

## Título: Sarmiento's life, ideas and ideals

**Área Curricular:** Lengua Extranjera Inglés.

**Año/Ciclo:** Secundaria (3er Ciclo Básico y Ciclo Orientado). Se sugiere adaptar al nivel y características de los alumnos.

**Contenidos:** WH- questions, Simple Past.

**Descripción de la actividad:** Relacionar una imagen alusiva a la fecha con palabras. Leer un texto en pasado. Elegir el significado apropiado de palabras del texto. Determinar si las afirmaciones son verdaderas o falsas. Completar oraciones con vocabulario del texto. Leer dato curioso.

**Fuente Bibliográfica:** *Celebrating Our Heritage 200 years 200 ideas* (RICHMOND) Cooper P., Lagarrigue R., Samur C. - Buenos Aires - Santillana (2012)



1- Observa la imagen. ¿Conoces a este hombre?. Tacha las expresiones que no puedas relacionar a la imagen. Justifica.

Look at the picture. Do you know this man? Cross out the expressions you cannot relate the image to. Justify.



Independence – Education – President – Writer – San Juan-  
Teachers – Battle - Zoo and botanicals garden- Triumvirate-  
military - schools



## 2-Lee el texto.

## Read the text

**Teacher's Day: SARMIENTO'S LIFE, IDEAS AND IDEALS**

Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, known as 'the school teacher of Latin America', was born in 1811 in a poor neighbourhood in the city of San Juan, Argentina, and died in Paraguay in 1888. His father fought in Belgrano's army and joined San Martín for the crossing of the Andes. His mother sold ponchos to be able to feed her children. In spite of all the problems the family suffered, they believed that their children should have a good education. Sarmiento could read well when he was 4 and went to school at the age of 5. He studied at *Escuela de la Patria* which was founded by the First Patriotic Government. He started learning on his own when he was 12 and passed all the school courses available. By the age of 15, he had opened a school with his uncle and was already working as a teacher. He married Benita Martínez Pastoriza in 1848 who already had a son, Dominguito, who became Sarmiento's adoptive child.

Throughout his life, Sarmiento fought with passion and conviction to promote and develop education. As president of Argentina, he was a pioneer in developing and regulating a modern and private educational system in a largely illiterate world. The first national census, which he carried out in 1869, showed that 82% of the population were illiterate. As there were few educators and few schools, Sarmiento brought teachers from North America to teach children and train local teachers.

He opened some technical and military schools, created some teacher training colleges and built 800 schools. Sarmiento also founded an Observatory and some libraries and museums. He wrote books on how to teach language, mathematics and science and launched a special magazine for teachers called '*El Monitor*'. Among his many other books, there are two which are very famous: '*Recollections of a Provincial Past and Facundo or Civilisation and Barbarism*'. One of his greatest achievements was the establishment of compulsory public education at primary level which was made available to all regardless of gender, age, race, religion or socio-economic status.

Sarmiento was an active man who worked tirelessly to improve the social conditions of the inhabitants of his country. He dreamt of a prosperous and civilised nation. For this reason, he encouraged immigration and improved trade, agriculture, transport and telecommunications. He was a writer, journalist, military man and teacher but he also held public office on several occasions. In 1862 he became Governor of San Juan and from 1868 to 1874 he was President of Argentina. When he left office he was elected Senator for San Juan. His political career was the coronation to an active life full of projects, plans and dreams that he managed to materialise. The day he died, 11 September, 1888, is when we honour him by celebrating Teacher's Day.

3- Observa las palabras en **negrita** y elige el significado que tienen en el texto entre las opciones.

Look at the words in **bold** and circle its meaning in the text from the options.

- **Throughout**: all over – all round - incompletely
- **Illiterate**: analphabetic – educated - unlettered
- **Launch**: trough – phase out - release
- **Achievements**: accomplishments – non fulfillment - performance
- **Establishments**: initiation – close down - founding



4- ¿Son éstas afirmaciones verdaderas o falsas?

Are these statements true or false?

- Domingo F. Sarmiento was born in 1811. (\_\_\_)
- Sarmiento's father joined San Martin for crossing the Andes. (\_\_\_)
- Sarmiento could read well when he was 5. (\_\_\_)
- He was elected president in 1868 and promoted the first national census in 1869. (\_\_\_)
- He didn't find an observatory and libraries. (\_\_\_)
- He was governor of San Juan between 1862 – 1867. (\_\_\_)



5- Completa las oraciones usando las palabras en el cuadro.

Complete the sentences using the words from the box.

***Train – tirelessly - dreamt – teach - believed***

- 1- Sarmiento was a man who worked \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- He brought teachers from North America to \_\_\_\_\_ children and \_\_\_\_\_ local teachers.
- 3- His parents \_\_\_\_\_ that their children should have a good education.
- 4- Sarmiento \_\_\_\_\_ a prosperous and civilized Nation.



Dato curioso ¿sabías que...?

**Did you know...?**

***SARMIENTO Created the Buenos Aires Zoo and the Botanical gardens. Today we value his hard work and acknowledge as THE TEACHER OF LATINAMERICA!***