What is a Monument?
Why are they made?
We’re so glad you asked so we can discuss today!
Monuments can be big, they can also be small
Some are men on horses, standing high and tall.
Some are so tiny and you many not even notice.
Many are created to celebrate a POTUS
The purpose of monuments? There are many opinions.
You’ll find many ideas throughout the Old Dominion.
Some celebrate those who gave their life,
Or started a business, or overcame strife.
Some are for people who were admired and brave,
And some are for individuals formerly enslaved.
Some monuments were made to let people know,
This is our community and we aren’t going to go.
The thing to remember when you think about these statues is that it’s not history, but feelings represented on our avenues. Monuments can be created out of bronze, marble and wood, and looking at them may not always make you feel good.
Because history is hard, complicated and sad,
But how we view our stories can change, and for this we are glad.
Some monuments don’t even look like people and that is okay
They represent a right that was given or one taken away.
Who decides what monuments stay and which go?  
The city, state and people decide and this you must know  
Our city, you know, is always changing  
And so there is always room for rearranging.
So think right now, my smart clever friends
About someone you like and may recommend
To be put on display for all to see
So that the world can know, this person is important to me!
HISTORY MAKER BINGO
I was born here:
I sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and traveled up the Powhatan river until my ship could go no further. I brought supplies and people to the Jamestown Settlement.....
In Richmond, my monument looks like this....some people say that I placed a cross in honor of King James of England, while others say that I told the Powhatan people the cross was a symbol our societies were joining together.....
I am.....

Christopher Newport!
I was born in what you all call the tidewater region of Virginia, but my family called it Tsenacommacah, it was a nation of many different tribes and my father ruled them all....
My father was Powhatan. My birth name was Amonute but I was also called Matoaka...
There is a monument to me at a place called Jamestown, where some historians believe I brought food and help to the settlers who were starving....
I am....

Pocahontas
I am from Virginia and I lived outside of Charlottesville. The name of my house is Monticello or little mountain, and you can still visit today.
I was the third president of the United States and I penned the Declaration for Independence, declaring independence from Great Britain and the Statute for Religious Freedom that said Americans could worship any religion they wanted. My contributions helped found our nation.
You can find monuments to me all over Richmond. It was here that I designed the state capitol and drafted the Statute for Religious Freedom. You can even find a hotel named after me!
I AM.....

Thomas Jefferson
I was born during the Civil War in Church Hill. My mom was a laundress. I helped her with her job while I went to school and became a teacher.
Later in life I became a business woman and started a bank in the Jackson Ward neighborhood of Richmond. I was the first American Woman to establish a bank and become a bank president.
In Richmond, you can find two monuments to my life: One is my house located in historic Jackson Ward and the other is this sculpture which was unveiled in 2018.
I am.... Maggie Walker!
This is my favorite sport!
I was the first African American to win Wimbledon!
I gave back to my community and encouraged literacy and became an advocate for people living with HIV. You can find a monument to me on Monument Ave!
I Am.....

Arthur Ashe!