

Featured Historical Figure Teaching Guide Sequoyah (c. 1760 – c.1840)



Henry Inman's Lithograph of Charles Byrd King's original portrait of Sequoyah in *The Indian Tribes of North America* by McKenney and Hall. From the Georgia Historical Society Rare Collection.

Description: This teacher guide was developed to accompany the Sequoyah Featured Historical Figure pages on the Georgia Historical Society Website (<http://georgiahistory.com/education-outreach/online-exhibits/featured-historical-figures/sequoyah/>)

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Georgia Standards for Excellence

Second Grade

- SS2H1 Describe the lives and contributions of historical figures in Georgia history.
- SS2H2 Describe the Georgia Creek and Cherokee cultures of the past in terms of tools, clothing, homes, ways of making a living, and accomplishments
- SS2G2 Describe the cultural and geographic systems associated with the historical figures in SS2H1 and Georgia's Creek and Cherokee in SS2H2.

Fourth Grade

- SS4H3 Explain westward expansion in America.

Eighth Grade

- SS8H4 Explain significant factors that affected westward expansion in Georgia between 1789 and 1840.

High School

- SSUSH4 Analyze the ideological, military, social, and diplomatic aspects of the American Revolution.
- SSUSH5 Investigate specific events and key ideas that brought about the adoption and implementation of the United States Constitution.
- SSUSH6 Analyze the challenges faced by the first five presidents and how they responded.

Suggested Vocabulary Terms

Vocabulary Term	Definition
assimilation	the process in which one group takes on the cultural and other traits of a larger group
Battle of Horseshoe Bend	The Battle of Horseshoe Bend occurred on March 27, 1814. Andrew Jackson and his Native American allies, including Cherokee, Choctaw, and some Creek fighters, defeated Red Stick Creek warriors effectively ending the Creek War during the American War of 1812.
clan	a group of families related through a common ancestor or marriage
literacy	the ability to read and write to a competent level
maternal	relating to or inherited from the mother or the mother's side of a family
negotiations	the reaching of agreement through discussion and compromise
nuclear families	a social unit that consists of a mother, a father, and their children
oral communication	communication through the mouth or individuals conversing with each other
skepticism	a doubting attitude
syllabary	list of characters representing syllables
treaties	formal contracts or agreements negotiated between countries or other political entities

Suggested Primary Sources

Georgia Historical Society Digital Image Catalog

Record of Spoliations (Claims), No. 1, 1836-1838, 1 volume. Kept by Wilson Lumpkin and John Kennedy, Commissioners appointed by President under Cherokee Treaty, 1835. From the Georgia Historical Society Manuscripts Collection, MS 927. <http://georgiahistory.pastperfect-online.com/37659cgi/mweb.exe?request=record:id=12FB6021-76FD-48F2-BF99-483792059175:type=301>

Letter from John A. Cuthbert to Hiram Warner Explaining U.S. Supreme Court Decision in *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832), June 10, 1834. From the Georgia Historical Society Manuscript Collection, MS 1721. <http://georgiahistory.pastperfectonline.com/archive/55381587-4464-4EED-B24A-628332261710>

Land grant to Elisha Strickland of Meriwether County, Georgia, January 13, 1834. From the Georgia Historical Society Manuscript Collection, MS 769.

<http://georgiahistory.pastperfectonline.com/archive/70B7B58E-11CB-49A9-BoE6-171501163247>

Digital Library of Georgia

Issues of the *Cherokee Phoenix* (1828 – 1834) available through the Digital Library of Georgia's Georgia Historic Newspaper database. <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/zlgn/id:chrkphnx>

Letter from Samuel A. Worcester to Governor George R. Gilmer, June 10, 1831. State Library Cherokee Collection, The Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, TN, presented in the Digital Library of Georgia. <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/zlna/id:ch045>

Letter in Cherokee with translation from George Lowrey to John Ross, January 5, 1838. State Library Cherokee Collection, The Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, TN, presented in the Digital Library of Georgia. <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/zlna/id:ch004>

"An Address to the Whites Delivered in the First Presbyterian Church on the 26th of May, 1826," Elias Boudinot. E99.C5 B65, The University of Georgia Libraries, presented in the Digital Library of Georgia. <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/zlna/id:bdt001>

"An Appeal of the Cherokees, to the People of the United States," September 11, 1830. E78 .G3 A6, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, The University of Georgia Libraries, presented in the Digital Library of Georgia. <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/zlna/id:pam005>

Documents in Relation to the Validity of the Cherokee Treaty of 1835 by Elias Boudinot. E99.C5 B7, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, The University of Georgia Libraries, presented in the Digital Library of Georgia <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/zlna/id:pam012>

Georgia Archives

Letter from Elias Boudinot to Georgia Governor Wilson Lumpkin, August 19, 1835. Georgia Archives Ad Hoc Collection. <http://vault.georgiaarchives.org/cdm/ref/collection/adhoc/id/1578>

Sequoyah Bibliography

In Print

Cushman, Ellen. *The Cherokee Syllabary: Writing the People's Perseverance*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2011.

Foreman, Grant. *Sequoyah*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1938.

Foster, George. *Se-Quo-Yah, The American Cadmus and Modern Moses*. Philadelphia: Office of Indian Rights Association, 1885.

Perdue, Theda, and Michael D. Green. *The Cherokee Nation and the Trail of Tears*. New York: Viking, 2007.

Shumate, Jane. *Sequoyah: Inventor of the Cherokee Alphabet*. New York: Chelsea House Publishers, 1994.

Waxman, Laura Hamilton. *Sequoyah*. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications, 2004.

Online

[Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History & Culture](#)

[New Georgia Encyclopedia](#)

[Cherokee Nation](#)

[The Sequoyah Birthplace Museum](#)



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