

# The White House in Miniature

## Teacher's Guide

*January 20 – May 24, 2009*

*Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum*



# THE WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## THE WHITE HOUSE

In its 209 year history, the house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue has gone by several names, the Executive Mansion, the President's House, The White House. Early on, some even referred to the residence as the President's Palace. Teddy Roosevelt made the official designation the White House in 1901.

Names aside, this historic house means many things to Americans. It symbolizes the seat of our federal government, even democracy itself. It is a place which has evolved over the centuries to suit current need and the personalities of the families who have occupied it, becoming a beautiful site appropriate for day to day work, meetings of substance, as well as the pomp and ceremony surrounding the presidency. It is home to our presidents, and beginning this year, home to the first young children since Amy Carter, with the Obamas' arrival on January 20, 2009. And, it is the "People's House." It belongs to us as a nation ... and it is open to us.

Thanks to John and Jan Zweifel, we don't need to travel all the way to Washington, D.C. to see our historic house. *The White House in Miniature* brings it to us, in incredibly rich detail. This 1 inch to 1 foot scale model took the Zweifel family, as well as thousands of volunteers, several hundred thousand hours to research and create with remarkable accuracy in architectural detail, design, and decoration.

This labor of love now travels around the United States for all to view and enjoy. It will be on display here at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum through May 24, 2009, with many accompanying programs. Watch our web site, [www.geraldfordlibrarymuseum.gov](http://www.geraldfordlibrarymuseum.gov), for program details.

To learn more about The White House, visit these web sites:

[www.whitehousehistory.org](http://www.whitehousehistory.org)

[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

[www.nara.gov/nara/president/address.html](http://www.nara.gov/nara/president/address.html)

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

# THE WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## *THE WHITE HOUSE IN MINIATURE* EXHIBIT FAQs

### WHO BUILT THE MINIATURE?

- John and Jan Zweifel, Orlando, Florida, their six children, and countless volunteers throughout the country have built this model with great care.

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING THE MINIATURE?

- To allow people throughout the country and the world an opportunity to experience our nation's home.

### WHAT IS THE TIME PERIOD OF THE DISPLAY?

- Everything, to the smallest piece, was current until President Obama took office. The rooms are made like drawers, so when a room is changed we make the new and save the old. In 2076, the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary there will be a display of all the historic rooms from John Adams to the present.

### WHAT MATERIALS IS THE MODEL MADE OF?

- The same actual woods and materials as in the White House. They give the Zweifel's details down to the wall color names and numbers. The Virginia sand stone from the exterior is dusted on the outside of the model.

### OF THE LAST TEN ADMINISTRATIONS, WHICH HAVE HELPED ON THE PROJECT?

- Each one has helped by supporting the project and writing letters for the exhibit expressing their feelings for the White House. All of the First Ladies have blessed the exhibit and everyone, except JFK, has seen it. Five presidents and seven first ladies and their children gathered around the exhibit at the opening of the Reagan Presidential Library in 1991. The model has been shown 14 times in presidential libraries and several times at the Smithsonian.

### HOW LONG HAS IT TAKEN TO BUILD?

- The Zweifels began work in 1959, and it continues to the present. They plan for it to be an on-going project.

### HOW MANY PIECES IS IT MADE UP OF?

- Thousands, each individually hand made and placed in the rooms.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE A RUG?

- Some petit point rugs have over ½ million stitches and take up to four years to complete.

### IS EVERYTHING GLUED IN PLACE?

- No. Furnishings and accessories can't be glued in as everything is wrapped and packaged for each move. All the pieces are individual and must be placed for each set-up.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO SET UP?

- A normal set-up takes three weeks because of the individual pieces. Four additional days are needed for holiday decorations because of all the lights and trim.

### WHERE DOES THE MODEL GO FROM GRAND RAPIDS?

- The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta Georgia.

### HOW MANY SHOWINGS HAS THE MODEL HAD?

- Over 330 on a world tour. It is the only exhibit of its kind to tour all 50 states.

### HOW IS THE EXHIBIT TRANSPORTED?

- A special truck with shelves is used. The model has 13 sections and there are over 100 different packing trunks for the furniture and accessories. You can see the truck in the Gerald R. Ford Museum parking lot.

### HOW MANY ROOMS ARE THERE IN THE WHITE HOUSE?

- The White House now has 132 rooms, including 35 bathrooms. During the 1948 – 1952 reconstruction, more rooms were added by digging down rather than adding more floors up and losing the original look. There are four major floors and three basements.

### WHAT ARE THE TWO WINGS USED FOR?

- The West Wing is for the presidential administrative offices, including the Oval Office. The East Wing serves the First Lady and White House. The mansion itself is the home of the first family and has diplomatic reception areas. Each of the three sections of the White House is 100' long for a total of three football fields.

### WHAT IS THE OLDEST ITEM IN THE WHITE HOUSE?

- The Gilbert Stuart painting of George Washington, which has been there since John Adams moved in.

### WHAT IS ON THE THIRD FLOOR?

- There are 35 rooms and the solarium, which the family can use.

### WHERE IS THE SWIMMING POOL?

- Outside, south of the Oval Office.

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## The History of the Oval Office

The West Wing was constructed in 1902. After its completion, then President Theodore Roosevelt moved the Executive Offices to this location. In 1909, the first Oval Office was completed. It was located in the center of the south side of the West Wing. After the West Wing was enlarged in 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had the office moved to its current location in the southeast corner near the Rose Garden.

Items that remain from the original Oval Office include the white marble mantel over the fireplace and the Presidential Seal in the ceiling. Each President furnishes the office as he likes.

The President's desk, named the Resolute desk, was created using timbers from the British ship H.M.S. Resolute. Queen Victoria had the desk made as a gift to President Rutherford B. Hayes after the U.S. Navy saved the Resolute from ice. The desk has been modified twice in history. President F.D. Roosevelt had a panel carved with the Presidential coat-of-arms in 1945, and raised the desk 2 inches. The only presidents who have not used this desk are Presidents Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Gerald R. Ford.

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## The President's Cabinet Room

Presidents have met with Cabinet officers and other advisers in the West Wing of the White House since President Theodore Roosevelt built the new addition in 1902. President Franklin Roosevelt re-built the West Wing in 1934, creating the Cabinet Room as we know it today.

The Cabinet Room is meant solely for the President's use. President Ford held Cabinet meetings about every three weeks, though the President can call a Cabinet meeting at any time. While the Constitution doesn't specifically establish a presidential cabinet, it does state in Article II, Section 2, "... he (president) may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices. ...". Gerald Ford used the meetings to gather information and discuss policy, often with as many as 30 officials present. The executive level departments are all represented in the Cabinet, currently 15 departments. The President may include anyone else he wishes. The most recent Cabinet level position added is that of Secretary of Homeland Security.

In 1970, Richard Nixon purchased the oval mahogany table, which seats 20. The leather chairs surrounding the table have brass plaques on the back, designating the Cabinet position held. If a Cabinet member has held more than one Cabinet level position during his or her career, plaques for each position are included. Seating around the table is determined by the date the department was established. The President sits at the center of the table with the Vice President directly across from him. The Secretary of State sits to the President's right and the Secretary of Defense to his left. Cabinet members may purchase their chair when leaving office. Often their staff will purchase it for them.

For additional information about the Cabinet Room and Cabinet members you may want to visit the following web sites:

[whitehouse.gov/history/life/#](http://whitehouse.gov/history/life/#)

[whitehouse.gov/government/cabinet-room.html](http://whitehouse.gov/government/cabinet-room.html)

[whitehousehistory.org/03\\_visiting/subs\\_west/frame\\_chronology.html](http://whitehousehistory.org/03_visiting/subs_west/frame_chronology.html)

[fordlibrarymuseum.gov](http://fordlibrarymuseum.gov)

[gi.grolier.com/presidents/ea/side/cabinet.html](http://gi.grolier.com/presidents/ea/side/cabinet.html)

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Biographical Sketch of Gerald R. Ford

Gerald Rudolph Ford, the 38<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was born on July 14, 1913, at Omaha, Nebraska, the son of Leslie Lynch King and Dorothy Gardner King. After his parents' divorce and his mother's 1916 marriage to businessman Gerald R. Ford, he became known as Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

Jerry Ford graduated from Grand Rapids (Michigan) South High School in 1931 as an honor student and star performer in football and basketball. He continued both his education and athletics at The University of Michigan where he played center on the Wolverine football team and was selected most valuable player by his teammates during his senior year. He received his law degree from Yale University in 1941, graduating in the top third of his class.

During World War II, Ford served in the Pacific as an operations officer aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Monterey*. After the war, he returned to law practice in Grand Rapids, where his father was county Republican chairman. In 1948 he married Elizabeth Bloomer Warren, a fashion coordinator for a Grand Rapids department store. They would have four children.

In the 1948 primary election Ford successfully challenged the incumbent Republican congressman and went on to win the first of his 13 terms in the House of Representatives. His philosophy during his congressional career was marked by a belief in bipartisan foreign policy, moderate views on social issues, and conservatism on government spending and economic issues. Through his service on the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations, he became an expert on military weapons funding. As a member of the Warren Commission, he

helped investigate the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In 1965 House Republicans elected Ford Minority Leader, a position he held for nine years.

In 1973 Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned after pleading "no contest" to a charge of income tax evasion. Under the provisions of the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment, President Richard Nixon nominated Gerald Ford as the new Vice President. After an extensive investigation of his finances and personal and public history, both houses of Congress confirmed his appointment and he took the oath of office on December 6, 1973.

In subsequent months, "Watergate" crime and cover-up charges mounted against Nixon. Facing a Senate impeachment trial, Nixon resigned on August 9, 1974, and Ford became President. He inherited an administration plagued by a divisive war in Southeast Asia, rising inflation, and fears of energy shortages, as well as Watergate. He faced many difficult decisions including replacing Nixon's staff with his own, restoring the credibility of the presidency, and dealing with a Congress increasingly assertive of its rights and powers. Ford's problems were increased by his unpopular early decision to pardon his predecessor.

In domestic policy, President Ford felt that through modest tax and spending cuts, deregulating industries, and decontrolling energy prices to stimulate production, he could contain both inflation and unemployment. This would also reduce the size and role of the federal government and help overcome the energy shortage. His philosophy is best summarized by one of his favorite speech lines, "A government big enough to give us everything we want is a

government big enough to take from us everything we have.”

The heavily Democratic Congress often disagreed with Ford, leading to numerous confrontations and his frequent use of the veto to control government spending. Through compromise, bills involving energy decontrol, tax cuts, deregulation of the railroad and securities industries, and antitrust law reform were approved.

In foreign policy, Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger continued the policy of détente with the Soviet Union. Conservative opposition made this increasingly difficult, however. U.S. – Soviet relations were marked by on-going arms negotiations, the “Helsinki agreements” on human rights principles and East European national boundaries, trade negotiations, and the symbolic Appolo-Soyuz joint manned space flight.

The 1975 fall of South Vietnam to communists marked the final failure of a bloody and expensive U.S. overseas commitment. With this background, Congress and the President struggled repeatedly over presidential war powers, oversight of the CIA and covert operations, military aid appropriations, and the stationing of military personnel. Each had mixed success.

During the 1976 campaign, Ford fought off a strong challenge by Ronald Reagan to gain the Republican nomination. He then succeeded in narrowing Democrat Jimmy Carter’s large lead in the polls, but finally lost one of the closest elections in history. Three televised candidate debates were focal points of the campaign.

On January 20, 1977, President and Mrs. Ford journeyed to their new home in California. They continue to vacation at the home outside Vail, Colorado, where Ford has enjoyed skiing and golf. Ford is active on behalf of Republican Party and charitable causes, serves on corporate boards, and speaks before college and other audiences.



# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Presidential Oath of Office

Each president recites the following oath, in accordance with Article II, Section I of the U.S. Constitution:

"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."

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## GERALD FORD BECOMES PRESIDENT

On the evening of August 8, 1974, President Nixon announced to the nation his intention to leave office. The next morning he said an emotional farewell to his Cabinet and White House staff in the East Room.

At 11:35 on the morning of August 9, Nixon's letter of resignation was delivered to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Minutes later, in a peaceful transfer of power, Gerald Ford was sworn in as 38<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. In his actions and in his words, Ford tried to reassure his countrymen. His address acknowledged the hurt in so many hearts, but also expressed his strength of character and his independence in declaring an end at last to "our long national nightmare."

*The oath that I have taken is the same oath that was taken by George Washington and by every President under the Constitution. But I assume the Presidency under extraordinary circumstances never before experienced by Americans ... If you have not chosen me by secret ballot, neither have I gained office by any secret promises... I am indebted to no man, and only to one woman - - my dear wife -- as I begin this difficult job.*

Although he had little time to prepare for the presidency, Ford was ready to assume its responsibilities. From the beginning, his goal was to restore public confidence and lead the nation out of crisis. Just a month after taking office, hoping to put the past behind him and get on with the business of healing a broken nation, President Gerald Ford made the difficult decision to pardon Richard Nixon.

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Life in the White House

When the Fords moved into the White House, they brought a relaxed, informal style to the residence. The new first family was warm and open by nature, their personal style did not change with the trappings of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

The Fords hosted 33 State Dinners in their 30 months in the White House. Mrs. Ford enjoyed featuring American art at these very formal functions, including Steuben Glass and antique Indian baskets.

Life on a more personal level continued while living at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. The First Lady was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in 1974 and underwent a mastectomy. Mrs. Ford was the same candid person when discussing her cancer as she was on all subjects. Joyful times were also plentiful during the Ford's White House years. Mrs. Ford went all out with plans for their first Christmas in the White House, and Susan, the only one of the four Ford children who lived in the house, held her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday party and high school senior prom at the White House.

A question for your students: What do you think life will be like for Sasha and Malia Obama? What type of activities do you think they will enjoy?

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## At Work in the Oval Office

Rich with history, the Oval Office is a symbol of American democracy and power. For Gerald Ford it was very much a working office. During his first month in office, his schedule was filled with decision-making, official appointments, meetings, bill signings, and receptions. The Oval Office is used for many ceremonial events, meetings, and day-to-day work. Decisions impacting the nation and the world are made, and children come to visit their presidential fathers in this room. Susan Ford, a high school student at the time, was the youngest of the Ford children to visit her father in the Oval Office. Sasha (7) and Malia (10) can now visit their father, the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, in the Oval Office.

When Gerald Ford took office, the Oval Office was immediately swept clean of all electronic listening devices. Mrs. Ford brought her warmth and style to the Oval Office when she redecorated that famous room.

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Gallery Five Activity At Work in the Oval Office

Through a sophisticated sound and light display, you can experience a typical day in the Oval Office at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

As an outsider looking into the Oval Office exhibit, listen to the conversation between the President and his staff. While you listen, take notes about the things that are discussed. You will also want to look through the scrapbook located just outside the Oval Office:

When you return to school you will write a journal entry for a day at work in the Oval Office. What do you see in the Oval Office?

### METHOD

Read, or have the students read, the background information about the Oval Office. In what ways is this office similar to other offices? In what ways is it different?

Copy and distribute the Presidential Journal activity. Explain to your students that they will need to listen to the presentation in the Oval Office. While listening they should take notes on the President's activities. You may want to have students look at other exhibits to gather more information on what the President does in the Oval Office.

Following the activity sheet you will find a copy of a Daily Diary page for President Ford. Each contemporary president will have similar records kept.

### SUGGESTED POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

- As a follow up activity use the Presidential Journal activity page and have students write a journal entry how they would like to spend a day at work in the Oval Office. Another suggestion is to have your students write a journal or diary entry for a day in their life.

# At Work in the Oval Office

## Presidential Journal

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## President Ford's Daily Diary

THE WHITE HOUSE		THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD	
PLACE DAY BEGAN THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, D.C.		DATE (Mo., Day, Yr.) APRIL 28, 1975	
		TIME	DAY
		6:50 a.m. MONDAY	
TIME		PHONE	ACTIVITY
In	Out	P=Placed R=Rec'd	
6:50			The President had breakfast.
7:34			The President went to the Oval Office.
7:45	7:57		The President met with: David A. Peterson, Chief, Central Intelligence Agency/Office of Current Intelligence (CIA/OCI) White House Support Staff Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant for National Security Affairs
8:00	8:35		The President met with his Counsellor, Robert T. Hartmann.
8:35	9:02		The President met with his Assistant, Donald H. Rumsfeld.
9:45	9:50		The President met with Mr. Hartmann.
10:13			The President went to the South Grounds of the White House.
10:13	10:16		The President motored from the South Grounds to the Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR) Constitution Hall, 18th and D Streets.
10:16	10:54		The President attended the 63rd Annual meeting of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Members of the press
10:16			The President was greeted by: Charles Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Arch N. Booth, President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Clinton Morrison, Vice Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Glenn E. Nielson, Invocater, President of the Washington, D.C. Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
10:19			The President went to the President-General's Room. He was escorted by: Mr. Smith Mr. Booth Mr. Morrison Mr. Nielson

# WHITE HOUSE TEACHER'S GUIDE

## After the White House

Presidents are judged for what they accomplish in office, but also for what they set in motion to be realized by others. It is no exaggeration to say that during his short time in the White House, Gerald Ford gave the American people back their government. One biographer has called America's 38<sup>th</sup> President "an ordinary man called to serve America in extraordinary times."

In the years after leaving the White House and Washington, D.C., Gerald Ford received numerous tributes and awards for his decades of public service.

### **Profiles in Courage**

**2001**

Named after John F. Kennedy's Pulitzer prize-winning book of the same name, this award is presented annually to a public official who best demonstrates political courage. When awarding it to Gerald Ford, Caroline Kennedy noted that it was being given for his ... "decision of conscience to pardon former President Richard M. Nixon."

### **Presidential Medal of Freedom**

**1999**

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the nation's highest civilian decoration. Established by President Truman in 1945 to honor civilians providing exemplary service during WWII, President Kennedy expanded the focus to include those who make "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interest of the United States or to ... other significant public or private endeavors." President Bill Clinton presented it saying, "(Gerald Ford) guided our Nation toward reconciliation and a reestablished confidence in our government."

### **The Congressional Gold Medal**

**1998**

Considered the most distinguished form of recognition bestowed by Congress, each medal is unique, each struck exclusively for its recipient. George Washington was the first to receive the Congressional Gold Medal in 1776. President and Mrs. Ford were the first President and First Lady to be presented with the award, jointly. It was given to them for, "dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States."



Mrs. Ford also received honors in her own right.

### **Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service**

**2005**

Established in 2003, this award is given annually by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation's Board of Trustees to an individual who has served the public good in the private and public sectors and whose service reflects the strength of character, diligence, decisiveness, sound judgment and integrity depicted by Gerald Ford. When Mrs. Ford was presented with the award, Gerald Ford said, "Her total dedication to openness, frankness, her real strong belief in equal rights for women, her handling of her breast cancer, her forthrightness of dealing with her chemical dependency are strong character evidences of a lady I tremendously admire."

### **Presidential Medal of Freedom**

**1991**

Our nation's highest civilian honor was presented to Betty Ford by President George H.W. Bush. In his remarks, President Bush said, "Her courage and candor have inspired millions of Americans to restore their health, protect their dignity, and shape full lives for themselves."

At sunset on January 3, 2007 Gerald Ford was laid to rest on the grounds of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

# The White House in Miniature

## CHILDREN'S BOOKLIST



*Contributed by Youth Services Staff of the  
Grand Rapids Public Library*

### Nonfiction

*Red, White, Blue, and Uncle Who?: The Stories Behind Some of America's Patriotic Symbols /  
by Teresa Bateman*

Presents seventeen patriotic symbols, including the flag, the Liberty Bell, Uncle Sam, and the Statue of Liberty, and examines how they came to represent America. (2001)

*First Children: Growing Up in the White House / by Katherine Leiner*

Anecdotes from the lives of children who have lived in the White House from the time of George Washington to the present. (1996)

*The First Ladies / by Margaret Brown Klapthor*

Brief biographies and portraits of forty-one wives, sisters, daughters, nieces, and other relatives of Presidents who have served as White House hostesses, from Martha Washington through Nancy Reagan. (1985)

*Ghosts of the White House / by Cheryl Harness*

George Washington's ghost pulls a girl out of her school White House tour and takes her on a personal tour of the building, introducing her to the ghosts of previous presidents and to the history of the White House and of the United States. (1998)

*The Living White House / by Lonelle Aikman*

A brief history of the White House, containing anecdotes of visitors, events, and the First Families from Presidents Adams through Reagan. (1987)

*A Kid's Guide to the White House / by Betty Debnam*

Find out how the White House was built, and meet the first families and pets that have lived there. Take a tour of the public rooms and visit the big backyard. (1997)

*Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out*

More than one hundred leading authors and illustrators donate their talents to a collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, and poetry which looks at America's history through the prism of the White House. (2008)

*The White House / by Patricia Ryon Quiri*

Discusses the design, construction, renovation, and decoration of America's presidential home, sharing stories about the presidents and the families who have lived there since 1800. (1996)

*The White House: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue / by Jon Wilson*

Traces the historical development of the home of the presidents of the United States, describing how the mansion has grown from six rooms in 1798 to 132 rooms today. (1999)

*The White House: An Illustrated History / by Catherine O'Neill Grace*

Explores the history, architecture, and symbolism of the White House, which serves as a museum, office, ceremonial site, and a home to presidents and their families. (2003)

*The White House: Cornerstone of a Nation / by Judith St. George*

Discusses some of the changes and the events occurring over two centuries in the building that represents the power and majesty of the presidency. (1990)

## **Fiction**

*The Ghost, the White House, and Me / by Judith St. George*

When eleven-year-old KayKay Granger learns that the White House is haunted and uses that knowledge to play a prank on her family, she lands in big trouble with her mother, the United States President. (2007)

*The President's Daughter / by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley*

A fictionalized account of ten-year-old Ethel Roosevelt's early experiences in the White House after her father, Theodore Roosevelt, becomes president in 1901. (2004)

*A Spy in the White House / by Ron Roy*

KC tries to uncover the White House spy who is leaking secrets about the upcoming wedding of her mother and the President. (2004)

*Teddy Roosevelt and the Treasure of Ursa Major / by Ronald Kidd*

President Theodore Roosevelt's children search for clues to a hidden treasure in the White House. (2008)

*Washington City Is Burning / by Harriette Robinet*

In 1814 Virginia, a slave in President Madison's White House experiences the burning of Washington by the invading British army. (1996)

*White House White-Out / by Ron Roy*

When Dink, Josh, and Ruth Rose visit Washington, D.C. just before Christmas, they are inadvertently caught up in a kidnapping plot that was intended for the president's dog, but also involves the president's stepdaughter and her friend Marshall. (2008)

## **Picture Books**

*Arthur Meets the President / by Marc Brown*

Arthur's essay wins a contest and he has to read it to the President in a special ceremony at the White House. (1991)

*A Christmas Tree in the White House / by Gary Hines*

President Theodore Roosevelt does not approve of cutting down living trees just to be used as Christmas decorations, but his two young sons try to sneak one into the White House anyway. (1998)

*The Great White House Breakout / by Helen Thomas*

With his mother as president, the rules and restrictions become too confining, until the day that Sam and his pets, Warren the cat and Leonard the rat, decide to escape and explore Washington, D.C. (2008)

*Madam President / by Lane Smith*

A little girl imagines what her day would be like if she were President of the United States. (2008)

*Thanksgiving in the White House / by Gary Hines*

Young Tad Lincoln is excited about the new national holiday until he learns that the cook plans to serve Jack the turkey as the main course for Thanksgiving dinner. (2003)

# The White House in Miniature

## ADULT BOOKLIST

The White House: Its Historic Furnishings and First Families by Betty Monkman and Bruce White

A lavish book by the curator of the White House and published upon the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the White House.

White House Chef: Eleven Years, Two Presidents, One Kitchen by Walter Scheib and Andrew Friedman

As the chef for both the Clintons and George W. Bush, Walter Scheib offers a rare perspective into the workings of the Executive Mansion, state visits and even the private meals of the First Family.

The White House Staff: Inside the West Wing and Beyond by Bradley Patterson

Spending 14 years on the staffs of Presidents Eisenhower, Nixon and Ford, Patterson offers up a rare insight as to how the inner workings in the White House affected policy both domestically and internationally.

America's First Families: An Inside View of 200 Years of Private Life in the White House by Carl Sferrazza Anthony

Presidential historian Carl Anthony traces the history of all the First Families (beginning with John and Abigail Adams) and their lives in the White House.

The President's House: 1800 to the Present by Margaret Truman

This is an informative and entertaining history of our nation's house told through the accounts of those who occupied it. (2003)

# The White House in Miniature

## WHITE HOUSE TRIVIA

1. Who was the first President to live in the White House?
2. What is the address of the White House?
3. What is the President's office called?
4. How many oval rooms are there in the White House?
5. What school party did Susan Ford have in the East Room?
6. What do you think life in the White House will be like for Malia and Sasha Obama?
7. How would you decorate your bedroom if you lived in the White House.
8. In what room was Gerald R. Ford sworn in as 38<sup>th</sup> President of the United States?
9. What can you do for entertainment at the White House?
10. Did you know ...
  - The White House has a pool, a tennis court, a jogging track, a bowling lane, and a movie theater?
  - The White House now has 132, including 35 bathrooms? It also has 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, 8 staircases, and 3 elevators. It takes 570 gallons of paint to cover the outside?

# The White House in Miniature

## WHITE HOUSE TIMELINE

- 1790 Site on the Potomac River was selected for the nation's capital
- 1792 James Hoban, an Irish immigrant, was selected as the architect for the White House
- 1800 John Adams, second President of the US, moved in to the nearly completed White House
- 1805 First inaugural open house
- 1814 British soldiers set fire to the White House during the War of 1812
- 1817 Reconstruction of the White House was completed
- 1824 South Portico built
- 1830 North Portico was completed
- 1833 Running water
- 1840 First central heating installed
- 1848 Gas lamps installed
- 1853 Hot running water was piped to the second floor bathroom
- 1866 First telegraph office installed
- 1873 Grant renovation
- 1879 First telephone installed with the phone number "1"
- 1880 The Ellipse was completed
- 1891 White House wired for electricity
- 1901 Officially named the White House
- 1902 Teddy Roosevelt renovation, including East Colonnade, portico and porte cochere
- 1909 The West Executive Office Building expanded and included an Oval Office
- 1926 First electric refrigerator
- 1927 New roof and third floor attic
- 1929 Christmas Eve fire in West Wing - renovation began almost immediately
- 1933 Indoor heated pool built on the site of the West Terrace
- 1934 West Wing expanded again and Oval Office moved to present location in SE corner
- 1942 Lobby & bomb shelter added to East Wing, East Colonnade converted to a movie theater
- 1947 First White House telecast
- 1948 Pres. Truman's renovation begins
- 1961 Pres. & Mrs. Kennedy redesigned the Rose Garden
- 1969 – 70 Press center created within the West Terrace
- 1978 First computer was installed in the White House circa 1978
- 1992 White House computers had e-mail capability installed
- 2000 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first President occupying the White House
- 2002 On November 5 the West Wing celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

# The White House in Miniature

## WHITE HOUSE WORD SEARCH

### “White House” Vocabulary



AMERICAN

CABINET ROOM

EAST WING

GERALD R FORD

MOVIE THEATER

PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON DC

ARCHITECTURE

CALLIGRAPHERS OFFICE

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

OVAL OFFICE

RESIDENCE

WEST WING

BOWLING ALLEY

CAPITAL

FIRST FAMILY

MINIATURE

ROSE GARDEN

SYMBOL

WHITE HOUSE