

## **Pre Visit Activities for Roger Williams: Champion of Religious Freedom**

1. Make copies of the editor's introduction on pages 2 and 3 of the Cobblestones Magazine from September 1998. Tell the students to read the article to gain background knowledge on Roger Williams. While they are reading, they should underline any information that will help them understand why Roger Williams is important.

The students will then write a short argument in which they make the claim that Roger Williams was very important to our state and country and cite evidence from the text to support that claim.

Alternative: The teacher will read the excerpt from the Cobblestones Magazine to the class and then lead a discussion of why Roger Williams is important to Rhode Island and the United States.

CCSS correlations:

R1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

W1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

2. Have the students write down any questions about Roger Williams that they would like to ask the National Park Service Ranger who will visit their classroom.

CCSS correlation:

SL1a (for grades 3 – 5) Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material, explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.