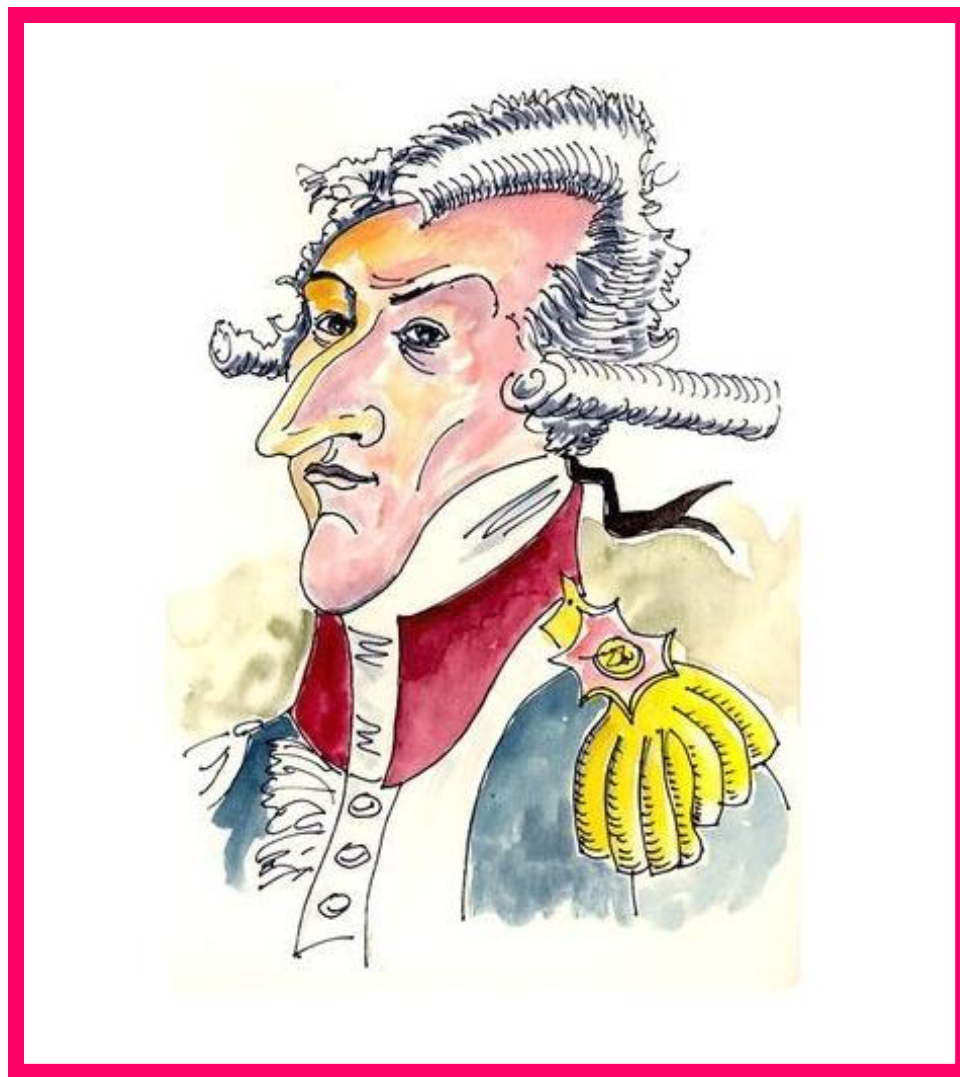


Le Marquis de Lafayette



Prepared by Fort Nelson Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution

Portsmouth, VA



LESSON PLAN

30-minute instruction and 30-minute activity

- 1) **Objectives** – Familiarize students with Marquis de Lafayette and his contributions to the United States of America through a brief presentation and worksheets.
- 2) **Anticipatory set** – The lesson uses photographs and interesting facts to draw the interest of the student. A word search is included as a fun activity to aid learning. Other resources are included in the front matter of the lesson plan, to include websites, YouTube videos, and suggested reading.
- 3) **Teaching [check for understanding]** – a short worksheet is included to check the student's understanding of the lesson presented
- 4) **Guided practice** -
- 6) **Closure** – Summarize information presented about Lafayette and reference Lafayette's connection to the Hampton Roads area.
- 7) **Independent practice** – Encourage students to conduct independent research or projects about Lafayette and his connection to the Hampton Roads area and/or to the formation of America.

EXCELLENT DOCUMENTARIES

Lafayette - The Lost Hero (in English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5KqHeAKgEg>

Washington's Generals ~ Marquis de Lafayette (in English)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RN1jrr_CMzM

* Please keep in mind that video links may be altered or removed over time.

RECOMMENDED READING:

Why Not, Lafayette? Hardcover – October 25, 1999

by [Jean Fritz](#) (Author)

Publisher: Putnam Juvenile; First Edition (October 25, 1999)

Language: English

Hardcover: 96 pages

ISBN-10: 039923411X

ISBN-13: 978-0399234118

Reading age: 8 - 12 years

Lexile measure: 900L

Grade level: 3 - 7

Grade 5-8-In an informal yet informative narrative, Fritz presents the life of the French nobleman who came to espouse the democratic cause and worked toward achieving it. He not only fought successfully in the American Revolution, and proved himself as a leader of men, but also participated in advancing freedom in his own country and freed slaves in French territories. The author recounts the Marquis's full and honorable life, which spanned many important events in history including the French Revolution and the rise and fall of Napoleon. There is a lot of history contained in a little over 70 pages but despite its brevity, the book provides a great deal of information. A background knowledge of the time is useful to understanding some of the events fully. A well-executed, full-page pencil drawing appears in every chapter and serves to enliven the presentation. This competently written and documented title will not disappoint Fritz's many fans.

Credits

<http://phahn.canalblog.com/archives/2010/04/28/17721458.html>

www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-marquis-de-lafayette

<https://immigratingtousa.wordpress.com/author/immigratingtousa/page/10/>

<http://www.mountvernon.org/digital-encyclopedia/article/marquis-de-lafayette/>

<http://www.american-revolutionary-war-facts.com/American-Revolutionary-War-Generals-Facts/General-Marquis-de-Lafayette-Facts.html>

<http://militaryhistorynow.com/2015/11/30/a-hero-of-two-worlds-10-amazing-facts-about-lafayette/>

<http://frenchquartermag.com/the-bastille-key/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Place_des_89tats-Unis

https://www.herodote.net/etats_Unis_France-synthese-1899.php

1. On September 6, 1757, a little baby boy was born in Chavaniac (cha-va-ni-ac). His name was Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette or, as we know him, the [Marquis de La Fayette](#).

Now he is simply known as Lafayette. He was a French aristocrat and military officer born in the Château-de-Chavaniac in Haute-Loire, in south central France.

Both a French and an American flag can be seen flying outside the château (grand

house) of his boyhood to honor his role in the American Revolution. Today the château is a museum which is open to the public.



2. By the time Lafayette was 12, both of his parents had died. He was an orphan, but a very wealthy orphan because he had inherited estates from his father and his grandfather.

3. At the young age of 16, Lafayette married Adrienne de Noailles on April 11, 1774. She was a 14-year-old noble girl whose family gave Lafayette entrance into the world of the Paris aristocracy (wealthy ruling class).

Lafayette and his wife attended the weekly balls given by Marie Antoinette.



Lafayette did not care for them; his wife loved them.

4. Lafayette and his wife had four children. Their first child, Henriette, was born in 1776 but died two years later. They then had:

- * a daughter, Anastasie, born in 1777.
- * a son, Georges Washington, born in 1779; and
- * Another daughter, Marie Antoinette Virginie, born in 1782.

Lafayette honored George Washington by naming his son after him. His last daughter was named for France's queen, Marie Antoinette, and the state of Virginia, where Washington had his home, Mount Vernon.



5. Lafayette served as a major-general in the Continental Army under George Washington. Since George Washington had no children of his own, he regarded the young and talented Lafayette as a son.

Since Lafayette's father had died when he was only 2, he also looked upon George Washington in a fatherly way and so a close relationship developed between the two.

Lafayette sailed back to France, and his family, after the war.

6. Lafayette returned to America for a grand tour of all the then 24 states in 1824 - 1825.

When Lafayette boarded ship to return to France, after his grand tour, he took a barrel of American soil with him - to be used to cover his grave when he died.

Lafayette and Washington at Mount Vernon



7. During his tour, Lafayette visited Portsmouth and Norfolk in October 1824. A pyramid monument was erected in Portsmouth City Park by the Fort Nelson DAR to commemorate the visit.

“When in October of 1824 the Marquis, now quite an old man, landed in the city of Norfolk a great reception awaited him.

The *Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald* reported the spectacle awaiting Lafayette upon his landing which included an artillery salute, a triumphal arch erected in his honor, ranks of local militia, the assembled Corporate Societies of the Borough, and large groups of school children including those of the Female Orphan Society. All this made for what the Herald described as a truly animating (*exciting*) picture. Additionally, the Herald reported that in the evening the businesses and dwellings of the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth were brilliantly illuminated, the latter municipality lighting 42 bonfires on the shores in honor of the Marquis. Sometime during his stay, a trip across the river to the city of Portsmouth was planned in order that Lafayette might pay a visit to the United States Naval Yard there. Louisa Emmerson, a life-long Portsmouth native wrote that the Trustees of Portsmouth welcomed him to their town, and with military honors conducted him to Crawford Street, where at its intersection with High, a fine triumphal arch had been erected in the General's honor. The arch itself was finely constructed and decorated with American flags, evergreen boughs, and flowers. Mrs. Emmerson wrote that before continuing to the Naval Yard, the procession stopped so that some school children of the city could recite a poem for the distinguished guest.”

8. Lafayette died in 1834 at the age of 76 in Paris and is buried there in the Cimetière de Picpus (Picpus Cemetery) in the 12th arrondissement (district).

*Le Cimetière de Picpus ~
"can be visited every afternoon except for
Mondays and holidays."*



Lafayette's grave marker



9. An American flag flies at the head of Lafayette's grave to honor his contribution to the American Revolution.



10. In 1784, Maryland conferred honorary citizenship on Lafayette for his part in helping the Americans during the Revolutionary War.

However, it wasn't until 2002 that Congress officially granted him the status of an honorary citizen.



As of 2017, only 6 other people have been granted that honor.

- 1.) Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965 ~ Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during World War II)
- 2.) Mother Teresa (1910 - 1997 ~ a missionary nun in India)
- 3.) Casimir Pulaski (1745 - 1779 ~ a Polish immigrant who fought in the American Revolution alongside George Washington)

- 4.) William Penn (1644 - 1714 ~ founder of Pennsylvania)
- 5.) Hannah Penn (1671 - 1726 ~ wife of William Penn who administered Pennsylvania upon her husband's death)
- 6.) Raoul Wallenberg (1912 - 1947 ~ Swedish diplomat who helped save Jewish lives during World War II)

11. Many people ask Why is Lafayette not buried in the Père Lachaise Cemetery, the most famous cemetery in Paris?

The answer is simple. Lafayette's wife, Adrienne, had been arrested in 1794 by the Revolution government in France and imprisoned along with her mother, grandmother, and sister as members of the aristocracy. During the French revolution, they were all sent to the guillotine except for Adrienne.

Advisors to the Revolution government said it would not look good to the Americans if they sent the wife of the Marquis de Lafayette to the guillotine, since France needed the support of the new country of America.

They needed a friend and ally. America was supportive of the French because of the aid France provided during the American Revolution and the service of the Marquis de Lafayette. Because of that, Adrienne was finally released in 1795.

Adrienne eventually purchased land that was used for the mass burials of the aristocrats who had been executed. Since this included her relatives, she made it a private cemetery, named le Cimetière de Picpus.

When Adrienne died at the young age of 48 in 1807, she was buried in le Cimetière de Picpus.

When Lafayette died in 1834, he was buried next to his wife in the same cemetery.



12. There is only one college in the whole United States named after Lafayette. The Lafayette College is located in Easton, PA.

The college's seal. →

Collegium Lafayettense: Motto: Veritas Liberabit 'The truth shall set you free'

www.lafayette.edu



13. When Lafayette was visiting America in 1824, at the invitation of President James Monroe, the citizens of Easton went to Philadelphia to see him.

Later, when the town leaders were planning to establish a college, they chose to call it **Lafayette College** "in honor of his talents, virtues, and services in the great cause of freedom."



14. Lafayette also visited Mount Vernon, George Washington's home, during his visit in 1824.

When Lafayette originally returned to France, he took part in the French Revolution. A major event during the French Revolution was the release of prisoners from the Bastille prison. Lafayette had the key to the Bastille to Washington in 1790 when he was president.



The key is now on display at Mount Vernon, along with a drawing of the demolished Bastille, which Lafayette also sent.



15. Today in Paris there is a statue of Lafayette and George Washington shaking hands. It is at the Place des Etats-Unis in the 16th arrondissement.



NOTE

Photocopy and hand out the sheet below for students to focus on the reading and fill in the correct answers.

These can then be used on a quiz as extra credit questions.

Le Marquis de Lafayette

1. When was Lafayette born? _____
2. At what age did he become an orphan? _____
3. How old was Lafayette when he got married? _____
4. Whom did he marry? _____
5. The Lafayette's had four children, one of whom died when she was two. They had three girls and a boy. What was the boy's name? _____
6. What was Lafayette's rank in the Continental Army? _____
7. How many bonfires were lit when Lafayette visited Portsmouth in 1824? _____
8. Lafayette made a grand tour of all the then 24 states in 1824-1825. What did he take back with him when he returned to France? _____
Why? _____
9. For his role in the American Revolution, Lafayette was granted honorary American citizenship. What other foreign Revolutionary War soldier was granted this same honor?

10. How old was Lafayette when he died? _____
11. In what cemetery was he buried? _____
12. What are two 'American' things at Lafayette's grave site? _____

13. Where is Lafayette College? _____
14. Lafayette sent Washington the key to the Bastille as a symbol of the French Revolution. Where is it kept? _____
15. There is a statue of Lafayette and Washington in Paris. Where is it located?

ANSWERS

Name _____.

Le Marquis de Lafayette



1. When was Lafayette born? Sept. 6, 1757
2. At what age did he become an orphan? 12
3. How old was Lafayette when he got married? 16
4. Whom did he marry? Adrienne de Noailles
5. The Lafayette's had four children, one of whom died when she was two. They had three girls and a boy. What was the boy's name? Georges Washington
6. What was Lafayette's rank in the Continental Army? Major-General
7. How many bonfires were lit when Lafayette visited Portsmouth in 1824? 42
8. Lafayette made a grand tour of all 24 states in 1824-1825. What did he take back with him to France? a barrel of American soil
Why? to be put on his grave when he died
9. For his role in the American Revolution, Lafayette was granted honorary American citizenship. What other foreign Revolutionary War soldier was granted this same honor? Casimir Pulaski
10. How old was Lafayette when he died? 76
11. In what cemetery was he buried? Le Cimitière de Picpus
12. What are two 'American' things at Lafayette's grave site? 1) The soil from America;
2) An American flag flying by the grave
13. Where is Lafayette College? In Easton, PA
14. Lafayette sent Washington the key to the Bastille, a symbol of the French Revolution. Where is it kept? On display at Mount Vernon
15. There is a statue of Lafayette and Washington in Paris. Where is it located? In the 16th arrondissement at the Place des États-Unis

NOTE

Below is a handout for absent students so they have the information. This sheet is also a handy study guide for students after the lesson is presented.

Study Guide

Le Marquis de La Fayette

1. On September 6, 1757, a little baby boy was born in Chavaniac (cha-va-ni-ac). His name was Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette or, as we know him, **Le Marquis de La Fayette**. Now simply known to many as 'Lafayette.'

He was a French aristocrat and military officer born in the Château de Chavaniac in Haute-Loire in south central France.

Both a French and an American flag can be seen flying outside the château (grand home) of his boyhood to honor his role in the American Revolution. Today the château is a museum which is open to the public.

2. By the time Lafayette was 12, both of his parents had died. He was an orphan, but a very rich orphan because he had inherited estates from his father and his grandfather.

3. At the young age of 16, Lafayette married Adrienne de Noailles on April 11, 1774. She was a 14-year-old noble girl whose family gave Lafayette entrance into the world of the Paris aristocracy (rich ruling class).

Lafayette and his wife attended the weekly balls given by Marie Antoinette. Lafayette did not care for them; his wife loved them.

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Since Lafayette's father had died when he was only 2, he also looked upon George Washington in a fatherly way and so a close relationship developed between the two. Lafayette sailed back to France and his family after the war.

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When he boarded ship to return to France after his tour, he took a barrel of American soil with him. It was to be used to cover his grave when he died.

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Le Marquis de Lafayette

Name _____.

(Find the hidden words. The words go across and down.)

LAFAYETTE
 REVOLUTION
 PARIS
 BASTILLE
 MARQUIS
 ORPHAN
 PICPUS
 ESTATE

KEY
 ARISTOCRACY
 CHÂTEAU
 SON
 BALLS
 BARRE
 VIRGINIA
 FRANCE

ADRIENNE
 WAR
 SOIL
 GRAVE
 AMERICAN FLAG
 LIBERTY
 TROOPS
 COLLEGE

MOUNT VERNON
 GEORGE
 WASHINGTON
 MAJOR-GENERAL
 CONTINENTAL
 ARMY

E	D	A	D	R	I	E	N	N	E	I	A	G	E	L	C
R	M	F	A	U	C	O	V	I	R	G	I	N	I	A	O
C	O	R	P	H	A	N	A	E	S	T	A	T	E	F	N
E	U	I	A	I	C	O	L	L	E	G	E	B	R	A	T
A	N	S	R	I	B	A	L	L	S	I	E	A	I	Y	I
M	T	T	I	B	A	R	R	E	L	A	G	S	D	E	N
E	V	O	S	N	A	K	E	Y	E	C	R	T	L	T	E
R	E	V	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	H	A	I	I	T	N
I	R	P	D	U	S	O	I	L	A	Â	V	L	B	E	T
C	N	I	E	M	O	S	O	N	A	T	E	L	E	L	A
A	O	C	G	M	A	J	O	R	G	E	N	E	R	A	L
N	N	P	O	F	R	A	N	C	E	A	T	T	T	E	A
F	E	U	R	G	E	M	A	R	Q	U	I	S	Y	O	R
L	A	S	I	T	R	O	O	P	S	T	O	A	P	E	M
A	W	A	R	G	A	R	I	S	T	O	C	R	A	C	Y
G	E	O	R	G	E	W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O	N

Le Marquis de

Name _____

Lafayette

ANSWERS

(Find the hidden words. The words go across and down.)

LAFAYETTE
 REVOLUTION
 PARIS
 BASTILLE
 MARQUIS
 ORPHAN
 PICPUS
 ESTATE

KEY
 ARISTOCRACY
 CHÂTEAU
 SON
 BALLS
 BARRE
 VIRGINIA
 FRANCE

ADRIENNE
 WAR
 SOIL
 GRAVE
 AMERICAN FLAG
 LIBERTY
 TROOPS
 COLLEGE

MOUNT VERNON
 GEORGE
 WASHINGTON
 MAJOR-GENERAL
 CONTINENTAL
 ARMY

E	D	A	D	R	I	E	N	N	E	I	A	G	E	L	C
R	M	F	A	U	C	O	V	I	R	G	I	N	I	A	O
C	O	R	P	H	A	N	A	E	S	T	A	T	E	F	N
E	U	I	A	I	C	O	L	L	E	G	E	B	R	A	T
A	N	S	R	I	B	A	L	L	S	I	E	A	I	Y	I
M	T	T	I	B	A	R	R	E	L	A	G	S	D	E	N
E	V	O	S	N	A	K	E	Y	E	C	R	T	L	T	E
R	E	V	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	H	A	I	I	T	N
I	R	P	D	U	S	O	I	L	A	Â	V	L	B	E	T
C	N	I	E	M	O	S	O	N	A	T	E	L	E	L	A
A	O	C	G	M	A	J	O	R	G	E	N	E	R	A	L
N	N	P	O	F	R	A	N	C	E	A	T	T	T	E	A
F	E	U	R	G	E	M	A	R	Q	U	I	S	Y	O	R
L	A	S	I	T	R	O	O	P	S	T	O	A	P	E	M
A	W	A	R	G	A	R	I	S	T	O	C	R	A	C	Y
G	E	O	R	G	E	W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O	N