**Virginia Studies**

**STANDARD VS.6a-c**

**STUDY GUIDE**

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**STANDARD VS.6A**

**WASHINGTON, MADISON**

George Washington is called the “Father of Our Country” and James Madison is called the “Father of the Constitution.”

The actions and ideas of Virginians formed the basis for the new constitutional government of the United States.

**Why is George Washington referred to as the “Father of Our Country”?”**

George Washington, a Virginian, was elected as the first President of the United States of America. He provided the strong leadership needed to help the young country and provided a model of leadership for future presidents. Thus, he is often called the “Father of Our Country.”

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**STANDARD VS.6B**

**MASON, JEFFERSON**


**What was the influence of the Virginia Declaration of Rights on the Constitution of the United States of America?**

The Virginia Declaration of Rights, written by George Mason, states that all Virginians should have many rights, including freedom of religion and freedom of the press.

**What was the influence of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom on the Constitution of the United States of America?**

The Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, written by Thomas Jefferson, states that all people should be free to worship as they please.

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**Why is James Madison referred to as the “Father of the Constitution”?”**

James Madison, a Virginian, believed in the importance of having a United States constitution. He kept detailed notes during the Constitutional Convention. His skills at compromise helped the delegates reach agreement during the difficult process of writing the Constitution of the United States of America. This earned him the title “Father of the Constitution.”
STANDARD VS.10A
Virginia Government

Three branches of Virginia government and the function of each.

Virginia state government is made up of three parts (branches) that ensure Virginia laws agree with the state constitution.

What are the three branches of government in Virginia and what are the powers of each branch?

The government of Virginia is divided into three branches.

• The General Assembly is the legislative branch of the Virginia government that makes state laws. It is divided into two parts—the Senate and the House of Delegates.

• The governor heads the executive branch of the state government. The executive branch makes sure that state laws are carried out.

• The judicial branch is the state’s court system. The judicial branch decides cases about people accused of breaking the law and whether or not a law agrees with Virginia’s constitution.

STANDARD VS.10B -- Products & Industries

Major products and industries of Virginia’s five geographic regions.

What are the major products and industries of each region in Virginia?

The state of Virginia can be divided into five geographic regions. Different products and industries characterize each region.

• Coastal Plain (Tidewater)
  o Products: Seafood, peanuts
  o Industries: Shipbuilding, tourism, military bases

• Piedmont
  o Products: Tobacco products, information technology
  o Industries: Federal and state government, farming, horse industry

• Blue Ridge Mountains
  o Products: Apples
  o Industries: Recreation, farming

• Valley and Ridge
  o Products: Poultry, apples, dairy, beef
  o Industries: Farming

• Appalachian Plateau
  o Products: Coal
  o Industries: Coal mining