

**Booth Wester Art Museum
School programs 2015-2016**

Grades 4 & 5: Presidents and Heroes

Classroom Activities

Subject: Fine Arts, Theatre Arts

Standard: [TAES4.6](#) Researching cultural and historical information to support artistic choices

- a. Uses a variety of resources such as books, encyclopedias, and the internet to research a particular era for a character or script
- b. Supports judgments for theatre through references to text, authors, non-print media or personal knowledge
- c. Produces informational writing related to a specific purpose, audience and context

Materials: computer with internet access; reference books on presidents and first ladies; encyclopedias

Activity: Getting to Know the Presidents and First Ladies of the United States

- Teacher assigns selected presidents and first ladies to students...each student will have her/his own person.
- Students will research assigned person in order to prepare a 2 – 4 minute presentation dressed as the person and speaking as the person
- Each student will determine the most important information he/she will share.
- Each student will write a rough draft to discuss with the teacher before writing and typing a final copy.
- Each student will devise a simple costume and may use props to make the presentation.
- Each student will memorize his/her information and present it to classmates
- This may be done as a special Presidents Day event to which parents are invited or presented to other appropriate classes.
- If parents are invited, each student or “couple” may prepare a food typical of the era they are representing.

Subject: Math

Standard: [MGSE4.OA.3](#) Solve multistep word problems with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations, including problems in which

remainders must be interpreted. **Represent these problems using equations with a symbol or letter standing for the unknown quantity.**

Materials: computer with internet connection; copies of menu and restaurant budgeting sheet

Activity 1: In addition to balancing many responsibilities, the President must also try to balance the national budget. Practice budgeting with this restaurant budgeting activity. Give out the Menu and restaurant budgeting page. Tell students they have a budget of \$20 to buy lunch for themselves and a friend. Each meal should include a main dish, dessert, and drink. Give them time to look over the menu and then ask them to write their choices on the budgeting page. Have them calculate their total bill. Did they stay in budget? Now ask them to calculate a 15% tip. Ask the students who was able to get the most food while staying in budget?

Standard: [MGSE.5.NBT.7](#) Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals to hundredths, using concrete models or drawings and strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and/or the relationship between addition and subtraction; relate the strategy to a written method and explain the reasoning used.

Materials: computer with internet access; downloaded activity sheets

Activity 2: Presidents Day Sale Prices

- Download or print **Presidents Day Sale Prices** activity.
- Student will calculate the sale prices for the word problems.

Subject: Science/Technology

Standard: [S4L1](#). Students will describe the roles of organisms and the flow of energy within an ecosystem.

- c. Predict how changes in the environment would affect a community (ecosystem) of organisms.
- d. Predict effects on a population if some of the plants or animals in the community are scarce or if there are too many.

Materials: computer with internet access

Activity: Invasive Species Research

- Students may contact nearby National Park personnel or County Extension agents to find out if there is a problem with invasive species in your area.
- Students may identify resources to help combat the problem, possibly by inviting a speaker to come to your class and/or requesting materials on the topic.

- Students may organize a presentation using information and/or materials they have collected and present it to other classes and/or groups.

Standard: **S5E1.** Students will identify surface features of the Earth caused by constructive and destructive processes.

- Relate the role of technology and human intervention in the control of constructive and destructive processes.

Materials: computer with internet access

Activity: American Disasters

- Students will use the internet to research the following North American natural disasters:
 - **2005 – Hurricane Katrina**
 - **1988 – Heat Wave and Yellowstone Fires**
 - **1935 – 1936 – Dust Bowl**
 - **1925 – Tri-State Tornado**
 - **1906 – San Francisco Earthquake and Fire**
 - **1900 – The 1900 Galveston Hurricane**
 - **1889 – The Johnston Flood, Johnstown, Pennsylvania**
 - **1871 – The Great Chicago Fire, Chicago, Illinois**
- Students will create a chart with four columns
 - Name and Date of Disaster
 - Geographic Result of Disaster
 - Human Intervention to Control Disasters
 - Technological Intervention to Control Disasters
- Using the information gathered from research, students will complete the chart (answers may vary)