

School Tours of America

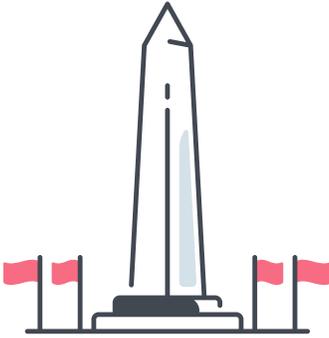
Photo Quest



Washington DC!

A photo quest is a scavenger hunt involving photography. Your job is to take photos on your trip of the items listed below and answer the question that accompanies it.

There are just a few things to keep in mind:

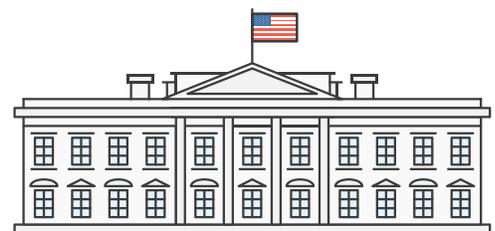


- Be aware of your surroundings. Be respectful of other visitors and the sanctity of your location.
- Get creative. Consider unique angles and aspects of your target.
- Enjoy the discovery process. Find something out of the ordinary about your target.

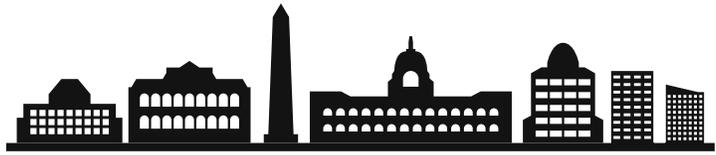


Photo List

- Your Tour Guide: What is his/her name? Where is he/she from?
- The Lincoln Memorial: What do the 36 columns of the memorial represent?
- The Jefferson Memorial: What is Jefferson holding in his hand? Why is it significant?
- The Washington Monument: How tall is the monument to our first president?
- The US Capitol: Whose statue from your state is in the Capitol building?
- A classmate: What is their favorite part of the trip?
- WWII Memorial: Can you find Kilroy? Take his picture at this memorial!
- Arlington National Cemetery: How many steps does the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier take?
- FDR Memorial: Which of the four "rooms" of the memorial is your favorite? Why?
- Holocaust Museum: What display was the most impactful to you? Why?
- Iwo Jima Memorial: What is the Marine motto? What does it mean?
- Korean War Memorial: What powerful message is inscribed at the base of the Pool of Remembrance?
- MLK, Jr Memorial: What is King's most famous speech that was given on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial?
- Mount Vernon: What is the famous river near Mount Vernon?
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial: What does the diamond symbol next to a name mean? A cross?
- The White House: What is the address of the White House?
- The Supreme Court: Which branch of government does the Supreme Court represent?
- The Smithsonian Institution: What was your favorite display? Why?
- You!: What is your favorite thing about Washington, DC?



Teacher Guide



WASHINGTON

Critical Thinking & Reflection: Photo Reflection Journals

Have students pick 1–3 of their photos and write about what they show, why they chose them, and what they learned.

Include questions like:

What was happening in this moment? What does this picture tell others about the place we visited? How did this moment make you feel?

Language Arts / Writing: Photo Story or Caption Writing

Students create a fictional or nonfictional story based on a photo they took or write engaging captions to turn their photos into a visual blog or class newsletter.

Social Studies / Science: Photo Research Project

Each student selects a photo showing something historical, cultural, or natural. They research and present a short explanation or mini-poster with: What it is, Why it's important, One interesting fact they learned, etc.

Art: Photo-Inspired Art or Collage

Use their photos as inspiration for drawings, watercolor paintings, or mixed-media collages. Combine multiple student photos into a large class mural.

Technology / Digital Literacy: Photo Slideshow or Digital Museum

Students use Google Slides, PowerPoint, or Canva to create a presentation about their experience. Add voiceovers or videos for a multimedia project.

Class Book Creation: "Our Trip Through Our Eyes" Book

Each student contributes one photo and one paragraph to a printed or digital class book. Include a table of contents and student-created cover art.

Presentation & Speaking Skills: Photo Show-and-Tell

Students pick a favorite photo and share why they took it and what it means to them. Practice using descriptive language and clear speaking.



Photo List Answer Key

- The Lincoln Memorial: What do the 36 columns of the memorial represent? **The 36 columns surrounding the Lincoln Memorial represent the 36 states that were in the Union at the time of President Lincoln's death.**
- The Jefferson Memorial: What is Jefferson holding in his left hand? Why is it significant? **Jefferson's bronze statue is depicted holding the Declaration of Independence in his left hand. The Declaration of Independence is significant because it was a foundational document of the United States, written primarily by Jefferson, and it outlines the principles of liberty and equality upon which the nation was founded.**
- The Washington Monument: How tall is the monument to our first president? **The Washington Monument, a memorial to George Washington, stands at 555 feet, 5.125 inches tall.**
- WWII Memorial: Can you find Kilroy? **"Kilroy was here", accompanied by a cartoon drawing of a man looking over a wall, was a popular piece of graffiti drawn by American troops in the Atlantic Theater and then later in the Pacific Theater. It came to be a universal sign that American soldiers had come through an area and left their mark.**
- Arlington National Cemetery: How many steps does the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier take? **The guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier takes 21 steps across the black mat in front of the tomb. This symbolic act represents the 21-gun salute, the highest military honor.**
- Iwo Jima Memorial: What is the Marine motto? What does it mean? **The U.S. Marine Corps motto is "Semper Fidelis," which translates to "Always Faithful" in Latin. It signifies a Marine's commitment to the Marine Corps, the United States, and fellow Marines. This motto has been the official motto since 1883.**
- Korean War Memorial: What powerful message is inscribed at the base of the Pool of Remembrance? **"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE." This message serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by those who served in the Korean War to protect freedom.**
- MLK, Jr Memorial: What is King's most famous speech that was given on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial? **"I Have a Dream"**
- Mount Vernon: What is the famous river near Mount Vernon? **The Potomac River.**
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial: What does the diamond symbol next to a name mean? A cross? **A diamond symbol next to a name indicates that the service member's death was confirmed. A cross symbol indicates that the service member was missing in action (MIA) at the time the memorial was built and remains unaccounted for.**
- The White House: What is the address of the White House? **1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500**
- The Supreme Court: Which branch of government does the Supreme Court represent? **The judicial branch.**

