



Pre-Visit Activity

Grades 4 - 5

About King Manor

King Manor is the historic home of a man named Rufus King (1755 - 1827). Rufus King was a Founding Father of the United States who helped build the first United States government and signed an important document called the Constitution in 1787. He was also a passionate anti-slavery advocate, meaning he believed slavery was wrong and worked to try and change laws to make slavery illegal.



Rufus King and his family lived at King Manor from 1805 to 1827. He lived with his wife, Mary Alsop King (1769 - 1819) and their five children: John, James, Charles, Edward, and Frederick. King Manor was also a working farm, and Rufus hired workers to plant many different kinds of crops and care for the animals. Rufus was very interested in learning more about agriculture and enjoyed experimenting with soil, plants, and farming techniques.

After Rufus passed away, his oldest son John Alsop King (1788 - 1867) lived at the house with his family. John was also an anti-slavery advocate, speaking out against the Fugitive Slave Acts in 1850. When John passed away, his daughter Cornelia lived at King Manor. When she passed away in 1896, a group of women in Jamaica, Queens, decided to preserve the house. King Manor became a museum in 1900.



King Manor in History: A Timeline Activity

Teacher's Guide for Grades 4 - 5

King Manor Museum has over 250 years of history, but a lot can happen in 250 years! In this activity, students will learn about what was happening before, during, and after Rufus King and his family lived in Jamaica to understand where King Manor fits in the broader timeline of American history.

You Will Need:

- A set of printouts (p. 4 - 8) for each student group
- Print out p. 9, one (1) per student
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue sticks (optional)
- Pencils
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

STEP ONE: Split students into small groups. Have students take a moment to read the date strips and familiarize themselves with the dates and events listed. If you have time, you may choose to provide materials to allow students to look up information they don't know.

STEP TWO: Have students tape their timelines together and cut out their date strips.

STEP THREE: Students should work together to construct their timeline, gluing or taping their strips to the spaces on the timeline.

STEP FOUR: Once the timeline is constructed, have students work with their groups and use crayons, colored pencils, or markers to color code their timelines. Choose 1 color for each of the following categories:

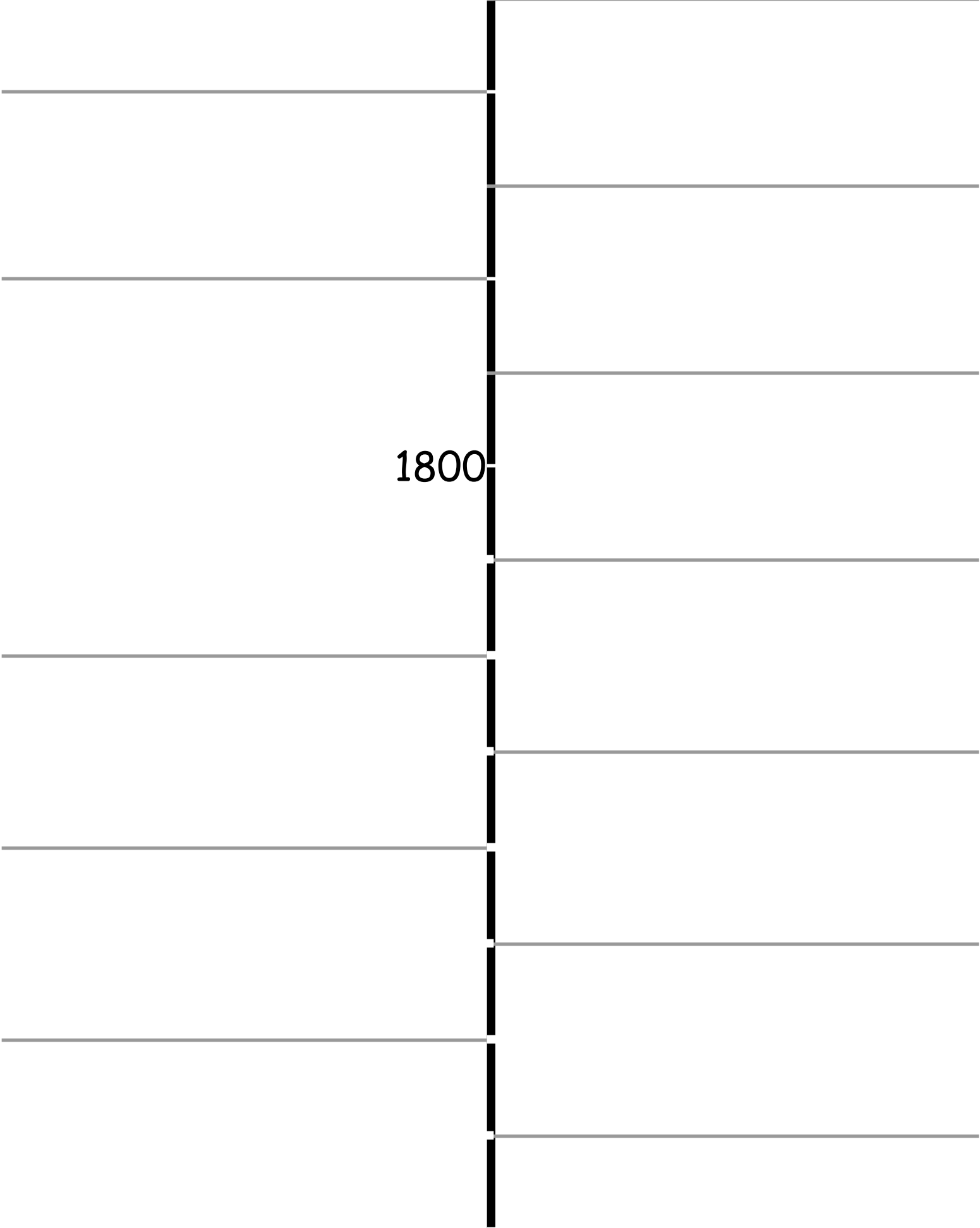
- People
- Events
- Inventions
- King Manor

Students may choose to use more than one color on each date strip.

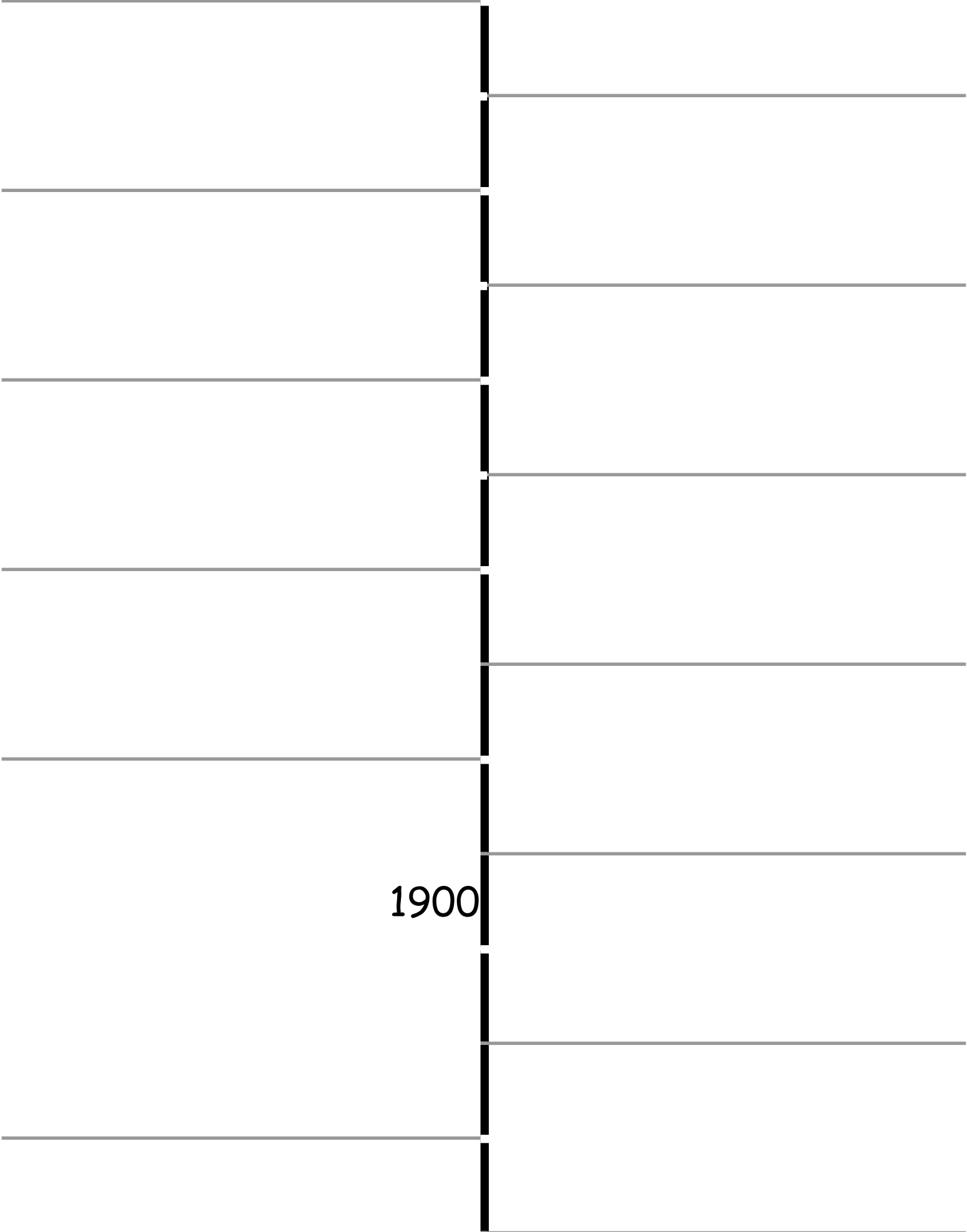
STEP FIVE: Have students complete the worksheet (p. 9) individually. When finished, have the groups turn and talk about their answers. You may choose to have a representative from each group share with the rest of the class.

1600

1700



1800



1900

Timeline Date Strips

Cut out each strip and glue or tape it to your timeline.

1732 - George Washington is born	1799 - George Washington dies
1755 - Rufus King is born	1809 - Abraham Lincoln is born
1827 - Rufus King dies	1786 - Rufus and Mary's wedding
1769 - Mary Alsop King is born	1788 - John Alsop King is born
1867 - John Alsop King dies	1819 - Mary Alsop King dies
1929 - Martin Luther King, Jr. is born	1609 - The Dutch settle in New Amsterdam
1805 - Rufus King buys King Manor	1640 - The first printing press in America
1878 - The typewriter becomes popular	1879 - Thomas Edison patents the first commercial light bulb
1775 - The American Revolution begins	1861 - The Civil War begins
1783 - The American Revolution ends	1865 - The Civil War ends
1787 - Rufus King signs the new United States Constitution	1863 - The Emancipation Proclamation declares all enslaved people in America will be freed

1750 - King Manor is built	1820 - Rufus King makes an important speech against slavery
1664 - New Amsterdam becomes New York	1620 - The Pilgrims arrive in America
1793 - Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin	1893 - The first automobiles in America
1812 - The first steam locomotive train in America	2007 - The first iPhone is sold

Name

Date

Timeline Think Sheet

Using your timeline, think about and answer the following questions.

There are too many people, events, and inventions in all of American history to list on this timeline! Think about what you already know about American history and choose two (2) people, events, or inventions that you would add to your timeline:

Why do you believe the people, events, or inventions you chose are important to add?

What are you hoping to learn at King Manor? Write down one (1) question you will ask on your trip to King Manor.

