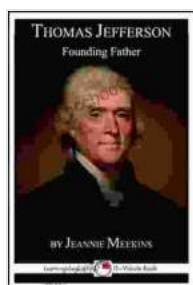


# Discover the Life and Legacy of Thomas Jefferson: A Comprehensive 15-Minute Biography

Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States, was a multifaceted figure who left an indelible mark on American history. As a Founding Father, he played a pivotal role in shaping the nation's identity and principles. His contributions spanned the realms of politics, philosophy, architecture, and education. In this comprehensive 15-minute biography, we will delve into the life and legacy of Thomas Jefferson, exploring his early years, political career, presidential accomplishments, and enduring impact.



## Thomas Jefferson: Founding Father: A 15-Minute Biography (15-Minute Books Book 634) by Jeannie Meekins

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2017 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 20 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## Early Years and Education

Thomas Jefferson was born on April 13, 1743, into a prominent Virginia plantation family. His father, Peter Jefferson, was a surveyor and planter.

His mother, Jane Randolph, instilled in him a love of learning and philosophy. From a young age, Jefferson displayed exceptional intellectual abilities and a voracious appetite for knowledge. He attended the College of William & Mary, where he excelled in mathematics, science, and law.

## **Political Career**

Jefferson's political career began in the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1769. He emerged as an eloquent and persuasive advocate for the rights of colonists against British taxation. In 1775, he was elected to the Continental Congress, where he played a significant role in drafting the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson's penmanship immortalized the famous words, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

## **Presidency**

Jefferson served as President of the United States from 1801 to 1809. His presidency was marked by several notable accomplishments. He oversaw the Louisiana Free Download, doubling the size of the United States and expanding its western boundaries. He also initiated the construction of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, sending Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the vast lands west of the Mississippi River.

## **Later Years and Legacy**

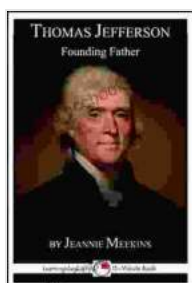
After retiring from the presidency, Jefferson returned to his beloved Monticello plantation in Virginia. He devoted himself to pursuing his passions, including architecture, horticulture, and scientific experimentation. He also founded the University of Virginia, one of the most prestigious universities in the nation. Thomas Jefferson passed away

on July 4, 1826, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of American independence.

## Jefferson's Impact

Thomas Jefferson's legacy extends far beyond the years of his life. He is considered one of the most influential Founding Fathers, his ideas and principles shaping American democracy. His contributions to architecture, with Monticello serving as a testament to his ingenuity, continue to inspire. As the founder of the University of Virginia, he left a lasting impact on education and intellectual inquiry.

Thomas Jefferson was a visionary leader, a brilliant thinker, and a tireless advocate for liberty and democracy. This 15-minute biography has provided a glimpse into his extraordinary life and enduring legacy. His contributions to the founding of the United States, his diplomatic achievements, and his pursuit of knowledge and learning continue to resonate with Americans today.



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