

### Washington Crosses the Delaware River

Below is one of the most famous paintings of the Revolutionary War and of American history. Painted by Emanuel Leutze in 1851, it depicts George Washington leading his soldiers through the treacherous and icy waters of the Delaware River on Christmas night 1776 to their eventual victory and capture of 800 Hessian Troops at Trenton, New Jersey. The victory at Trenton was a significant morale boost for the beleaguered Continental Army and came on the heels of devastating defeats in and around New York City and the near collapse of the Patriot effort. One of the little known facts about this iconic painting is that a wounded James Monroe, America's 5th president, is holding the Patriot flag behind George Washington. What do you think the soldiers were thinking, crossing the river with little protection from the cold on that fateful Christmas night? Fill in the blurbs next to General Washington and the three soldiers. Feel free to use some humor and to color the painting.

