



## Lesson Two: Founding Mothers

Remember to **record your answers** [here on this Google Forms](#) sheet!

*SAT Reading Comprehension Tip!* Read the questions **before** you look at the links for each section.

Watch this short (1 minute) [“Graveside Chat” on the Founding Mothers.](#)

[Read this short summary about Elizabeth Powel.](#)

1. How was Elizabeth Powel in a position to meet George Washington?
2. Skim [over this letter](#) written by Elizabeth Powel to President George Washington. What is one reason she gives to encourage him to run again for office?
3. Elizabeth Powel became known for her “salons.” A few blocks away from the Powel house, Christ Church member Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson also held salons. Scholars think hers were the first in North America, also attended by Benjamin Rush and other notable people in Philadelphia. Read a little more about [Fergusson here](#).

What nickname did Ferguson give her salons?

4. In the “Graveside Chat,” Burial Ground manager John Hopkins references the phrase “Remember the Ladies,” words that direct our attention to America’s Founding Mothers.

What famous woman first penned this phrase in a letter to her husband? You can read this [letter here](#).

5. What does the author of the letter say will happen if the men — whom we know today as the Founding Fathers — do not pay attention to the role of women in the Revolutionary effort?

6. [This \*Mental Floss\* article includes brief profiles](#) of several women who helped to win the Revolutionary War. Read over them and pick TWO figures from the list.
7. Imagine you are going to a salon as **one of** these women. Who would it be? Pretend to be that woman for a moment. How would she dress? What would she sound like?
8. Now pretend that, as this woman, you are going to a salon during the Revolutionary Era -- at the home of either Elizabeth Powel or Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson. What other people from the time will be there? Name at least four.
9. Pretend that you are bringing a guest to the salon with you -- this is the **second character** you selected from the article. Write a paragraph of introduction in which you will introduce your friend to the group knowing only what you learned from the article.

Remember to use your character's voice!

**Discussion Question:** Review once again the brief biography of Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson, a controversial figure. Should she be considered a "Founding Mother" in the same sense as Abigail Adams or Elizabeth Powel? See if you can include another figure -- from any era -- to compare her to in your answer.