

*George Washington's Socks*  
**Discussion Guide**  
Grades 4-5

**Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.**

- Why is it important to learn about history? In your opinion, what is the best way to learn about history?
- What do you know about George Washington and the Revolutionary War? Write on chart paper.
- Frontload vocabulary for chapters 1-3 (see vocabulary guide)

**During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections. Prompt students to provide support for their answers from the text.**

- Describe the characters: Matt, Q, Hooter, Tony, and Katie. (Ch. 1 & 2)
- Why does the adventure club decide to go for a night hike along the lake? (Ch.3)
- What is the legend of Lake Levart? (Ch.4)
- What happens at Lake Levart? (Ch.5, Ch.6, Ch.7)
- Who is Adam Hibbs? (Ch.4, Ch.8)
- What does Matt start to discover about experiencing history versus learning it from a textbook? Would you prefer to learn this way? Why or why not? (Ch.7, Ch.9, Ch.15, Ch.20)
- How are Israel and Matt similar?
- What happens to Israel? (Ch.13)
- What happens to Matt? (Ch.14)
- What happened to Matt's friends while he was with George Washington? (Ch.16)
- How do Matt and his friends finally get home? (Ch.19)

**After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.**

Research some of the important figures Matt and his friend's encounter: George Washington, the Hessians, Henry Knox. How does what you learned match with what Matt and his friends experience in the book?

Matt discovers that a lot of the realities of the Revolutionary War were left out of what he learned from his textbook. Pretend you're writing the textbook page for this time. What details would you make sure to include for people in the future?

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.