

# President's Day Unit

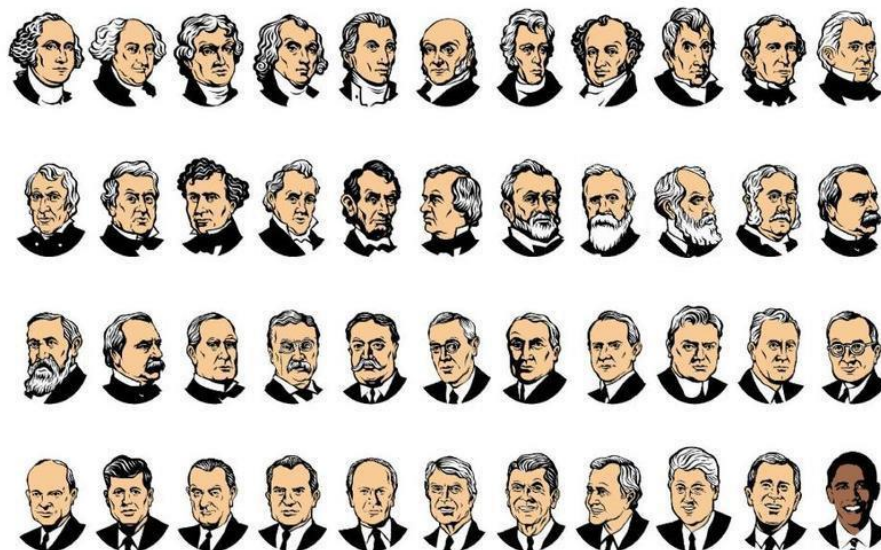
with Thinking Maps



# Happy President's Day

In FEBRUARY we celebrate a holiday called President's Day. On this day we celebrate our country's presidents. There have been many presidents in the history of the United States and on this day, we celebrate them and their contributions. FEBRUARY is close to the birthdays of both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln so we celebrate this month.

The United States of America has had 45 presidents since George Washington became the first president in 1789. All of these men have worked hard for our country and our democracy.



# George Washington



George Washington was our first president. He fought in the Revolutionary War which won America's freedom from Great Britain. He helped create the United States and the presidency.

# Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was the 3<sup>rd</sup> president of the United States of America. He was the main author of the Declaration of Independence which explained why the United States wanted to be its own country.



# Abraham Lincoln



Abraham Lincoln was the 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States. He led the country during the Civil War when our country was divided and fighting one another. Lincoln kept the country together and united as one. He signed the Emancipation Proclamation which eventually led to the end of slavery.

# Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt

Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt was the 26<sup>th</sup> president of our country. He loved to be outdoors and is most remembered for protecting the land in our country and helping to create National Parks.





# Franklin D. Roosevelt



Franklin D. Roosevelt was the 32<sup>nd</sup> president of the United States of America. At a time when our country was very poor and people were struggling, he helped make more jobs that helped a lot of people. He is the only president who was elected three times to office. He is also remembered for leading the country through World War II.



# John F. Kennedy



Our 35<sup>th</sup> president was John F. Kennedy. He was president when Martin Luther King Jr. led the Civil Rights Movement. He felt it was very important to treat each other equally and fairly. Kennedy is also remembered for keeping the United States out of war with the Soviet Union during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

# Ronald Reagan



Our 40<sup>th</sup> president was Ronald Reagan who was a famous actor before he became president. He was a conservative president who was very popular. Reagan helped improve the economy and also helped tear down a giant wall in Berlin, Germany so that Germany could be a united country.

# Barack Obama



Our 44<sup>th</sup> president was Barack Obama. He was also the United States' first African-American president. Obama was a senator before he became president for eight years. He worked hard to keep our country safe and make it a great place to live.

# Donald Trump

Donald Trump is the current president of the United States of America. He was a businessman before he became president in 2017. He wants to help our country by creating new jobs and bringing more business to the United States.





# Currency

A lot of the United States presidents are on the country's currency, coins and bills. This is one way we recognize the efforts and achievements of these important people of America's history.

Abraham  
Lincoln





Franklin D.  
Roosevelt





Thomas  
Jefferson





George Washington

Abraham Lincoln



Andrew Jackson

Ulysses S. Grant



# Thinking Map Ideas



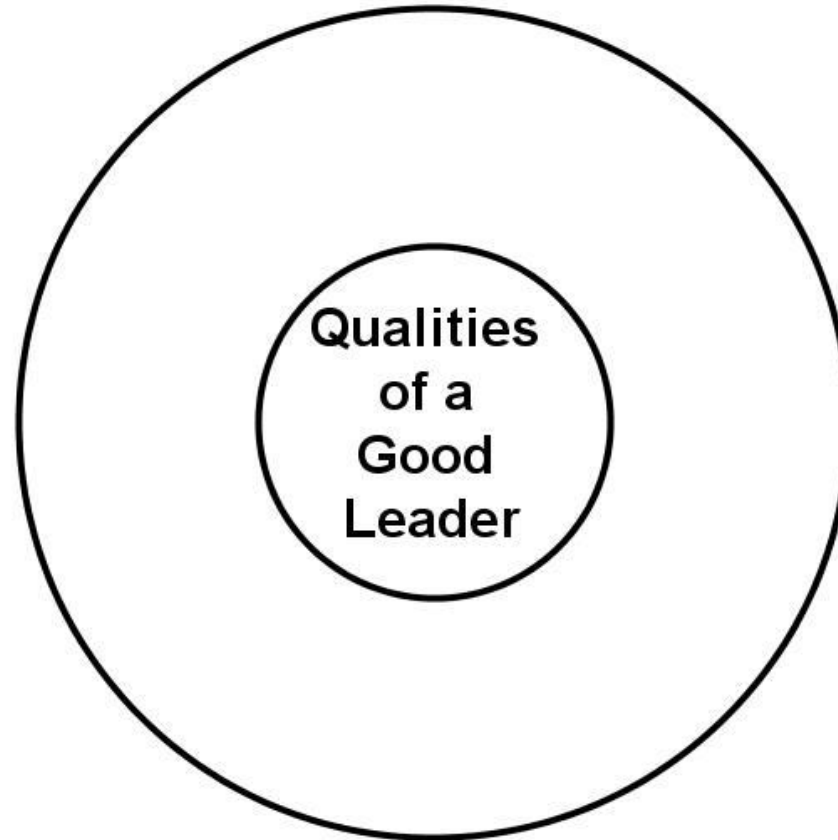
**What do we  
know about  
Abraham  
Lincoln?**





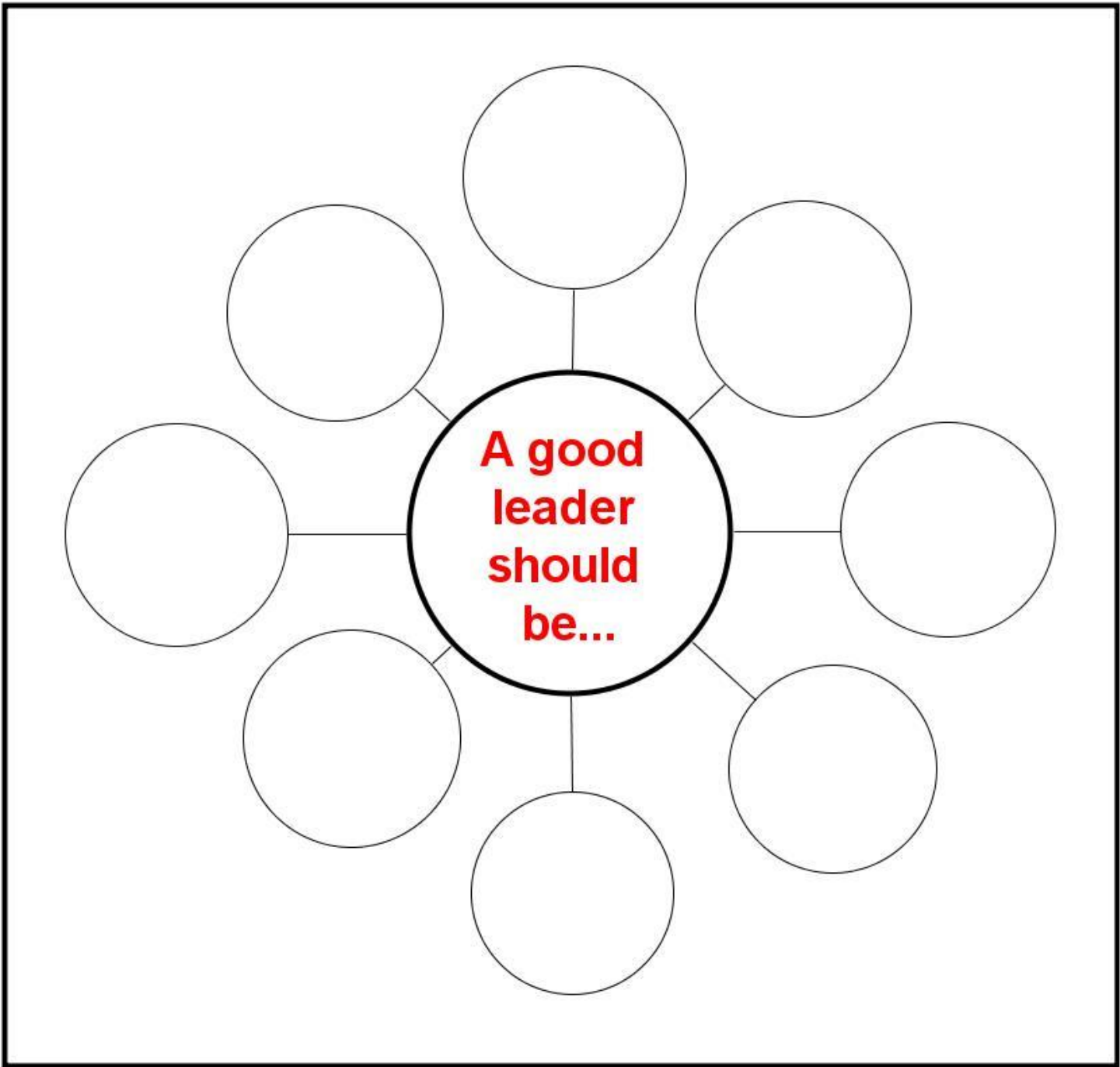
**What do we  
know about  
George  
Washington?**

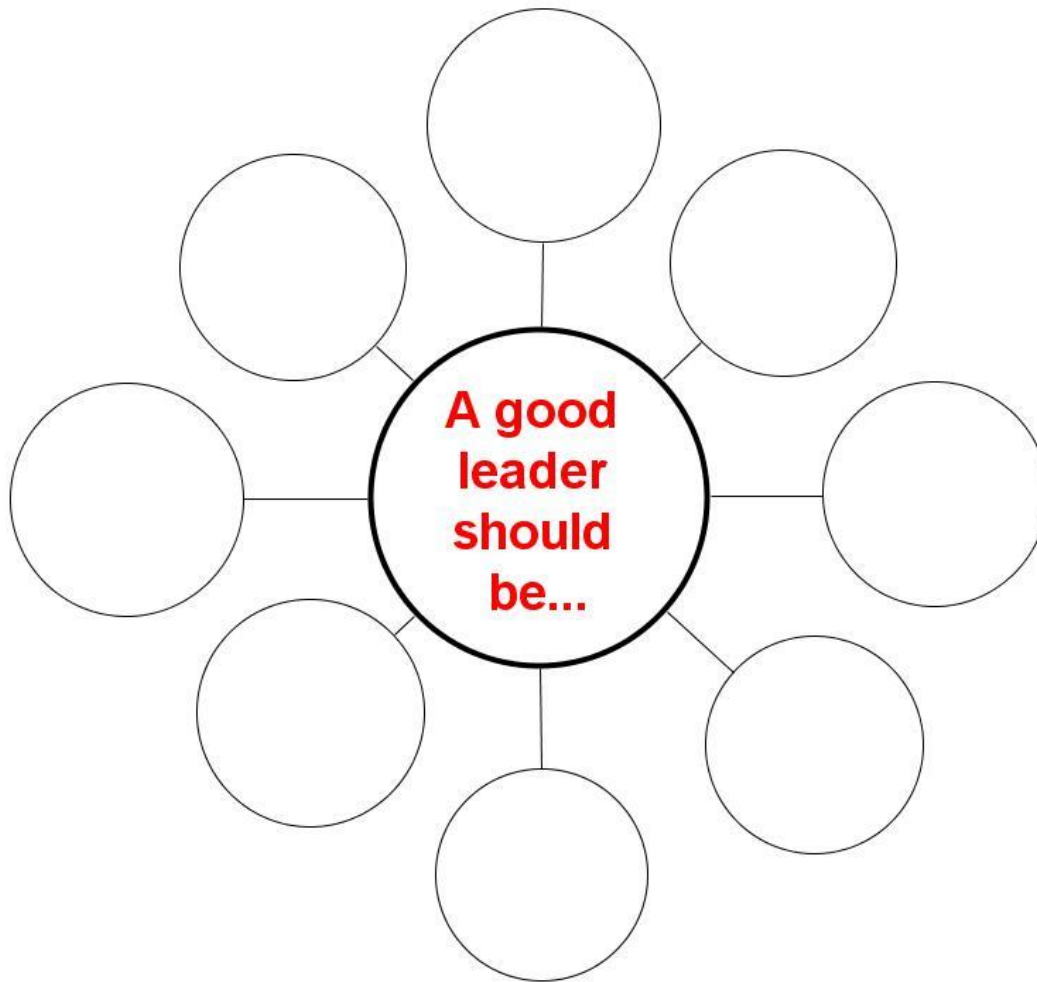
**Name some leaders  
that you have heard of.**



**What might happen if a  
leader is not a good person?**

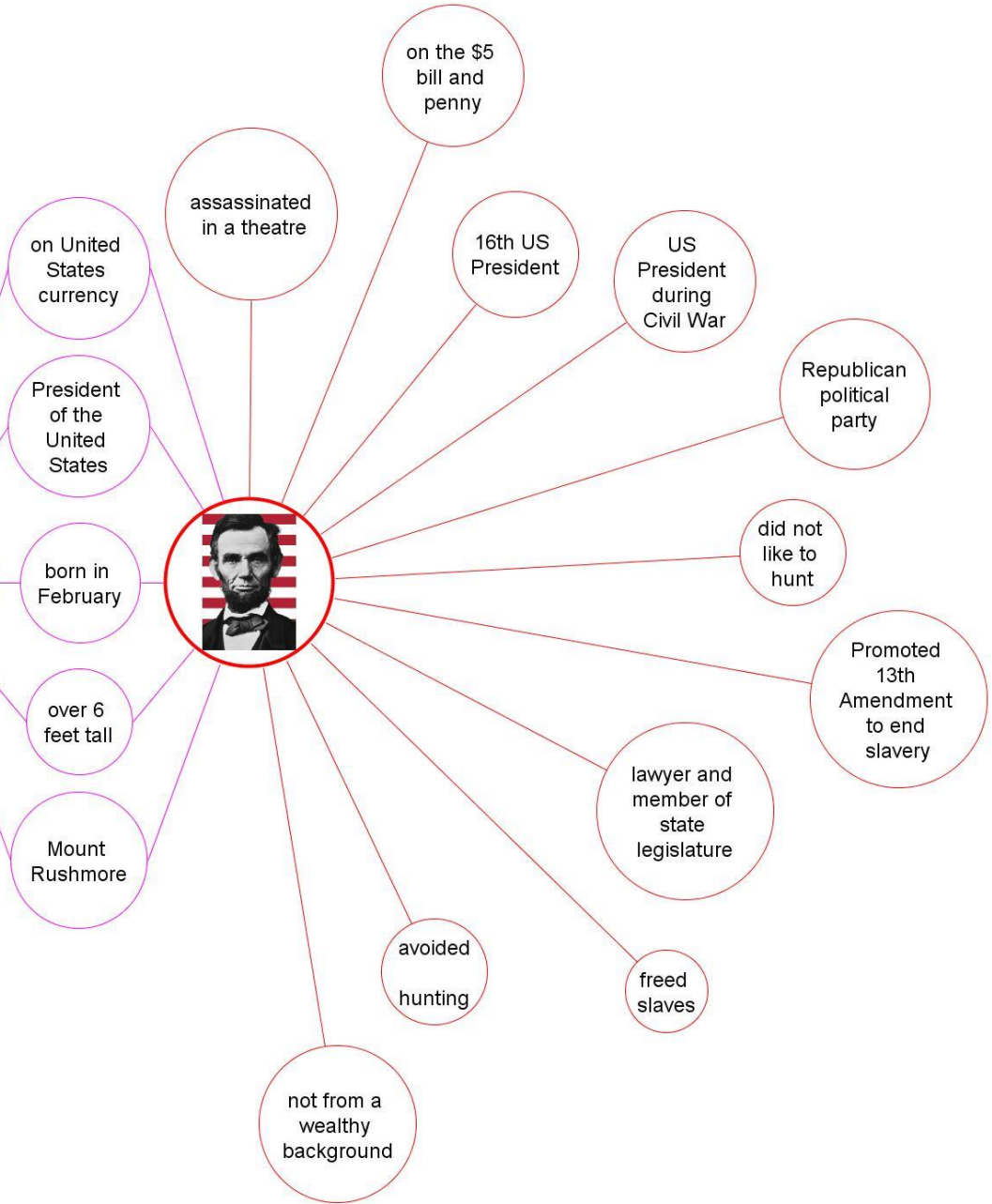
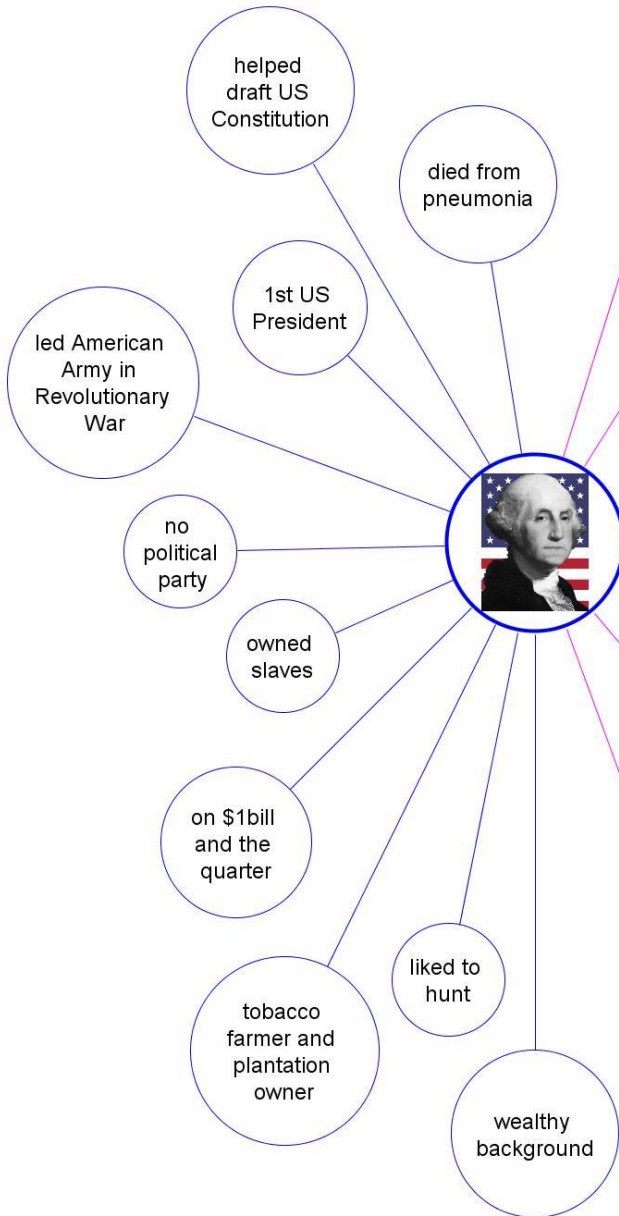






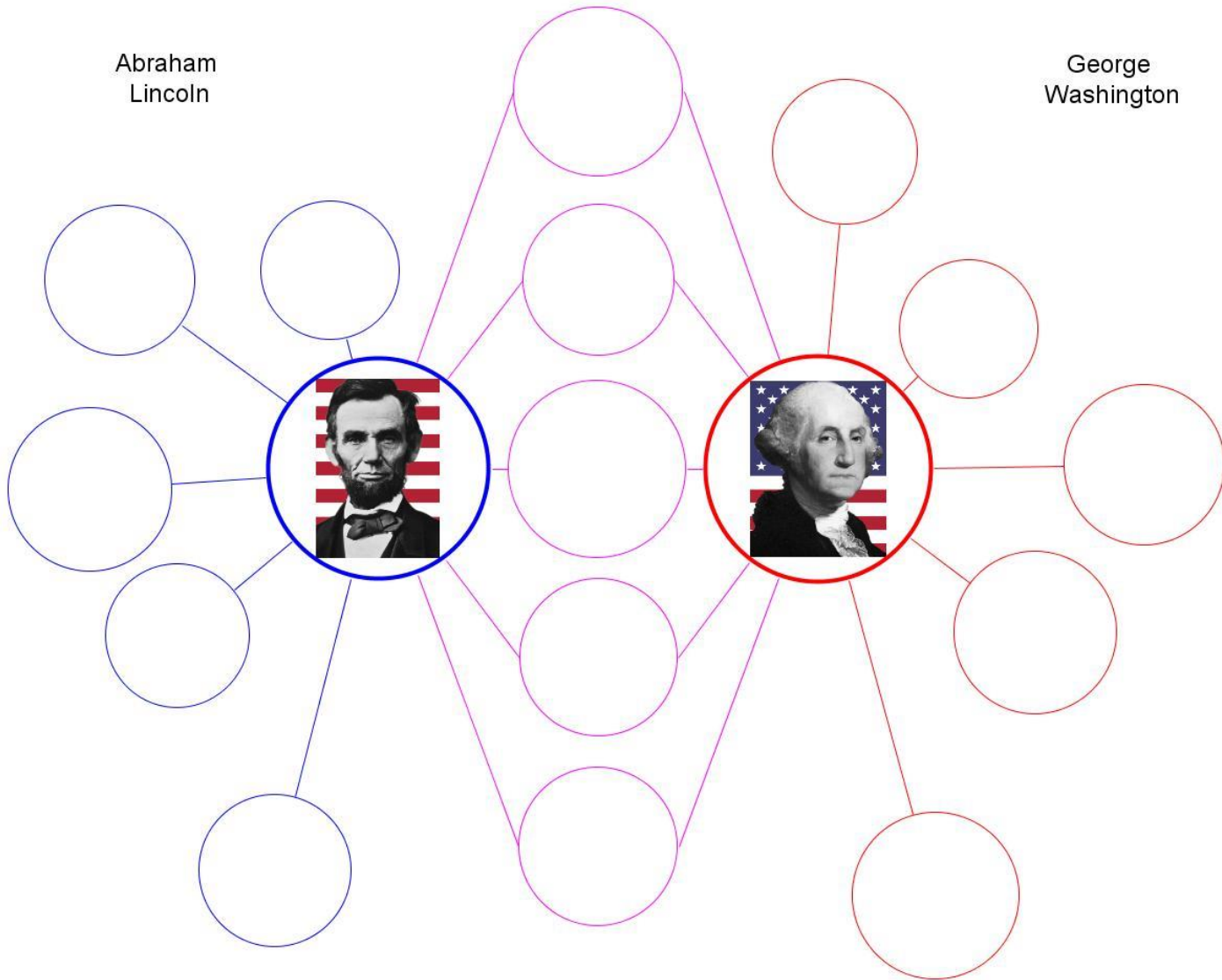
WORD BANK:

honest  
dishonest  
hard working  
lazy  
smart  
focused  
passionate  
unskilled  
scared  
confident  
caring  
selfish  
compassionate  
noncaring  
humble  
arrogant  
genuine  
inconsiderate  
supportive  
nonsupportive  
ethical  
inspiring  
biased  
objective  
dedicated  
authentic  
fake  
knowledgeable  
insensitive  
controlling  
collaborative



Abraham  
Lincoln

George  
Washington



What resources did you use to complete the Double Bubble Map?



# Presidents of the United States

**George  
Washington**

**Thomas  
Jefferson**

**Abraham  
Lincoln**

**Theodore "Teddy"  
Roosevelt**

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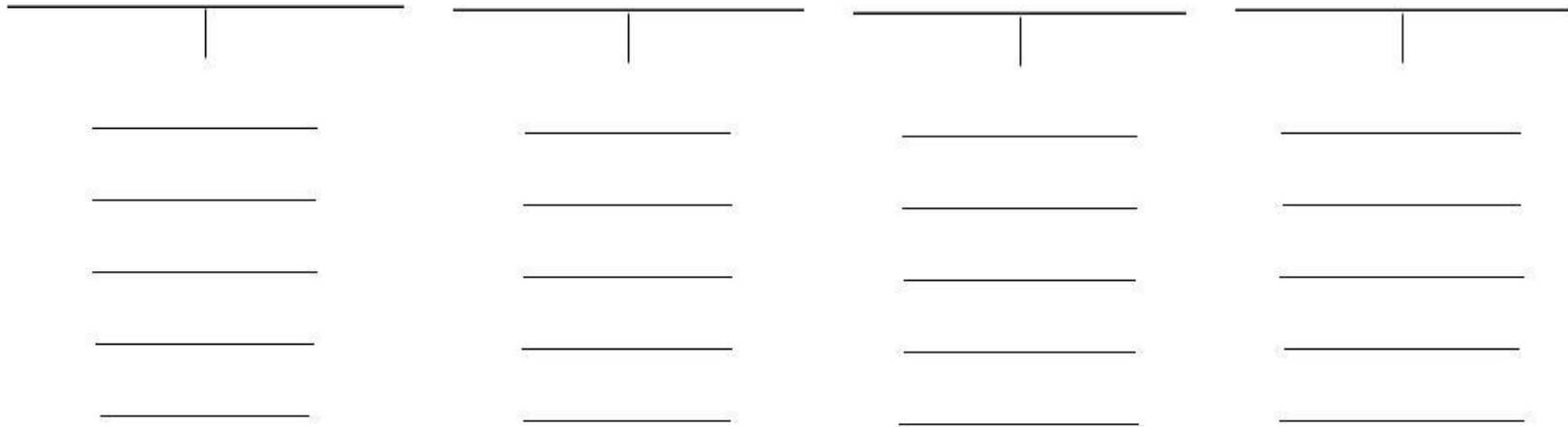
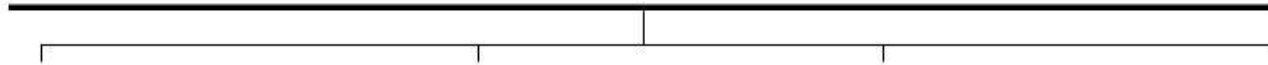
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Sources of Information:

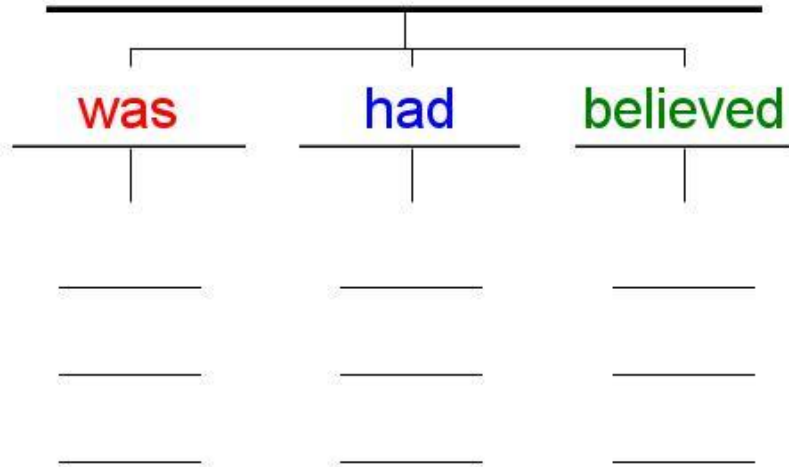
# Presidents of the United States



Sources of Information:



# Abraham Lincoln



## Sentence Frames for Writing:

Abraham Lincoln was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

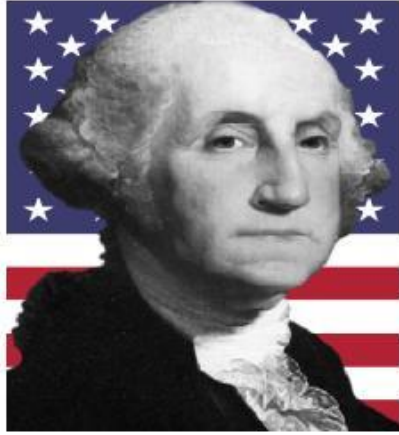
He had \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Lincoln believed \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Other Possible Connecting Words:

- was remembered for
- liked
- was known for
- wore
- was involved with
- led by





# George Washington

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was

had

believed

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Sentence Frames for Writing:

George Washington was \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

He had \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Washington believed \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Other Possible Connecting Words:

- was remembered for
- liked
- was known for
- wore
- was involved with
- led by



## Key Events in Abraham Lincoln's Life

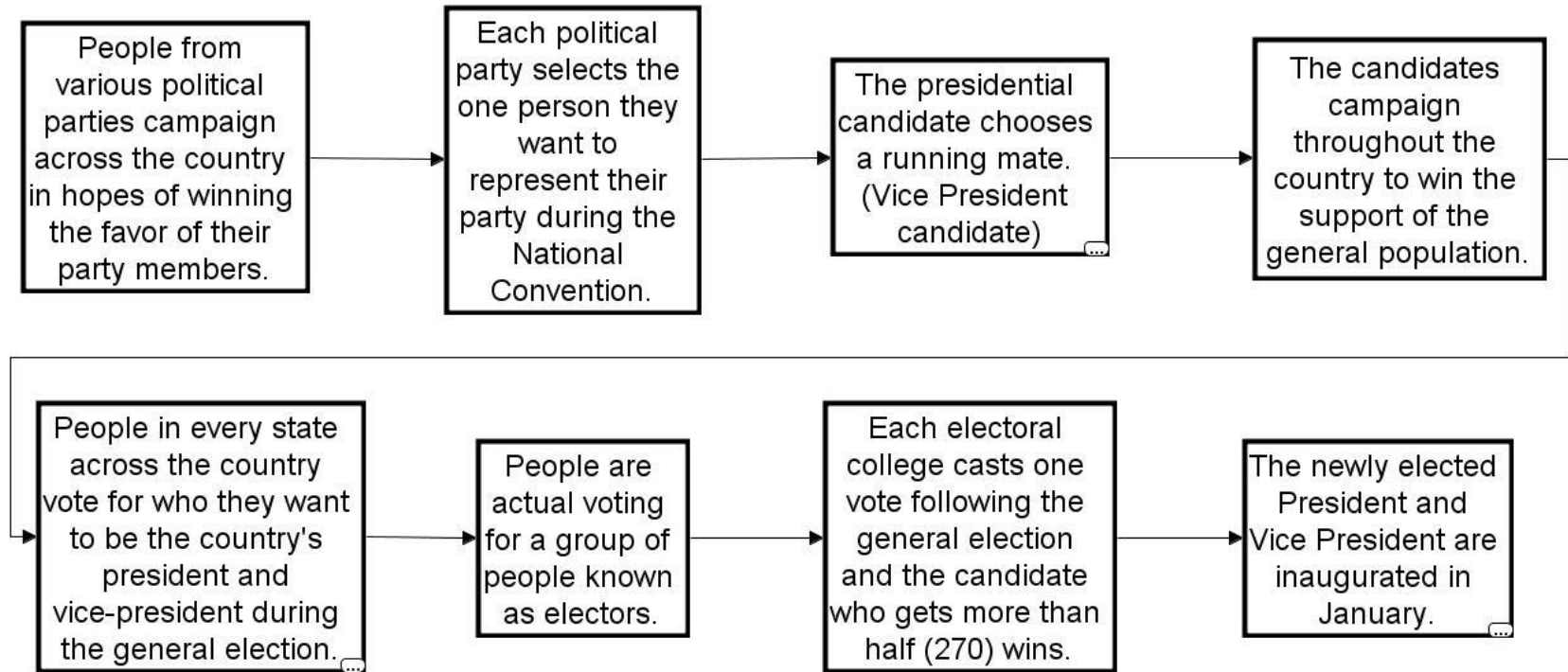




## Key Events in George Washington's Life

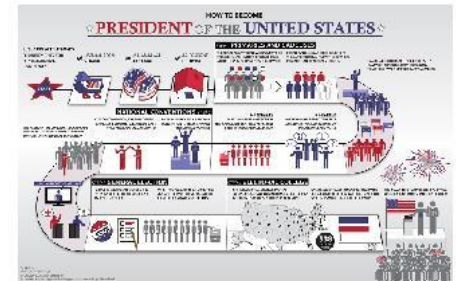


## Steps to Becoming President of the United States

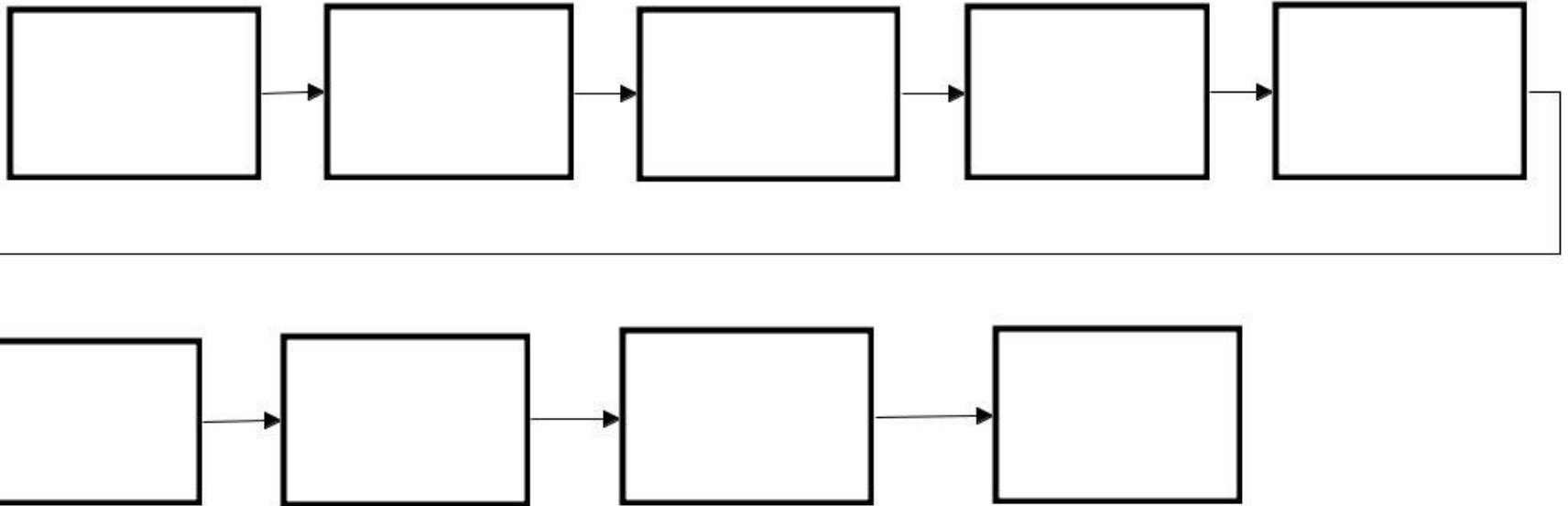


What sources did you use to complete the Flow Map?

<https://www.usa.gov/election>



## Steps to Becoming President of the United States





**Abraham  
Lincoln signed  
Emancipation  
Proclamation  
in 1863**

swung foreign  
popular  
opinion in  
favor of the  
Union

made  
ending  
slavery an  
explicit  
Union goal

freed slaves  
could enlist  
in Union  
Army

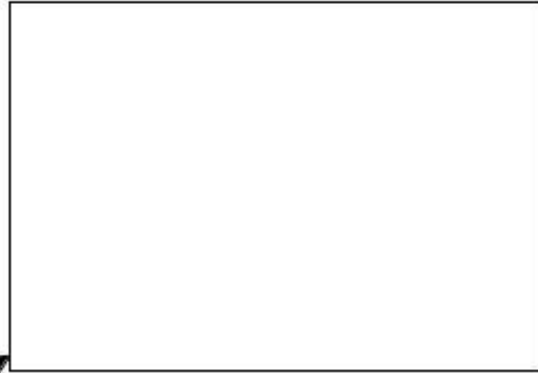
slaves  
freed in 10  
Confederate  
states

big step  
towards  
abolishing  
slavery

prevented  
European  
forces from  
intervening  
in the war on  
behalf on the  
Confederacy

**Writing Prompt:** What would happen if you became president of the United States?

**I become  
President of  
the United  
States of  
America**





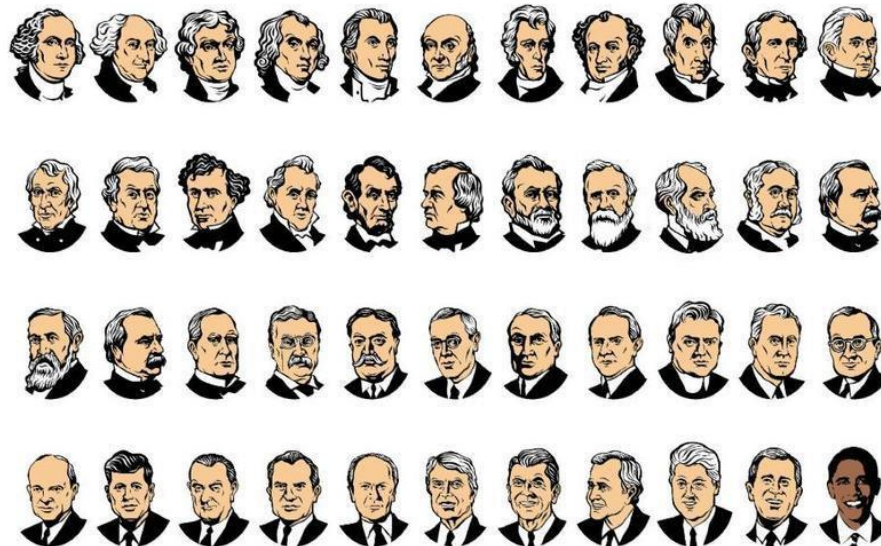
was the

**president  
of the  
United  
States**

Relating Factor



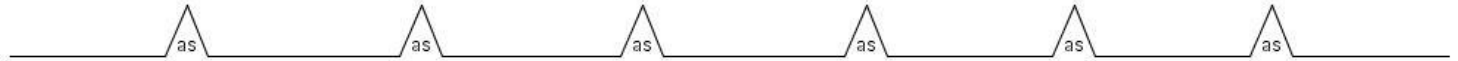
Which president do you admire the most? Explain why.



was the

president  
of the  
United  
States

Relating Factor



Which president do you admire the most? Explain why.

**was  
remembered  
for**

Relating Factor

George Washington

Thomas Jefferson

Abraham Lincoln

Theodore (Teddy)  
Roosevelt

laying the foundation  
for the presidency

acquiring the  
Louisiana Territory

the Emancipation  
Proclamation

his conservation  
efforts

Which president do you think made the most positive impact on our country? Explain your thinking.



**was  
remembered  
for**

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Relating Factor



Which president do you think made the most positive impact on our country? Explain your thinking.

# Writing Topics for President's Day

- What are some of the qualities that make a good president?
- If I were the president, I would...
- What is the president's main job?
- \_\_\_\_\_ was the best president ever because...
- President's Day is celebrated in February in honor of both George Washington's and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays – which of these two presidents do you believe made a greater contribution to America?
- Celebrating President's Day is important because...
- Should we have a female president? Why?
- If you could ask the president to do one thing, what would it be?
- What do you think about the story of George Washington and the cherry tree?
- When America goes through a tough time, the president needs to...
- If you could hang out at the White House for one day, what would you do?
- Why do we have a president instead of a king?
- If you were the president, what issues would you focus on?
- Should any other presidents be added to Mount Rushmore? If so, who? If not, why?
- Why do we think of Abraham Lincoln as "[Honest Abe](#)"?
- A good president has to be \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

# MORE WRITING TOPICS FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY

- What do you like about the current president?
- Why do we have a president and a vice president?
- Why is the vice president important?
- What other presidents should be featured on coins and bills?
- What would it be like to live in the white house?
- Is the president a good role model for students?
- Why is it important to have three branches of government – the president, congress and senate, and the judges?
- Who do you think should be the next president?
- The president symbolizes...
- What do you dislike about the current president?
- What should be the minimum age for the president? (currently is 35)
- Should the president only listen to the will of the people or use his own judgment?
- The most important thing a president can do is...
- What do you think George Washington and Abraham Lincoln would think if they saw America today?
- What would be the best thing about being president?
- How does the president represent America to other countries?
- Why is Abraham Lincoln one of the most important presidents in us history?



# And MORE Writing Topics for President's Day

- What are some lessons we can learn from famous presidents?
- Is it important to respect the president even if you don't agree with his or her politics?
- If you were running for president, how would you get people to vote for you?
- Students used to be required to memorize all of the presidents' names in order. Do you think this is important for people to know?
- What is the worst thing a president could do?
- Do you think the current president is doing a good job?
- If you could have dinner with any president, alive or dead, who would it be and why?
- What is the most important thing a president does?
- Would you want to be the president?
- Why is the system of voting so important to America?
- Is it important for the president to support people of all political parties?
- For a person to be qualified to be the president, they should have to...
- Imagine a day in the life of the president
- Why is George Washington one of the most important presidents in us history?
- How long should a president be able to stay in office?
- The hardest thing about being president would be...

# Online Resources

## Videos

Pebble Go: Abraham Lincoln

<https://www.pebblego.com/modules/3/articles/3281>

Pebble Go: George Washington

<https://www.pebblego.com/modules/3/articles/3286>

Brain POP: Abraham Lincoln

<https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/famoushistoricalfigures/abrahamlincoln/>

Brain POP: George Washington

<https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/famoushistoricalfigures/georgewashington/>

President Song for Kids

<https://youtu.be/HzwAwehKP8U>

Life of George Washington

[http://sni.scholastic.com/SN1/Newsletter-](http://sni.scholastic.com/SN1/Newsletter-Links/WatchAVideo6?eml=Teachers/smd/20140211/Facebook///TeachersPage/SCM/2100/pres-grade-one/)

[Links/WatchAVideo6?eml=Teachers/smd/20140211/Facebook///TeachersPage/SCM/2100/pres-grade-one/](http://sni.scholastic.com/SN1/Newsletter-Links/WatchAVideo6?eml=Teachers/smd/20140211/Facebook///TeachersPage/SCM/2100/pres-grade-one/)

President's Day Fun Facts

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B\\_8yQ2plaAE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_8yQ2plaAE)

The President Song

<https://youtu.be/nDac5gcLpxc>

Time for Kids: President's Day

<https://youtu.be/uIFaHVeZ4f8>

Brain Break: Get Up It's President's Day

<https://youtu.be/w5sYTMADQqE>

Kid President Meets the President (Obama)

<https://youtu.be/TssZ9Uma1-w>

The Presidents of the United States Song

<https://youtu.be/hTiHP3WsU6I>

# Online Resources

## Online Articles

Scholastic News

<http://www.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=11551>

President Song for Kids

<https://youtu.be/HzwAwehKP8U>

President's Day

<http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/presidents-day>

President's Day Facts for Kids

<https://www.kidsplayandcreate.com/why-do-we-celebrate-presidents-daycool-presidents-day-facts-for-kids/>

## eBooks

Story Jumper: Abraham Lincoln

<https://www.storyjumper.com/book/search/q/lincoln>

Story Jumper: George Washington

<https://www.storyjumper.com/book/search/q/washington>



# Thank you for visiting!

Please feel free to contact me at [hollandpoulsen@gmail.com](mailto:hollandpoulsen@gmail.com)