

Welcome!

Grade K, Domain 12

Presidents and American Symbols

In this unit, students will learn about several American symbols and will explore the lives and legacies of five presidents.

What's the story?

Students will be introduced to several national symbols, including the **American flag**, the **Statue of Liberty**, the **White House**, and **Mount Rushmore**. They will also begin to learn about the **branches of the government** and the **role of the president**.

What will my student learn?

Students will focus on two of the Founding Fathers of the United States: **George Washington** and **Thomas Jefferson**. They will also continue learning about the lives and impact of other U.S. presidents, including **Abraham Lincoln**, **Theodore Roosevelt**, and **Barack Obama**.

In this domain, students will hear a story about the carving of Mount Rushmore, which commemorates four of the five presidents they will learn about. Students will also focus on **written communication** by **drawing detailed pictures**, exchanging **feedback** with peers, and **writing short phrases and sentences**.

Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. Why is George Washington considered one of the greatest American heroes?
Follow up: What are some of the sacrifices he made for his country? Tell me about the story of George Washington and the cherry tree. What is named after George Washington?
2. What did you learn about Thomas Jefferson?
Follow up: Why is he considered a Founding Father?
3. Who was the president during the Civil War?
Follow up: Why was he an important president?
4. Tell me about Theodore Roosevelt's early life.
Follow up: How did that affect his role as a president? What did his love of nature lead him to do?

5. Where did Barack Obama grow up?

Follow up: What was one thing he wanted to accomplish as president? How was he similar to the other presidents you learned about? In what ways was he different?