

Ronald Reagan
Presidential Library
and Museum

STUDENT ACTIVITY GUIDE

Advanced



Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum
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Welcome to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. A presidential library is a building in which all of the public records from a president's administration are housed. The first presidential library was created for President Franklin D. Roosevelt. There are now twelve presidential libraries in the United States.

In the museum, you'll find objects, artifacts and information about the birth of our nation, the American Presidency and the life and work of Ronald Reagan – the 40th president of the United States.

Vocabulary

Define the following terms:

1. artifact

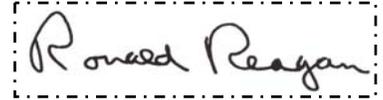
2. presidential library

3. gallery

4. public record

Galleries: Walk through each of the galleries.
Answer the questions and engage in the activities.

Signature Gallery



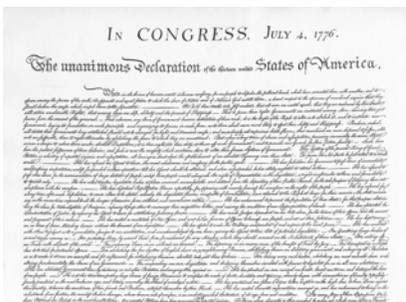
How many signatures are in the Signature Gallery? _____

Declaration of Independence

1. Which President asked for the Stone Declaration of Independence to be made?

2. Why would the President ask for the **reproduction** of a document?

3. Where is the **original** Declaration of Independence housed? _____
4. Find John Hancock's signature. Where is it located? _____
5. How many people who signed the Declaration of Independence became President of the United States? _____
6. When is the **Declaration of Independence** dated? What is the importance of that date?



7. How do we celebrate the date on the Declaration of Independence today?

Gallery of Presidents

1. Look at the Kittinger desk. Which President brought many of these pieces into the White House? _____
2. In the Washington letter exhibit, who whom did President Washington address this letter?

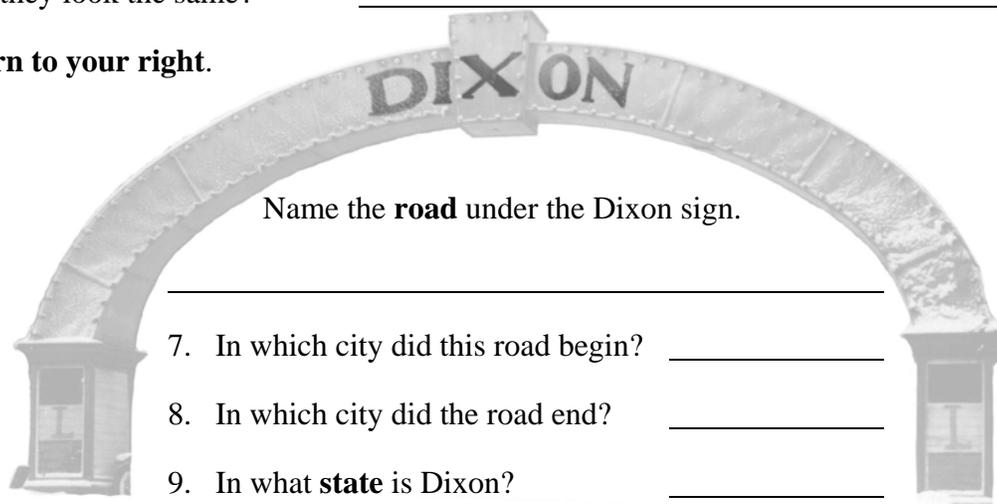
3. Do we still have a Secretary of War today? _____

Ronald Reagan: The Early Years

1. **Look immediately to your left.** The picture is of Tampico, Illinois in 1911. Who was born in this city that year? _____
2. Describe the street in the photograph. What is the form of transportation used? _____

3. List three places of business that you can see in the photograph. _____

4. Do you find similar types of stores in our neighborhoods today? _____
5. Do they look the same? _____
6. **Turn to your right.**



10. What is important about Dixon? _____
11. What do the cars look like to you? _____
12. Find the quote from the Second Inaugural Address. What did President Reagan mean when he said, "History is a ribbon...?" _____

13. Proceed under the Dixon arch and look to the left at the photograph of President Reagan's family. List two activities President Reagan enjoyed participating in when he was a boy.

14. Look at President Reagan's boyhood kitchen. What **appliances** do you see?

Ronald Reagan: High School /College

1. In which activities did President Reagan participate in high school and college?

2. How much money did President Reagan make at his first construction job? \$ _____

3. Look at the **Building Blocks of Character** card.

What values did President Reagan feel he learned from his **mother**?

4. What values did President Reagan feel he learned from his **father**?

Ronald Reagan: Early Career



1. What was President Reagan's first job after college?

2. Who did President Reagan vote for in 1932? _____

3. Which political party did President Reagan favor in 1932? _____

4. What **leadership quality** did President Reagan feel he learned from President Roosevelt?

Ronald Reagan: Hollywood/Military



1. For which movie studio did President Reagan work?

2. Which **military unit** did President Reagan join? _____

3. How did President Reagan serve the army during World War II?

4. What major invention in the 1940's brought new entertainment into people's homes?

5. What year did President Reagan host the **General Electric Theatre**? _____

6. How can hosting a TV show help someone gain popularity? _____

Ronald Reagan: Governor

1. Which Presidential candidate did President Reagan support in 1964?

2. What year did President Reagan run for Governor of California? _____

3. What was one of President Reagan's **major accomplishments** as governor?

4. What is a tax rebate? _____

5. Why did President Reagan initiate a tax rebate? _____

6. If you were governor, would you initiate a tax rebate? Why or why not? _____

7. What did President Reagan mean when he said, "Freedom is a fragile thing..."? _____

Conventions and Campaigns

List **three** methods President Reagan used to campaign for office.



Ronald Reagan: The Presidency

1. In what year did President Reagan win his first presidential election? _____
2. How many **Electoral College** votes did he win? _____
3. On what day was President Reagan shot? _____
4. In which part of his body was President Reagan **shot**? _____
5. What was the name of the Secret Service Agent that saved President Reagan's life?

Averting a Crisis

1. What would you do if a national strike threatened to close all airline flights in the United States? _____

2. What is an air traffic controller? _____
3. What was the name of the union that went on strike? _____

Situation Room

What is the purpose of the **White House Situation Room**?

The Second Term

1. **Where** was the Oath of Office held for President Reagan's second term? **Why?**

2. **Look at the picture of Washington D.C.**
Find the Capitol Building. Describe what it looks like.

Flights of Freedom

1. How many countries did President Reagan visit while he was President of the United States? _____
2. Which year did he travel the most miles? _____



The Cold War

1. What is a **Cold War**? _____

2. What did President Reagan mean when he said, "Regimes planted by bayonets do not take root."? _____

3. What year did President Reagan challenge Mr. Gorbachev with the following quote?
**"Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate!
Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!!!"** _____
4. What was the **Berlin Wall**? _____
5. What did it look like? _____

6. How do the two sides differ? _____

7. What did the Berlin Wall separate?

8. Who put the Berlin Wall up? Why?

9. What was **Checkpoint Charlie**?

10. What does the Hammer and Sickle represent?

11. Who said the following quote? “Ideas are more powerful than guns. We would not let our enemies have guns, why should we let them have ideas?”

12. Do you believe this quote to be true? Why or why not?

13. **Look at the picture in the upper right corner past the checkpoint.**

Why are the parents holding the babies above their heads?

14. **Look at the picture in the upper left corner.**

Why are the East German Police lifting the body of the 18 year old?

15. Could anyone who wanted to cross the Berlin Wall? **Why or why not?**



Air Force One

1. What is meant by the term **“The Flying White House?”**

2. Why is the number **27000** on the tail of the airplane?

3. How many chairs are in the cockpit? _____
4. Did President Reagan ever sit in the cockpit? _____
5. What is **“The Football?”** _____

6. Who carried **“The Football?”** _____

7. List two activities the President engaged in on the plane.

8. What snack did President Reagan like to eat? _____
9. What kind of cake did President Reagan like to keep on the plane? Why?

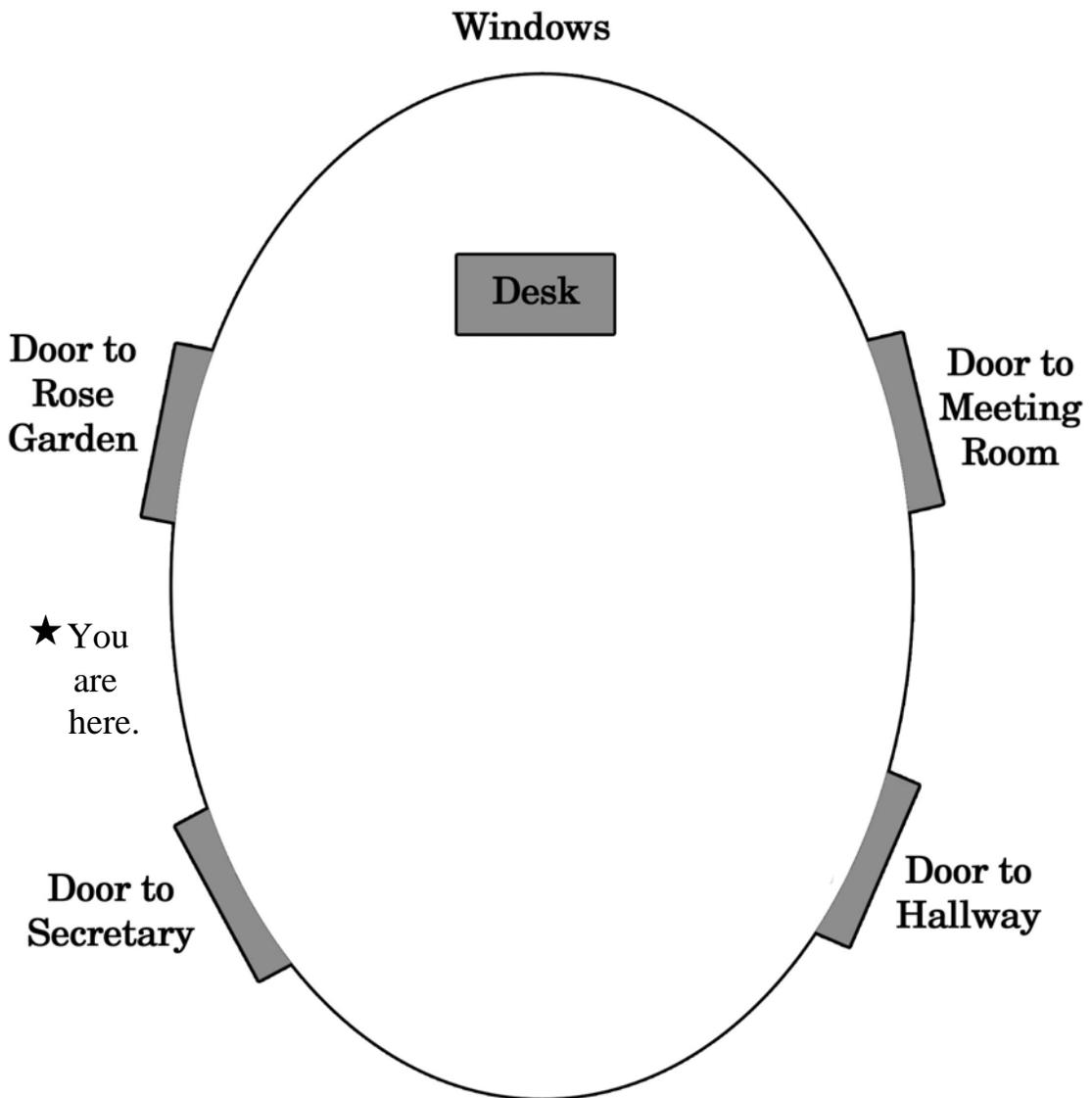
10. Who was **the first president to take a presidential flight?**

11. What was the name of the airplane?

12. What did it look like?

The Oval Office

1. Decorate The Oval Office as you see it in the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.



2. List the items that you drew in The Oval Office.

Life in the White House

1. How long does it take to prepare for a **state dinner** and how many staff people are needed?

2. How many state dinners did President and Mrs. Reagan host? _____
3. Where is Camp David? _____
4. How did the President and Mrs. Reagan get to **Camp David**?

5. President Reagan enjoyed relaxing on his own ranch as well. What was the name of his **ranch**?

6. Look at President Reagan's month long schedule. What did he like to do every **Saturday**?

First Lady

1. List three major programs that **Mrs. Reagan** endorsed as First Lady.

2. List and describe two ways in which Mrs. Reagan promoted her causes as **First Lady**.

3. What did Mrs. Reagan's mother do for a living? _____
4. Did Mrs. Reagan follow in her mother's footsteps? Explain. _____

5. What personality traits did Mrs. Reagan's father have that influenced Mrs. Reagan?

Legacy of Freedom Gallery

1. **Look at the BGM-109 Gryphon Missile.**

What treaty resulted in this weapon being removed as a weapon of mass destruction? _____



2. Who signed the treaty? _____

3. **Look at the painting of the USS Ronald Reagan by Stan Stokes.**

How many crew members are aboard this ship when it is protecting our country? _____

4. How many aircraft can it accommodate? _____

Berlin Wall

The Berlin Wall was erected in 1961 by the East German Government as a barrier to separate communist-controlled East Germany and democratic West Germany. The East German government was concerned that people were fleeing East Germany to live in the free and more prosperous western section of the city. East and West Germans were not allowed to cross the border into the other side of the city. Citizens trying to escape from East Germany to West Germany could be shot without warning. Until the Berlin Wall was demolished in 1989, families were often kept apart from each other by the concrete wall, barbed wire, and guard posts.

This section of the Berlin Wall on the Ruwe Terrace weighs 6338 pounds and stands 9 ½ feet tall. There are only about a half dozen Berlin Wall sections of this size in the U.S.

Activity:

1. Draw two symbols that would describe a happy feeling.
2. Draw two symbols that would describe a sad feeling.
3. Describe what you see on the western side of the wall.
4. What do the pictures symbolize?
5. Describe what you see on the eastern side of the wall.
6. What do the letter and number symbolize?
7. Why do you think the west side of the wall is more colorful than the eastern side of the wall?