

INAUGURAL DAY LEARNING FUN!

BY MEREDITH CURTIS



POWERLINEPROD.COM



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You can turn Inauguration Day into a learning experience while you make memories at the same time.



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WHAT IS A PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION?

On Monday January 20, 2025, at noon, President Biden's term of office ends, and President Trump's begins. This day is called Inauguration Day.



This year Inauguration Day falls on a national holiday – Martin Luther King Day. Many people will have the day off.

At noon, on the steps of the US Capitol, President Trump and Vice President Vance will take their Oaths of Office.



ADD FOOD TO MAXIMIZE LEARNING

You can acquire tickets through your US Senator or US Representative if they are not sold out.



If you can't get a ticket, you can view the ceremony on large video screens on the National Mall in Washington DC. Of course, it will also be aired on many television networks.



WHAT EVENTS TAKE PLACE ON INAUGURATION DAY?

This article was very helpful to me: <https://www.inaugural.senate.gov/inaugural-events/>

Here is another article with the schedule for this month's inauguration:
<https://www.uspresidentialelectionnews.com/trump-inauguration-schedule-2025/>

Inauguration Day is full of traditions. There is a prayer service for the new President and Vice-President. In the past, it is usually held in the Washington National Cathedral. I don't know where this year's is to be held.



Christian worship leader Sean Feucht is hosting a Revive in '25 worship service and that location is still to be announced.

ADD FOOD TO MAXIMIZE LEARNING

The second one is the Procession to the Capitol. The outgoing President escorts the new President to the Capitol for the **Swearing In Ceremony**.



Donald Trump is sworn in as the 45th president of the United States by Chief Justice John Roberts as Melania Trump looks on during the 58th Presidential Inauguration at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Friday, Jan. 20, 2017 (AP Photo Andrew Harnik)

The President first and Vice-President second will lay their hand on the Bible and take an oath to faithfully execute their office and to protect and defend the Constitution.



After the **Swearing In Ceremony**, the new President gives his Inaugural Address. Every President from George Washington to Joe Biden has delivered a speech. Some are long and some are short!



President Donald Trump inaugural address 58th Presidential Inauguration U.S. Capitol Washington Jan. 20, 2017. (AP Photo Patrick Semansky)

At this point, the outgoing President and his wife leave by helicopter escorted by the new President and First Lady. After the President and Dr. Biden's exit, President Trump and Vice-President Vance, along with their wives, will attend an **Inaugural Luncheon**. This traditional meal is hosted by the Joint Congression Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

Another tradition is for the President and Vice-President attend a **Signing Ceremony** in the President's Room in the US Capitol. The new President gathers with his aides, US Representatives, and US Senators to sign nominations, memorandums, or executive orders.



ADD FOOD TO MAXIMIZE LEARNING

Next comes the **Inaugural Parade!** President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump will walk down Pennsylvania Ave from the US Capitol to the White House.

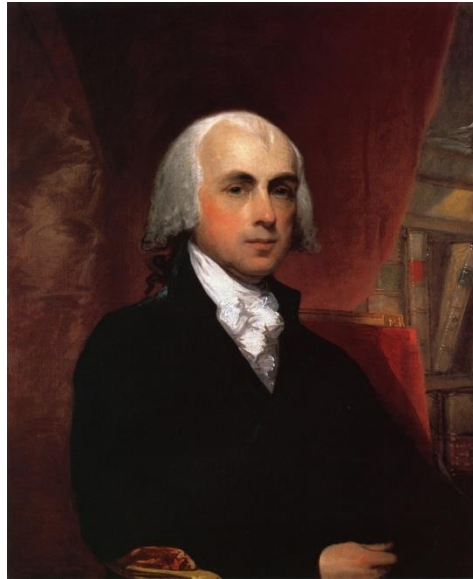
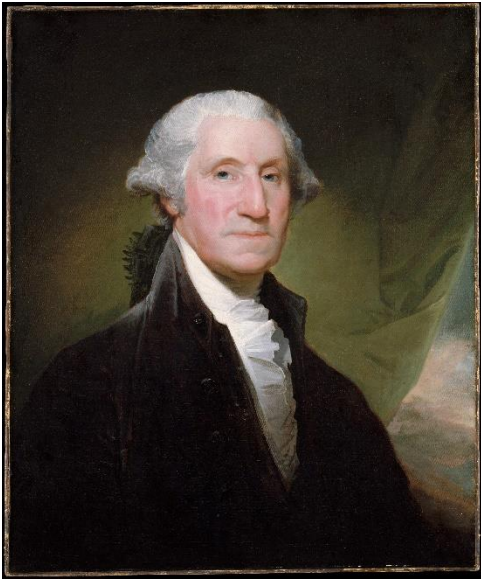


AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE INAUGURAL CEREMONIES AND THE LUNCHEON, THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT WILL MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE EAST FRONT STEPS OF THE CAPITOL WHERE THEY WILL REVIEW THE MILITARY TROOPS BEFORE LEADING A PROCESSION OF CEREMONIAL MILITARY REGIMENTS, CITIZENS' GROUPS, MARCHING BANDS, AND FLOATS DOWN PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE TO THE WHITE HOUSE. THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, THEIR SPOUSES, AND SPECIAL GUESTS WILL THEN WATCH THE PARADE AS IT PASSES IN FRONT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL REVIEWING STAND. THE INAUGURAL PARADE IS A CELEBRATED AND MUCH ANTICIPATED EVENT FOR MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

To learn more about the parade: <https://www.inaugural.senate.gov/pass-in-review/>

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This tradition started at the first inauguration when President George Washington journeyed from Mount Vernon, Virginia to New York City, the US capital at the time. Local militias joined his procession as he passed through one town after another.



The first organized parade took place in 1809 at President James Madison’s Inauguration. They have grown more elaborate through the years.



WHO ADMINISTERS THE OATH?

Chief Justice John Roberts administers the Oath of Office.

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

George Washington added, "So help me, God" and all Presidents have added "so help me God" to their oath.

John Roberts is on the Supreme Court. What is the Supreme Court and What do the members of the Supreme Court do?

The Judicial Branch has the responsibility to interpret the laws. The only court mentioned in the Constitution is the Supreme Court, but other federal courts have been established.

The Constitution does not give qualifications for Supreme Court judges, but federal judges almost always have a law degree and have served in lower federal courts. Their background is thoroughly checked and their rulings studied. The Supreme Court justices have homes close to Washington DC and work in the Supreme Court building.



Supreme Court Justice John Roberts



Supreme Court Justices 2020 (public domain)

I CAN'T GET TO WASHINGTON DC – CAN I STILL WATCH THE INAUGURATION?

Yes!

FOX, ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, & C-Span will air the ceremony live at noon on 1/20/25 Eastern Time.

There will also be streaming on YouTube, the White House website, and & social media.

Internationally, it will be live on BBC, Sky News (UK), Al Jazeera, CBC (Canada), ABC Australia, France 24.

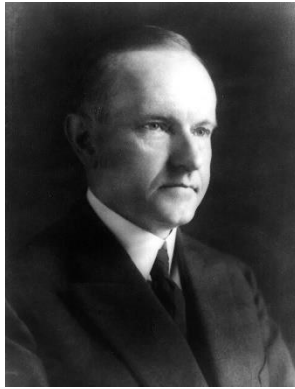
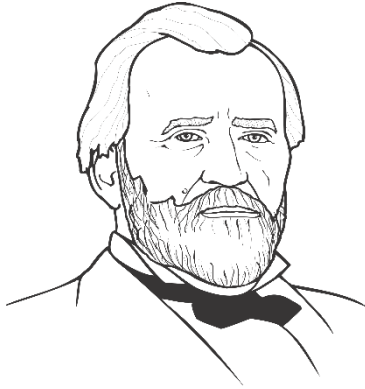


For more information: <https://knowinsiders.com/how-to-watch-donald-trumps-inauguration-day-2025-42485.html>

WHAT ARE SOME UNUSUAL INAUGURATION DAYS?

At James Madison's Inaugural Ball, the room was so hot that patrons broke out windows so they could breathe.

Thinking that canaries would add a festive touch to the ball, President Ulysses Grant wasn't thinking about how cold it was. 100 birds froze to death during his inauguration.



President Cal Coolidge skipped the fanfare when he became President. As Vice-President to President Warren S. Harding, he became President when President Harding died. Since his father was a justice of the peace, Dad administered the swearing in right after they heard the news of President Harding's death.

President Eisenhower added a festive touch when horse-riding cowboy Monty Montana lassoed President Eisenhower as part of the celebration. The secret service was warned beforehand!



President Nixon didn't want pigeons to ruin his big day. He had bird repellent sprayed along the parade route which was soon lined with dead birds.

PRESIDENT'S CABINET & YOUR CHILDREN'S CABINET?

Presidents have a cabinet to help them lead the country. No, not a piece of furniture. A Presidential Cabinet is a group of men and women that oversee different areas of government.



For example, President Trumps has chosen Senator Marco Rubio to be his Secretary of State, Pam Bondi to be Attorney General, Pete Hegseth to be Defense Secretary, Tulsi Gabbard to be Director of National Intelligence, and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to be Health and Human Services Secretary.

The first President, George Washington had a cabinet of just four: Secretary of War (Henry Knox), Secretary of State (John Jay), Secretary of the Treasury (Alexander Hamilton), and Attorney General (Edmund Randolph).

Each secretary in the President's Cabinet leads a department.

If you or your child were the President of the United States, who would you choose for your cabinet? Write down the name of the person you choose and a few reasons why. Then add a photo if you'd like.

Cabinet Position

Secretary of State

The four most important positions in the cabinet are **Secretary of State**, **Secretary of Defense**, **Secretary of the Treasury**, and **Attorney General**. In 2020, President Trump's Secretary of State was Mike Pompeo, Secretary of Defense Mike Esper, Secretary of Treasury Steve Mnuchin, and Attorney General William Barr.

The **Secretary of State** has an important job! He is highly visible to the American people and around the world communicating about foreign policy, immigration, or war information. As the highest-ranking member of the President's cabinet, he participates with the President in high-level negotiations, provides information to Americans living or travelling abroad, supervises the **Department of State**, supervises the United States Foreign Service, and advises the President. The Department of State is responsible for our relationship with other nations.

My Secretary of State



Cabinet Position

Secretary of Defense

The **Secretary of Defense** leads the **Department of Defense** forces: Navy, Army, Air Force, and Marines. He answers only to the President in matters of war and defense. His chief advisor is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

My Secretary of Defense



Cabinet Position

Attorney General

The **Secretary of the Interior** leads the **Department of Interior** in managing federally owned land, national parks, and natural resources. This land has been taken from states and individuals.

My Attorney General



Cabinet Position

Secretary of Energy

The **Secretary of Energy** leads the **Department of Energy**, disposing of radioactive waste, using nuclear energy, regulating energy, regulating nuclear reactors, researching energy, and overseeing drilling in the USA.

My Secretary of Energy



Cabinet Position

Secretary of Agriculture

The **Secretary of Agriculture** oversees the **Department of Agriculture** to regulate food safety, farming, agriculture, forestry, and ranching. Its lofty goal is to promote agricultural trade, protect natural resources, and end hunger around the world. Unfortunately, its policies often backfire from their noble goals. The Food Stamp program, 4H, and the United States Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service are inside this department.

My Secretary of Agriculture



INAUGURATION SCAVENGER HUNT

Watch the televised events on Inauguration Day. Make a list of things you might see at Inauguration Day events. Or create a scavenger hunt for the kids with items to check off as they watch the events unfold.

- Cheering Crowds
- Bible
- American Flag
- Red Tie
- President Joe Biden
- President Donald Trump
- First Lady Jill Biden
- First Lady Melania Trump
- Chief Justice John Roberts
- Vice President JD Vance
- Balloons
- Someone Wearing Red
- Someone Wearing Blue
- Military Person in Uniform
- People Clapping
- Someone Wearing a Long Black Coat
- Someone saying “My Fellow Americans”
- Someone saying, “God Bless America”
- A Band Playing

You can create your own Inauguration Scavenger Hunt or use mine on the next page. Make copies for each child.



Inauguration Hunt

Check off each photo when you see the item or person in the Inauguration

Events

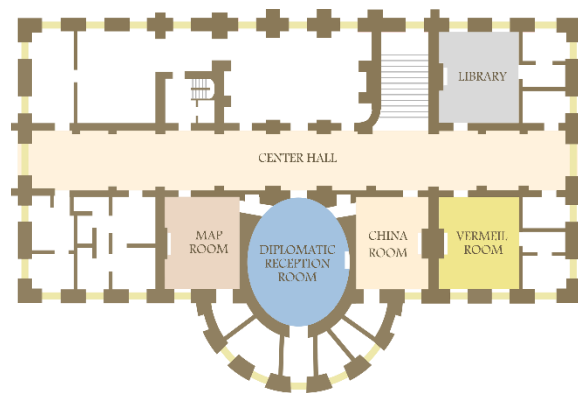
 <p>US Flag</p>	 <p>military uniform</p>	 <p>President Trump</p>
 <p>Band Music</p>	 <p>President Biden</p>	 <p>Balloons</p>
 <p>clapping</p>	 <p>Bible</p>	 <p>black coat</p>
 <p>cheering crowds</p>	 <p>Melania Trump</p>	 <p>Red Tie</p>

TOUR THE WHITE HOUSE

The President works and lives in the White House with his family.

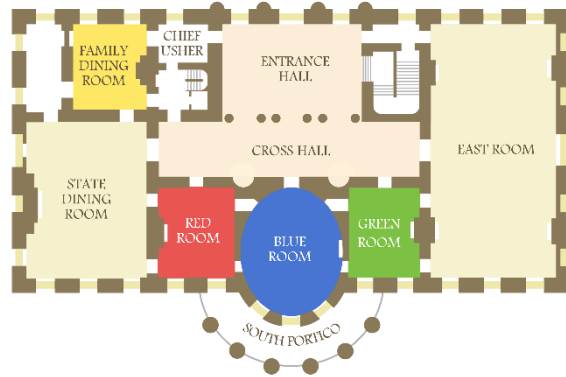


Here are some floor plans of the White House.

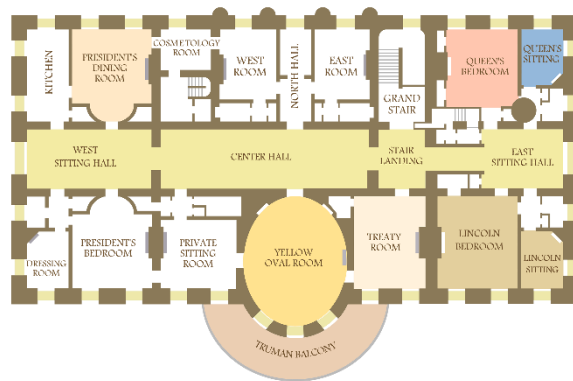


The White House Ground Floor (c) Original GearedBull Vector ZooFari

ADD FOOD TO MAXIMIZE LEARNING



The White House State Floor (c)Original GearedBull Vector ZooFari



The White House Second Floor (c)Original GearedBull Vector ZooFari

You can request a tour of the White House through the White House itself or by contacting your local Representative or Senator. People from other countries must request a tour through their embassy. Touring the White House is free.

Or you can tour the White House online.

Visit this link to tour the White House Virtually!

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/tour-the-white-house-in-360-degrees>

HOST YOUR OWN INAUGURATION BALL

Presidential Inauguration Balls are a big tradition in Washington DC. There are official balls where the President and First Lady make an appearance and dance in front of the crowd.

There are also unofficial balls where everyone has a good time celebrating but the President does not make an appearance.

Like most parties, the evening involves dressing up, dancing, and eating. There is always live entertainment, too.

The pictures below are from President Cleveland's ball and President Grant's ball.



Here is a slideshow of past Inaugural Balls: [Photos: Presidential inaugural balls through the years - WTOP News](#)

Here is a slideshow of President Trump's first Inaugural Ball in 2017: [Donald Trump Inauguration Ball Gallery: Best Looks Of The Night](#)

Host your own ball with a yummy menu, fun entertainment, and dancing!

You can invite friends and family to celebrate the Inauguration.

This is a website I found for one of the inaugural balls. It doesn't even take place on January 20 so it is not an official Inaugural Ball, but it looked fun with Lee Greenwood appearing along with other acts. [All American Inaugural Ball 2025 | January 18, 2025 | Washington DC](#)

Here is the menu: <https://allamericanball.com/food-bev/menu-2-2/>

CHOOSE A VENUE

Where will you have the Inauguration Ball?

In your home? At a relative's home? In the church fellowship hall where your co-op meets?

My Venue: _____

MAKE A GUEST LIST

Make a guest list and send invitations.

My Guest List

_____	_____
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PLAN DANCING & ENTERTAINMENT

Will you have dancing?

You will need music. It's easy to plug your phone into a speaker. Just choose a set list.

How about entertainment?

Can Uncle Ron sing or juggle? Can Cousin Jill play the guitar or tap dance?

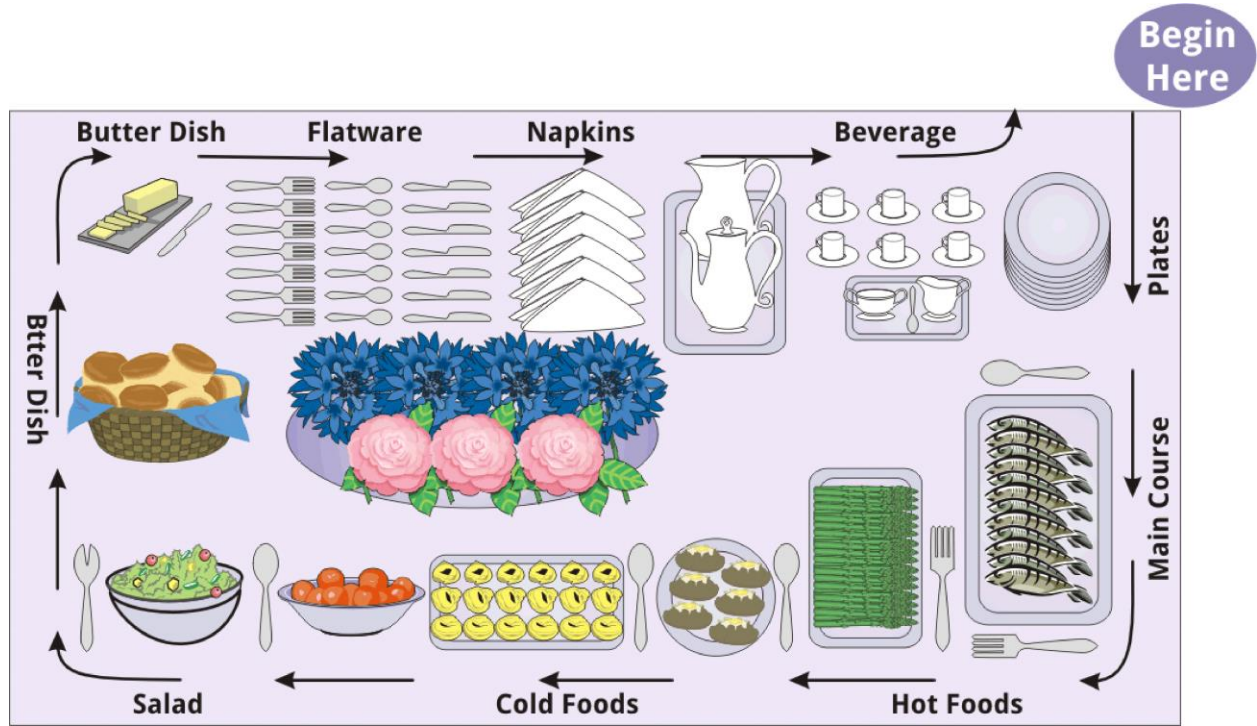
Entertainment plans:



PLAN THE MENU

A good party always has good food. Plan your menu.

You could just have finger foods and snack plates. You could have a buffet and sit-down meal.



Here is my Menu:

US GOVERNMENT RESOURCE

Who's says government must be boring?

Living books, hands-on learning, and conversational text set this government course apart!

Government: God's Blueprint and Man's Agenda takes a different approach to government. Starting with God, this course looks at ways He delegates authority and responsibility to the individual, family, church, and sovereign nations. Though the focus is on national government, we look at individuals (self-government/manners), the family, and the church, too. This fresh approach helps teens look at different forms of government through the lens of God's Word and see how God's role as Judge, Lawgiver, and King is reflected in the Republic our Founding Fathers created.



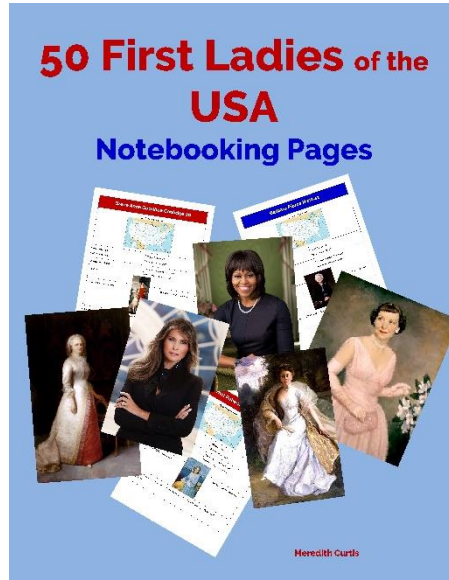
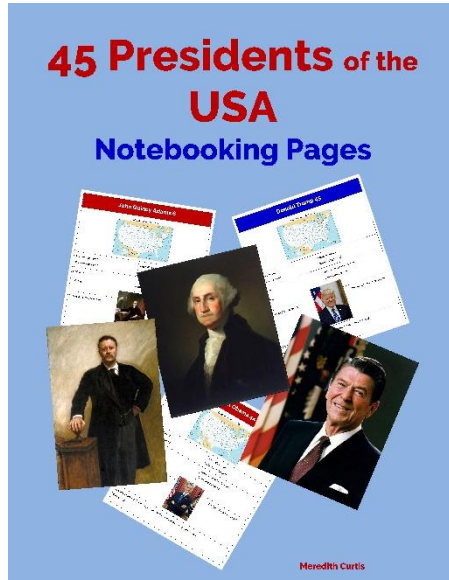
Purchase [***Government: God's Blueprint and Man's Agenda***](#) in print at [Amazon](#). (black & white pages)

Purchase a digital copy of [***Government: God's Blueprint and Man's Agenda***](#) at [PowerlineProd.com](#). (full color)

Learn more [HERE](#).

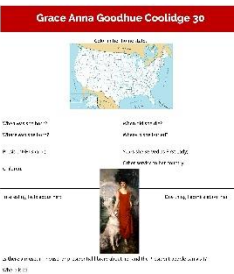
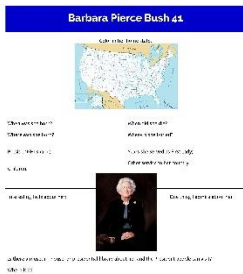
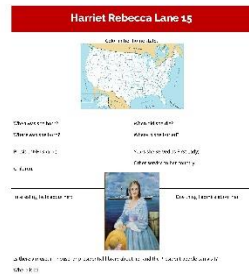
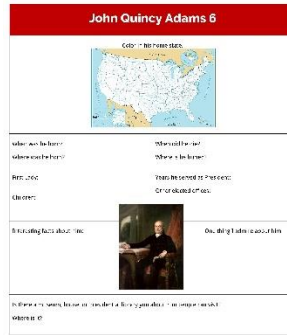
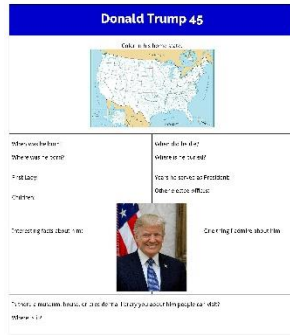
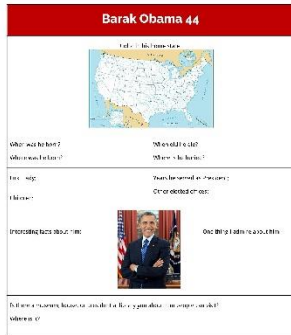
NOTEBOOKING RESOURCES

We love notebooking! It's such a fun way to research and learn to remember! We have notebooking printables for Presidents and First Ladies.

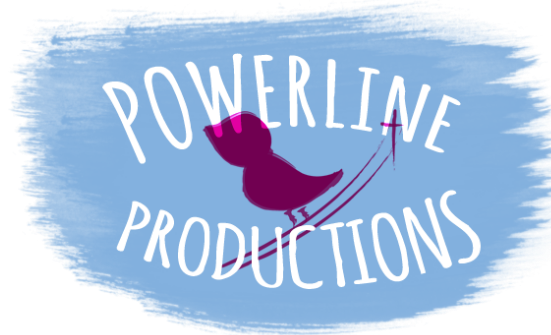


Purchase your digital copy of *45 Presidents of the USA* [HERE](#).

Purchase your digital copy of *50 First Ladies of the USA* [HERE](#).



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