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The story of Thomas Jefferson

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Hundreds of years ago, in a small village called Shadwell in Virginia, there lived a curious boy named Thomas Jefferson. Thomas was born on April 13, 1743, and he loved to read books, play the violin, and explore the outdoors. Little did he know that one day he would become one of the most important people in American history.

Thomas grew up to be a tall, red-haired man with a passion for knowledge. He studied at the College of William & Mary, where he learned about many subjects including law, history, and politics. He was so smart that he could speak and write in several languages!

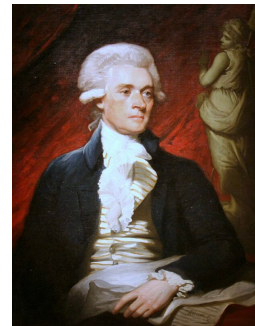
In 1776, when the American colonies decided they wanted to be free from British rule, Thomas was asked to write the Declaration of Independence. This important document explained why the colonies should be independent and listed the rights that all people should have, like "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Thomas was not only a great writer, but he also became a leader. He was the governor of Virginia, the first Secretary of State, and the third President of the United States! As president, he made many important decisions, like buying a big piece of land called the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the country.

But that's not all! Thomas also loved science, architecture, and inventing new things. He designed his own beautiful home, Monticello, and invented many useful objects, like a swivel chair and a special clock. He even founded the University of Virginia so that other people could learn and become great leaders too.

We celebrate Thomas Jefferson's birthday on April 13th because he was a founding father of the United States and a symbol of freedom and democracy. His ideas about individual rights and equality have influenced people all around the world, and his many accomplishments have left a lasting impact on our nation's history.

And so, children, whenever you see a picture of Thomas Jefferson, remember the curious boy from Shadwell who loved to learn and explore. Think of how he used his intelligence and passion to change the world, and let his story inspire you to follow your dreams and make the world a better place, just like he did.



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