

Really Good Gazette

All The Stuff That's Fun To Learn!

Presidential Election Edition

Volume 001

★ PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ON THE HORIZON ★

What Does the President Do? ★

The president is the leader of our country. The president makes many important decisions. He or she works with other people in our government to make laws. The president travels around the world and works with leaders of other countries to solve problems and work toward peace.

REALLY GOOD RIDDLE

Q. Which American president wore the largest hat?

A. The one with the biggest head!

★ Who Can Be President?

The president can be a man or a woman. It doesn't matter what race or religion the person is. To be president, the person has to be at least 35 years old. He or she has to have been born in the United States and must have lived in this country for at least 14 years.

REALLY GOOD JOKE

Q. Why does history keep repeating itself?

A. Because we weren't listening the first time!

Presidential Campaign ★

People work very hard to help their favorite candidate get elected president. Campaign workers put up signs, write articles, and make phone calls to try to get people to vote for that person. The candidates have debates on television. During the debates, the candidates answer questions that are important to the American people. The debates often help people decide which candidate they are going to vote for in the election.



The White House

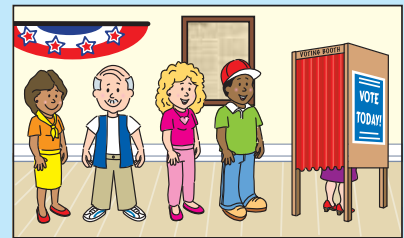
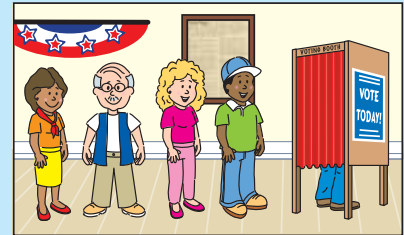


What Is a Candidate? ★

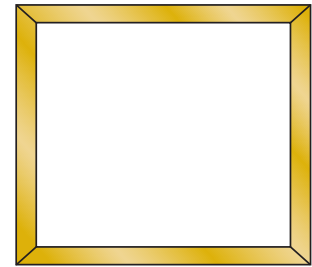
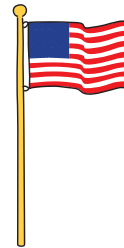
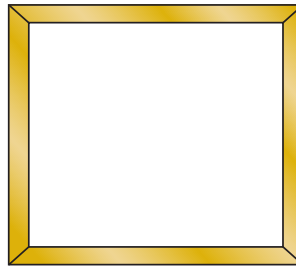
A candidate is a person who wants to be elected president. A candidate must make voters believe he or she would be a good leader. Candidates travel around the country to tell their ideas to people. Each candidate belongs to a group, called a party. Most candidates belong to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. Other candidates belong to an independent party.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Here is a set of drawings of people at a polling place on Election Day waiting for their turn to vote for president. The pictures look similar but are not exactly the same. Try to find the differences in the pictures and circle the six things that are different.

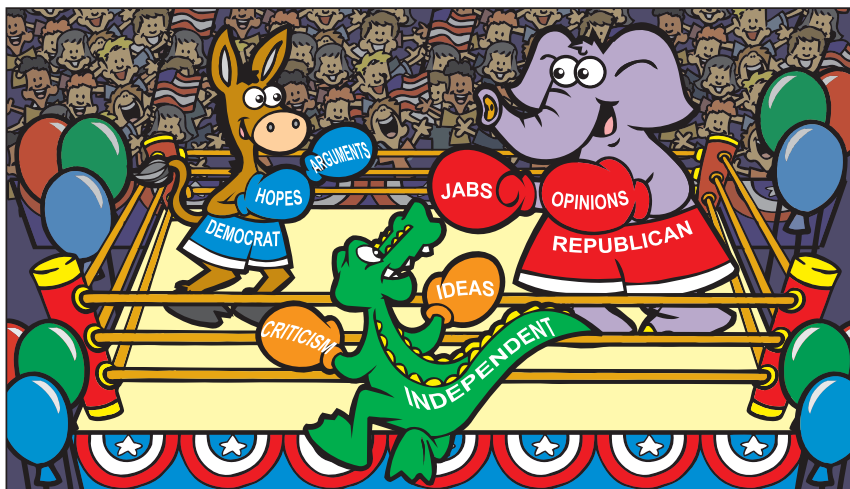


Write the name of each major presidential candidate, and draw or paste a picture of them in the picture frame below.



Democratic Candidate

Republican Candidate



Write your own caption: _____

★ Choosing Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates

Before a president is elected, he or she has to be picked to be the party's candidate. There are usually two major candidates, one from the Democratic Party and one from the Republican Party. Each party votes for a candidate at a very big meeting, called a convention. The people in each party choose the things they want their candidate to do if he or she becomes president. The winning candidate then picks a person he or she would like to have as vice president.

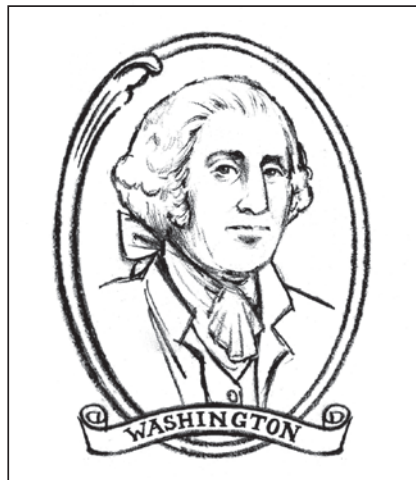
Choosing a vice president is a very important decision. Voters care about who might become vice president, because if something happens to the president and he or she can no longer serve the country, the vice president becomes the president.



Election Day

The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November is Election Day. Every four years, American citizens who are registered to vote go to polling places and vote for their choice for president. A person has to be at least 18 years old and a United States citizen to vote.

Each state has a certain number of electoral votes. The more people that live in a state, the more electoral votes that state gets. In most states, the candidate who receives the most votes gets all the electoral votes. The candidate who wins 270 electoral votes becomes the president!



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ The First President of the United States ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In 1789, George Washington became the first president of the United States of America. He was a strong and wise leader of our brand new country. He was so popular that he was elected for a second term. In fact, people trusted his leadership so much that they wanted him to be president for a third term!

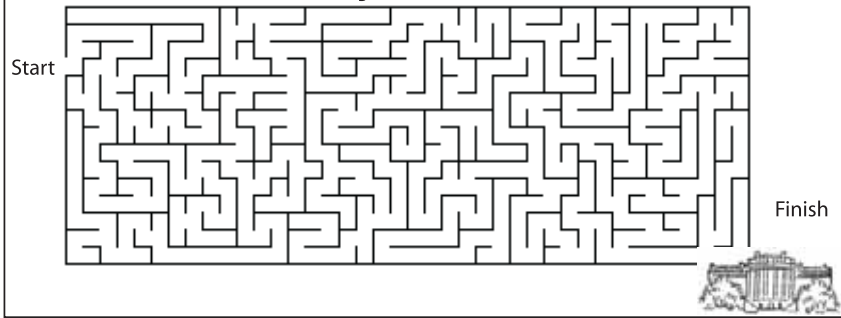
Washington said he would not serve as president for a third term. He believed that the government was running well and that it was time for someone else to be president. So in 1796, he wrote a speech that is known as his farewell address. His words from that speech are still important today:

"Beware of attacks upon the Constitution. Beware of those who think more of their party than of their country. Promote education. Observe justice. Treat with good faith all nations. Adhere to the right. Be united—be united. Love your country."

Important Words to Know

- **ballot:** a form used in voting
- **campaign:** an effort to work together to get someone elected to office
- **candidate:** someone who is wants to be elected to a political office
- **citizen:** someone who lives in the country and is entitled to vote
- **convention:** a meeting where a political party chooses its candidate
- **debate:** gatherings where candidates discuss and argue about ideas that are important to our country
- **Democrat:** a person who is a member of the Democratic Party
- **Democratic Party:** one of the two major political parties in the United States
- **electoral votes:** the number of votes each state has to elect the president (based on the number of people who live in that state)
- **oath:** a promise
- **polling location:** a place where people vote
- **primary:** an election that political parties hold to choose a candidate to support in the presidential election.
- **political party:** people who are joined together by common interests and goals that they believe are important to our country
- **Republican:** a person who belongs to the Republican Party
- **Republican Party:** one of the two major political parties in the United States
- **term:** how long a person holds a political office

Find Your Way to the White House



Wacky Facts

- Our first president, George Washington, was the only president to be inaugurated in two cities—New York and Philadelphia.
- Our fifth president, James Monroe, was shot in the shoulder during the Revolutionary War, and he never had the bullet removed.
- Our 13th president, Millard Fillmore, had the first bathtub installed in the White House.

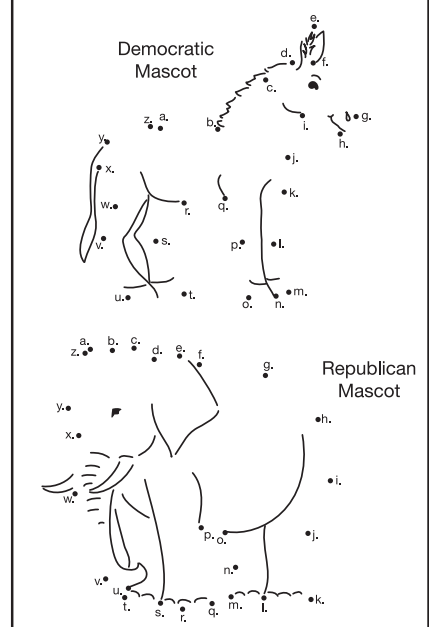
- Our 18th president, Ulysses S. Grant, got a speeding ticket and a \$20 fine for riding his horse too fast.
- Our 22nd and our 24th presidents were the same person: Grover Cleveland.
- Our 26th president, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt once saved a bear cub. The story became famous so a toymaker asked the president's permission to name a toy bear for him. That bear became the first teddy bear!

Inauguration Day



The person who wins the election in November is sworn in as president on January 20. The day the president is sworn in is called Inauguration Day. The inauguration takes place in Washington, D.C. The new president takes an oath to do the best job possible to lead our country with honor.

Connect the Dots to Find the Symbols for the Major Political Parties



Crossword Puzzle

Across

2. What candidates do when they run for office
6. Political parties choose their candidate at a _____.
8. A _____ is a person who belongs to the Democratic Party.
10. The name of the form people use to cast their vote

Down

1. A _____ is a member of the Republican Party.
3. What we call a person who is running for a political office such as the president
4. The type of election where parties choose a candidate
5. What it's called when candidates discuss and argue about important issues
6. A person must be a _____ in order to vote.
7. The length of time a person holds an office
9. Another word for a promise

