

## PRESIDENTIAL SCAVENGER HUNT

Learning Objectives: Students will:

1. use research skills to locate information on former Presidents
2. create a game using information located
3. work cooperatively with other students to find information

TEKS: SS 3.17B, 18B, 4.21A, 5.19B, 24A; LA 3,26B; 4.24B

Materials Needed: resource materials on former Presidents, computers with internet access, copies of worksheet, supplies for making a game

Vocabulary: impeached, assassinated, bachelor, Supreme Court Justice

Teaching Strategy:

1. Introduce lesson by asking students to identify which President is described in each of these sentences:
  - a. This President was 69 years old when elected. (Reagan)
  - b. Our tallest President was \_\_\_\_\_? (Lincoln, 6'4")
  - c. This President's picture is on the one-dollar bill. (Washington)
  - d. This President was the first to appear on TV (Franklin Roosevelt)
2. Divide students into groups of four or five, and inform students that they are going to participate in a Presidential Scavenger Hunt, in which they will find out interesting facts about many of our former Presidents. This will be a race to see which group finishes first.
3. Distribute worksheets for recording information. (attached)
4. Allow students to divide up the questions as they choose, or more than one student may be working on the same question. Make available suitable resource materials, including books, magazines, reference materials, and internet sites for the students to use in finding information.
5. Allow adequate time for students to complete the questions, allowing the team that finishes first to have a treat of some kind (game time, snacks, etc.)
6. When all groups have found the necessary information, each group will create a game, using the Presidential trivia information. Supply necessary materials. Possible choices of games include:

- a. Crossword puzzle
  - b. Wordsearch
  - c. Matching Game
  - d. Card Game, such as "Go Fishing"
  - e. Name That President
7. Each group will make their game available for other groups to it. Copies may be needed of some games.
  8. Allow students to play each other's games and give feedback to the creator of the games.
  9. Students will complete the following statements:
    - a. The most interesting thing I learned about a former President is \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. I (would/would not) want to be President because \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. If I were President, one thing I would try to change is \_\_\_\_\_

**G/T Extension:**

Students might find it interesting to find information on First Ladies of the United States. This would require research that is more extensive. Students could create a composite of what the ideal First Lady would be like, drawing on characteristics of all former First Ladies.

**Answer key:**

1. Franklin Roosevelt
2. James Madison
3. William Taft
4. William Taft and John Kennedy
5. Lincoln, McKinley, and Garfield
6. William Henry Harrison
7. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams
8. Richard Nixon
9. Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton
10. Jimmy Carter
11. Gerald Ford
12. James Buchanan
13. William Taft
14. George W. Bush
15. John Quincy Adams



## Presidential Scavenger Hunt

1. This President is the only President to have been elected four times. \_\_\_\_\_
2. This President was only 5'4", our shortest President. \_\_\_\_\_
3. This President weighed over 300 pounds and once got stuck in the bathtub. \_\_\_\_\_
4. These two Presidents are the only ones buried at Arlington National Cemetery.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Four Presidents were assassinated while they were President. They were  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. **This President died only one month after taking office.** \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. **These two Presidents died on the same day – July 4<sup>th</sup>.** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
8. **This President was the first to visit all 50 states.**  
\_\_\_\_\_
  

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9. **These two Presidents were impeached.**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
10. **This President was a peanut farmer.** \_\_\_\_\_
  
11. **This President played college football for the University of Michigan.** \_\_\_\_\_
  
12. **This President was a bachelor.** \_\_\_\_\_
  
13. **This President was later a Supreme Court Justice**  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
14. **This President once owned a major league baseball team.** \_\_\_\_\_
  
15. **This President had an alligator for a pet.**  
\_\_\_\_\_