## Calendar Connections

## February ~ Presidents

Target Level: grades 3-6

The facts are created at a more advanced level but can easily be used for the entire homeschool family! Young children will soak up the information their older siblings are taught while all together.

Although the cards were created for February, they can be used for any month of the year!

## President Books \& Games

Click on the image to see it on Amazon.


## Calendar Connections

## Helpful Items

~these are the exact products we use~


Oriental Trading_carries the exact calendar I used to create these cards, it is item \# IN-62/2017. Many times it is out of stock, so just check to see if they are carrying it by searching for the item \#. Use my link to get free shipping with a $\$ 49$ purchase!



## 1President of the United States of America

There are three requirements the U.S. Constitution states one must meet in order to run for President of the United States. They are:
*being born in the United States
*be at least 35 years old
*and be a United States citizen and must have lived in the U.S. for at least 14 years.

## 4 The White House

Our first President, George Washington, is the only President to never have lived in the White House, bu he did choose it's location and approved its design. At various times in history it has been known as "the President's Palace," "the President's House", and the "Executive Mansion." It wasn't until 1901, 100 years after it was first occupied, that President Theodore Roosevelt gave it the official name "White House." During the War of 1812 British forces burned down all but the outer walls of the White House. Over the years various Presidents have added basic conveniences such as running water and electricity and have also modernized it by adding telephones and a movie theater. There are 132 rooms, 35 bathrooms, and 6 levels in the Residence. There are also 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, 8 staircases, and 3 elevators. It takes 570 gallons of paint to cover the outside surface.

## 2 <br> Vice President

It is said, "They're only a heartbeat away from Presidency." And it is true! Fourteen of the forty-seven men who
have served as Vice President eventually became the President. The Constitution states one responsibility for
the V.P is to preside over the U.S. Senate. In this role, the V.P. is expected to cast the deciding vote should there
be a tie. Since the $20^{\text {th }}$ century, however, V.P.'s have gained greater influence and have been given greater influence and increasingly important duties.

## 5 The Electoral College

Most countries have straightforward elections. The people vote, the votes are counted and the victor is declared based on the results. The United States participates in a more complex, two-step process. The popular vote (the most votes for one candidate) does not determine our President. Instead, they determine the electoral college that is charged by the Constitution with selecting the President and
Vice President of the United States. Each states number of electoral votes is equal to the number of U.S. Senators and Representatives for that state. Today there are 538 members. A majority, or 270 votes, are needed to win the Presidency. Electoral college members gather in separately held state meetings on an appointed day in December to cast their votes. The votes are then counted in front of a joint Congress in early January. Every election has two sets of results, the popular vote and the electoral college vote. You will see how this affected four of our nations elections.

## 3 Presidential Seal

Though a seal of some form has always been used for the President, the current Presidential Seal was made by President Eisenhower in 1960. The ring of fifty white stars represents the fifty states. The stripes
on the shield represent the thirteen original colonies. The motto on the white scroll means "Out of many, one." The arc of thirteen clouds and thirteen stars refer to the original thirteen colonies. The olive branch and arrows symbolize the power of peace and war.

## \#1 George Washington

(April 30, 1789-March 3, 1797)
On February 4, 1789 at simultaneous meetings held by a few dozen men in the various United States, George Washington was unanimously elected, with 69 electoral votes, to be the nation's first president. He was reelected, unanimously, four years later. No other President was ever unanimously elected. As the first president he established many of the precedents for future Chief Executives to follow including presidential vetoes, presidential choice of Cabinet members and how many terms a President should serve.


## 7 \#2 John Adams <br> (March 4, 1797-March 3, 1801)

John Adams helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence. As the second President, John Adams helped prove that the United States could survive a change in leadership. He died 50 years after the birthday of the U.S. on July 4, 1826.

## \#3 Thomas Jefferson

(March 4, 1801-March 3, 1809)
Probably our smartest President with interests in science, art, music, farming, language, law and government. Most known for purchasing 600 million acres of land from France, called the Louisiana Purchase, doubling the size of the United States. He also died July 4, 1826!

## 8 \#4 James Madison

(March 4, 1809-March 3, 1817) Before becoming President, James Madison helped write the basic rules for governing the United States - the Constitution (explains how our government works) and its Bill of Rights (explains what we are free to do as citizens). He was our shortest president standing at five feet four inches and weighed only 100 pounds!

## \#5 James Monroe

(March 4, 1817-March 3, 1825) James Monroe is best known for the Monroe Doctrine which stated that the American continents were off-limits for further colonizing by European nations. His daughter, Maria, was the first child of a president to be married in the White House. He was the third president who died on the fourth of July (1831).

## 10 \#8 Martin Van Buren

## (March 4, 1837-March 3, 1841)

Van Buren was the first President born as a United States citizen (previous Presidents were born British subjects and considered U.S. citizens by their association with the new nation). Van Buren instituted the government treasury instead of keeping its money in private banks. The law for this was passed in 1840 just before the end of his term.

## \#9 William H. Harrison

(March 4, 1841-April 4, 1841) Known for having the shortest presidential term in history because he gave the longest inauguration speech in history - one hour and 40 minutes! He caught a cold that turned into pneumonia. He died after just 32 days in office.

## \#10 John Tyler

(April 6, 1841-March 3, 1845)
First Vice President to finish out a different Chief Executive's term. The Constitution was vague about how a Vice President should take over as President, but Tyler took firm command of office and set a standard for future midterm successions. He's also known as the president
with the most children-15!
\#11 James K. Polk
(March 4, 1845-March 3, 1849)
Polk added 1.2 million square miles of land to the U.S., the biggest increase in size since Jefferson's presidency. Polk expanded westward to the Pacific Ocean, an idea called Manifest Destiny. Polk tried to buy land from Mexico, but Mexico refused. Polk went to war and defeated Mexico gaining California and New Mexico.

## \#6 John Quincy Adams

(March 4, 1825-March 3, 1829)
In 1824, the electoral votes failed to give any one candidate majority support. After an ugly debate the House of Representatives named

Adams the winner. Like his father, John
Adams, John Quincy stuck to his principles and found himself miserable in office as no one

## seemed to support him

## \#7 Andrew Jackson

(March 4, 1829-March 3, 1837 )
Nicknamed "Old Hickory" because he was tough as wood. Fought in two wars - the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Jackson assumed more power than any other previous President by insisting on hiring and firing his own Cabinet members and upholding the authority of the US government over state government

## \#12 Zachary Taylor <br> (March 4, 1849-July 9, 1850)

The only elected position Taylor ever won was that of the presidency. He won the election because of his great military leadership. As president, he tried to keep the North and South from fighting over the issue of slavery. He was president for only 16 months when he died after eating contaminated food.

## \#13 Millard Fillmore

(July 10, 1850-March 3, 1853)
The California gold rush began when Fillmore became president. He gave government money to build a railroad from the East Coast to the West Coast to bring back gold. Tensions continued to rise with the issue of slavery and Fillmore created the Compromise of 1850, an agreement to appease each side.

(March 4, 1853-March 3, 1857)
When "Handsome Frank" became president, the national debate about slavery had quieted. This, however, changed when Pierce supported the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. It stated that residents of new states should decide for themselves the issue of slavery. He was not renominated for a second term.

## \#15 James Buchanan

(March 4, 1857-March 3, 1861) Buchanan was the only president to never marry. In an effort to hold the Union together he made agreements with the South, despite how it angered the North. When the Southern states began to secede, Buchanan declared he had no constitutional authority to force them back. He was glad to serve only one term!

## 16 \#20 James A. Garfield

(March 4, 1881-September 19, 1881) Garfield believed that government jobs should be given based on talent and experience, not as political favor. As a result, an unhappy job hunter shot Garfield on July 2, 1881. He died from complications 79 days later. In reaction to Garfield's murder, lawmakers wrote new rules for how

## government jobs should be filled.

## \#21 Chester A. Arthur

(September 20, 1881-March 3, 1885) Prior to becoming president, Arthur was known for awarding jobs, raises, and positive regulations to employees and businesses that supported his political candidates with votes and donations. It shocked the nation when he supported passing the Pendleton Act. This law created a Civil Service Commission to look after civilian government workers and make sure jobs were fulfilled by competitive exam, not presidential appointment.

## 14 \#16 Abraham Lincoln

(March 4, 1861-April 15, 1865)
When Lincoln took his oath, he became the President of states that were not united. The country was on the brink of war over slavery and states' rights. The Civil War began a little over a month after he took office (April 12,
1861) and ended five days (April 9, 1865) before his assassination with the surrender of the South. He is called the greatest U.S.
President because he reunited a country.

## \#17 Andrew Johnson

(April 15, 1865-March 3, 1869)
After Lincoln's death, Johnson became president. He disagreed with Congress about a lot of things and Congress tried to throw him out of office through an impeachment. The

Senate fell one vote short of convicting Johnson, so he completed his term.

## 17 \#22 Grover Cleveland

(March 4, 1885-March 3, 1889)
Cleveland was the only President to get married in the White House. During this term in office he vetoed twice as many pieces of legislation (413!) than all previous Presidents combined! He became known as "The Veto

## President."

## \#23 Benjamin Harrison

(March 4, 1889-March 3, 1893) Benjamin Harrison, grandson of Pres. William H. Harrison, the one that died 32 days after taking
office, won the election by receiving a majority of the electoral college votes, not the popular vote. More states were added to the nation, six in all, during his term than during any other Presidency.
\#18 Ulysses S. Grant
(March 4, 1869-March 3, 1877)
Grant was a general during the Civil War and helped lead the North to victory. Voters were enthusiastic about electing a war hero. During his two terms, Grant established the first national park (Yellowstone), established the Department of Justice and passed the $15^{\text {th }}$ Amendment.

## \#19 Rutherford B. Hayes

(March 4, 1877-March 3, 1881)
Hayes won his election by only one electoral vote, the narrowest presidential victory in history! This was due to ballot fraud, or illegal vote-casting. Congress was left determine the most accurate tally of votes It wasn't decided until three days before the Inauguration that Hayes would be President.

## \#24 Grover Cleveland

## (March 4, 1893-March 3, 1897)

No, this is not a typo! Cleveland is the only President to serve two terms non-consecutively! His second term did not go as well as the first due to the Depression which set off the Great Panic of 1893 Banks and businesses closed and millions of people were out of work.
The candy bar "Baby Ruth" was named after his daughter.

## \#25 William McKinley

(March 4, 1897-September 14, 1901) McKinley was the last president to have fought in the Civil War. He pushed the nation and his office into a modern error by using the telephone on a regular basis and expanding the political influence of the U.S. around the globe. Barely six months into his
second term, an assassin shot him while shaking hands with a crowd of spectators. He became the fifth President to die in office and the third one to be assassinated.


## 19 \#26 Theodore Roosevelt

(September 14, 1901-March 3, 1909)
At 42, Roosevelt was the youngest man to ever become President. He also became the first "accidental" President to win an out-right election to office. During his two terms he preserved millions of acres of national forest, established five national parks and set up the first wildlife refuge. He also became known as a "trustbuster", breaking up the railroad, beef, oil, tobacco, and other industrial monopolies to help improve the suffering of high prices, low wages, and poor working conditions of employees and citizens.

## 22 \#31 Herbert Hoover <br> (March 4, 1929-March 3, 1933)

 Eight months after taking office, the Stock Market crashed and sent the U.S. into a period in history known as the Great Depression. Banks closed, businesses failed and by 1932 thirteen million people were out of work. People blamed him for not doing enough to help the country out of this difficult time.
## \#32 Franklin Delano Roosevelt

(March 4, 1933-April 12, 1945)
FDR, his nickname, served as President longer than any other. He was elected four times and died from a stroke while still in office. He became President during a very difficult time and saw the nation through the Great Depression and the darkest days of World War II. During his terms in office he created millions of jobs and established the Social Security System. This assured senior citizens would have retirement incomes and that unemployed would have temporary support while they looked for new jobs.

## \#27 William H. Taft

(March 4, 1909-March 3, 1913)
Taft continued breaking down business monopolies and broke twice as many as Roosevelt. Taft was the first person to be President of 48 states. He also created the Department of Labor. During his term Congress also passed two amendments to the Constitution: one created the structure for a federal income tax and the second called for U.S. citizens to directly vote for senators. Previously they were

## elected by the state legislatures.

## \#28 Woodrow Wilson

(March 4, 1913-March 3, 1921)
During his first term, Wilson's main goal was to keep the U.S. out of World War I which had started in Europe in August 1914. He succeeded until his second term when the U.S. was drawn in soon after the 1916 election. The war ended November 11 1918 and celebrated as Armistice Day, later renamed Veteran's Day. It was during his second term that women earned the right to vote!

## 23

\#33 Harry S. Truman
(April 12, 1945-January 20, 1953) When Truman suddenly became President, the U.S. was still fighting in World War II. In hopes of ending the war quickly he dropped two atomic bombs on Japan, one at Hiroshima and the other at Nagasaki. Thousands of Japanese died instantly. The war did end soon after, but people still debate whether this was the right thing to do. The " $S$ " in his name

## doesn't stand for anything!

## \#34 Dwight D. Eisenhower

(January 20, 1953-January 20, 1961) Ike, his nickname, was a World War II hero because he lead troops that won the war in Europe. While in office there was a "cold war" (a battle to build the most bombs and missiles, but no real fighting) going on between the U.S and the USSR (Russia). This war didn't end until the 1990's! Eisenhower also worked hard to establish equality and sent federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas to enforce the desegregation of public schools ruling by the Supreme Court.

## \#29 Warren G. Harding

(March 4, 1921-August 2, 1923)
Though his friends said he "looked like a President," he was not prepared to handle the challenges of being President. He was our sixth President to die,
due to illness, while in office. He died just as widespread corruption among his administration was coming to light. His Presidency is ranked as one of the worst in U.S. history.

## \#30 Calvin Coolidge

(August 3, 1923-March 3, 1929)
Nicknamed "Silent Cal", he was a man of few words but his high standards of conduct and calm and frugal presence renewed trust in the Presidency. He cooperated with investigations to route out corrupt staff and chose reliable replacements. Staying true to his nickname he left behind a will to his estate that was only 23 words long.

## 24 \#35 John F. Kennedy

(January 20, 1961-November 22, 1963) JFK was elected President by the narrowest popular voting margin in the history of the U.S. He served as President for about 1000 days before being assassinated but is considered a central figure in the American Presidency. He inspired many young Americans to become volunteers with the Peace Corps, which he created in 1961. He also fought for the freedom for all races to vote, which was signed into law after his death to honor his memory.
\#36 Lyndon B. Johnson
(November 22, 1963-January 20, 1969) LBJ desired that the U.S. become a "Great Society" and initiated and secured legislation for fair voting rights for minorities, funds for education programs, fair housing practices, created Medicare and Medicaid, and established federal services such as the Public Broadcasting System (PBS!). No other President has been more successful in passing legislation through Congress.


## 25 \#37 Richard Nixon

(January 20, 1969-August 9, 1974) Nixon took the office of Presidency during the Vietnam War and pledged to end it, though it proved very difficult. At home he tried to improve the welfare of the people, protect the environment, and reduce crime. Across the ocean he improved relations with China and the USSR. All his efforts, however, fell flat when scandals he was involved in came to light. Nixon resigned from office rather than face impeachment. He was the only President to leave office alive without completing his term.

## \#38 Gerald R. Ford

(August 9, 1974-January 20, 1977)
Ford is the only President never elected to the offices of President or Vice President. Nixon appointed him to V.P. when his previous V.P. resigned due to scandal. Ford became President when Nixon resigned. With honest behavior and words of encouragement to a hurting nation, Ford began restoring citizen trust in the government.

## 28 \#43 George W. Bush

(January 20, 2001-January 20, 2009) George W. Bush was the fourth President to win the election, but not the popular vote. It took the U.S. Supreme Court four weeks to determine who won the election. Just eight months after Bush took office terrorists attacked New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania. This became known as 9/11. As a result, the U.S. went to war with Afghanistan in 2001 and against Iraq in 2003.

## \#44 Barack Obama

(January 20, 2009 - Present)
Obama was the first African American to be voted into office. He took office during a difficult time. Millions of people were out of work, the economy was in terrible shape and the U.S. was still at war with Iraq and Afghanistan. He took office with a commitment to bring about change and restore hope.

## 26 \#39 Jimmy Carter

(January 20, 1977-January 20, 1981)
James Earl Carter was a down-to-earth and honest man, just what the country needed after scandals of the Nixon years. Carter fought for racial equality at home and human rights in foreign countries. A high point during his term was when he helped to negotiate a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. His lowest point was when angry Iranians took 52 Americans hostage for more than a year. They were not released until Carter left office.

## \#40 Ronald Reagan

(January 20, 1981-January 20, 1989)
Reagan was 69 years old when he became the President, the oldest person ever to take office. He desired to "make Americans believe in themselves again." He built up the Army, Navy, and Air Force and signed a treaty with the USSR to have fewer nuclear weapons. This would prove helpful to ending the cold war between the U.S. and the USSR.

## 29

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

I Timothy 2:1-2

## 27 \#41 George H. W. Bush

(January 20, 1989-January 20, 1993)
Bush earned eight years of White House experience by serving as Reagan's Vice President. In the transitioning world, this brought a nation some measure of peace. His Presidency saw the fall of the USSR (a good thing!) and with it the end of the cold war. In 1991 the U.S. declared war on Iraq to free Kuwait. This was known as the Gulf War.

## \#42 Bill Clinton

(January 20, 1993-January 20, 2001)
Clinton is credited with balancing the federal budget for the first time in four decades (forty years!) and reducing the national debt. He also created NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) which created free trade between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Scandal marred his term, however, and he was charged with misconduct. The House of Representatives voted to impeach Clinton, but the Senate acquitted him. He apologized to the country and finished out his term.

## 30

## The First Lady

The wife of the President is referred to as the "First Lady". The term "First Lady" did not come into use until the 1900's. Prior to that "Marquise," "Presidentress," "Mrs.
President," and "Lady" were all early forms of address. First ladies do not get a salary, but most of them work very hard. They represent the country, take charge of the White House and often work and become a spokeswoman for a special cause like First Lady Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign.


