

# U.S. Presidents Highlights

At times in our homeschool, we take the opportunity to review the U.S. Presidents. We spend time highlighting 6 or 8 of them and talking about the major events that happened during their presidency.

Then we'll learn a bit more about one of our US Presidents. Last year, for example, we talked about Ronald Reagan. These are free here:

## Ronald Reagan Notebook Pages

### Ronald Reagan

American politician, actor, 40<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S.A.  
February 6, 1911 – June 5, 2004


**Early Career:**  
Ronald Reagan was an \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_. He was generally a supporting actor. He was in films such as *Love Is on the Air*, *Dark Victory*, and *Jillison Dollar Baby*.  
In 1966, he became the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

Ronald Reagan served as the 40<sup>th</sup> President from 1981 to 1989.  
Some of the major events and initiatives during the first term of his presidency included \_\_\_\_\_.  
His supply-side economic policies where he advocated tax rate reduction to spur economic growth, control of the money supply to curb inflation, economic deregulation, and reduction in government spending.  
\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ to reduce the illegal drug trade.

**Iran-Contra Affair (1986)**  
This was a major \_\_\_\_\_ in the 1980s which involved use of proceeds from covert arms sales to Iran during the Iran-Iraq War to fund the Contra rebels fighting against the government in Nicaragua, which had been specifically \_\_\_\_\_ by an act of \_\_\_\_\_.


**Soviet Union:**

- Reagan described the Soviet Union as the \_\_\_\_\_ (1983)
- He escalated the \_\_\_\_\_ with the U.S.S.R.
- Yet, he also engaged in talks with Soviet General Secretary Mikhail \_\_\_\_\_ This resulted in the INF Treaty (in 1987) which decreased both countries' \_\_\_\_\_ arsenals. This treaty eliminated nuclear and conventional ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with intermediate ranges, defined as between 300–3,400 miles.



### Ronald Reagan Notebook Pages

During his famous speech at the Brandenburg Gate, President Reagan challenged Gorbachev to "tear down this wall." One and a half years after the end of his term, Berlin Wall fell. It was opened in November 1989.





### First Lady Nancy Reagan

Actress, First Lady  
July 6, 1921 – March 6, 2016

As first lady, Nancy Reagan launched the "\_\_\_\_\_ " drug awareness campaign in 1982, which was her personal project and major initiative as first lady. This became adopted as the name of club organizations and school anti-drug programs.

Another of Nancy Reagan's trademarks was her interest in fashion. She was often compared to that of \_\_\_\_\_.



### The End of World War II


When WWII ended in Europe, the Allies had different proposals for how Europe should be divided and how borders would be drawn and in particular what would happen to Germany. The "Big Three" leaders met at the Yalta Conference February 4 to 11, 1945.

\_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

All three leaders were attempting to establish an agenda for governing post-war Europe.

Eventually, Germany was partitioned into \_\_\_\_\_ zones of occupation.



The city of Berlin was also split into four zones of occupation.  
For years, many East Germans defected to the West. In fact, from after WWII ended through 1961 nearly \_\_\_\_\_ East Germans defected.  
In August 1961, a wall was built that divided East Berlin from West Berlin.



To the right is a picture of when John F. Kennedy visited Berlin in 1963.

[homeschoolden.com](http://homeschoolden.com)

We brought out the President's song again at the beginning of this semester to review the presidents. (We added in a new line about Trump since the last time we sang this was before the election!). That song is on the following page if you're interested.

The kids chose to learn a bit about Eisenhower this time. 😊 You'll find some notebook pages about him on pages 6–7 (fill in the blanks) or pages 8–9, with the answers or if you just want to read this aloud with your kids. As you can see from the Ronald Reagan notebook pages above, we talked about the end of WWII and the Cold War last year as well. You might want to check out [those pages](#).

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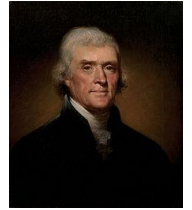
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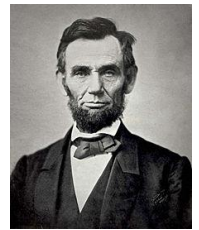
# The USA Presidents Song

Tune: Ten Little Indians Learn the names of the USA presidents in chronological order.

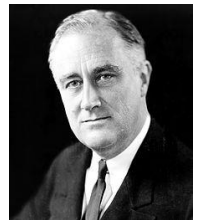
Washington, Adams, Thomas Jefferson  
Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams  
Jackson, Van Buren, William H. Harrison  
Tyler, Polk and Taylor



Fillmore, Pierce, and James Buchanan  
Lincoln, Johnson, Ulysses S. Grant  
Hayes and Garfield, Chester A. Arthur  
Cleveland, Harrison, Cleveland



McKinley, Roosevelt, William H. Taft  
Wilson, Harding, Calvin Coolidge  
Hoover, Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman  
Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson



Nixon, Ford, Jimmy Carter  
Reagan, Bush, Clinton and Bush...AGAIN  
Barack Obama's been our president  
2016, Trump was the one to win.



# Presidents & Major Events

Who was president

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

during....

the Trail of Tears.

the Civil War

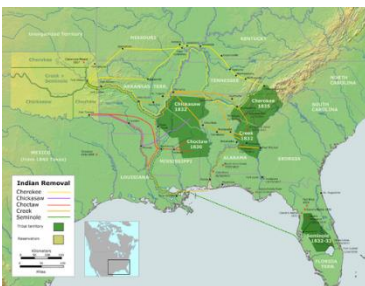
World War I

the Great Depression

World War II

the Korean War

the Cuban Missile Crisis



A map of Indian Removal

Civil War photo by Matthew Brady



World War I Trench Warfare (left)  
WWI: Chemical Warfare



Great Depression



World War II (Newspaper from D-Day)

Below: Hiroshima and Nagasaki



In 1962, the United States discovered that the Soviet Union was installing missiles in Cuba. Cartoon shows Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev as a dentist about to extract Cuban leader Fidel Castro's teeth, drawn as missiles.



# Presidents & Major Events Matching

Match the President's portrait with his name. Match the major world event to the correct President.



Andrew Jackson

the Korean War



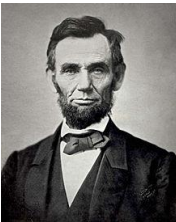
Abraham Lincoln

the Cuban Missile Crisis



Woodrow Wilson

the Great Depression



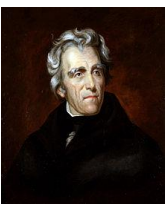
Herbert Hoover (and FDR)

the Trail of Tears



Franklin Delano Roosevelt

the Civil War



Harry S. Truman

World War I



John F. Kennedy

World War II

# Presidents & Major Events: Answers

Who was president

1. Andrew Jackson

2. Abraham Lincoln

3. Woodrow Wilson

4. Herbert Hoover (and FDR)

5. Franklin Delano Roosevelt

6. Harry S. Truman

7. John F. Kennedy

during....

the Trail of Tears.

the Civil War

World War I

the Great Depression

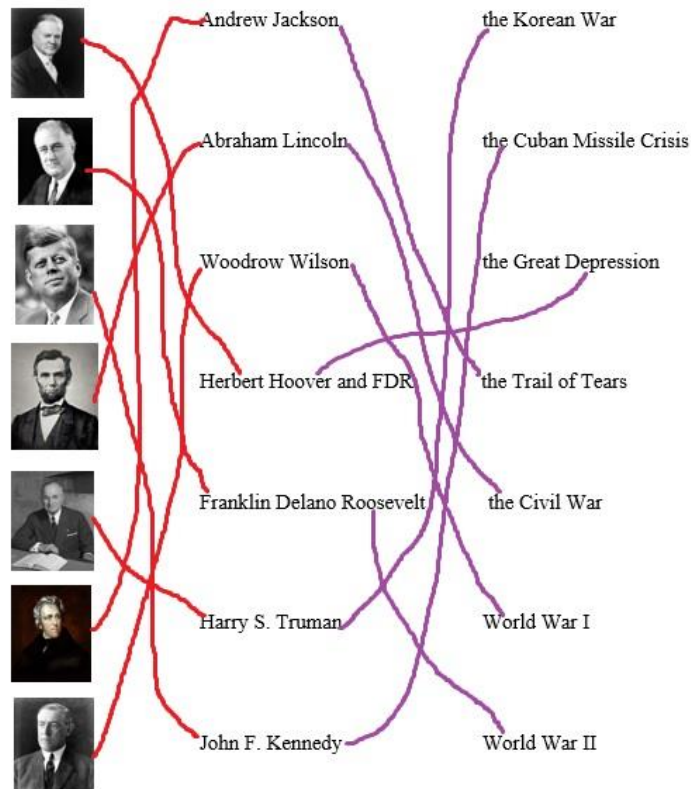
World War II

the Korean War

the Cuban Missile Crisis

## Presidents & Major Events Matching

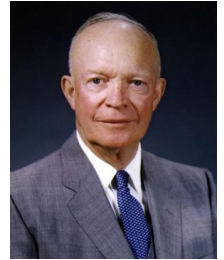
Match the President's portrait with his name. Match the major world event to the correct President.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Dwight Eisenhower, US President 1953 to 1961

Eisenhower was our \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> President. (Trump will be sworn in as our 45<sup>th</sup> President.)



Background:

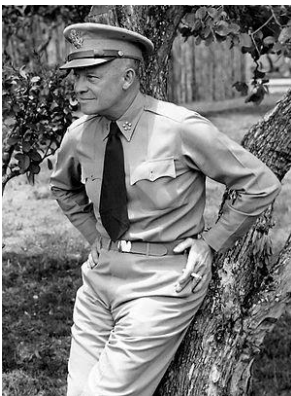
World War II broke out on September 1, 1939 when \_\_\_\_\_ invaded \_\_\_\_\_.



Adolf Hitler, above. Right: The *USS Arizona* at Pearl Harbor, Dec. 1941



The U.S. entered the war when \_\_\_\_\_ attacked \_\_\_\_\_ Harbor in Hawaii in December 1941.



In 1942, Eisenhower was appointed \_\_\_\_\_ Commander Allied of the Expeditionary Forces of the North African Theater of Operations. He was responsible for planning and supervising the invasion of North \_\_\_\_\_ in Operation Torch in 1942-43.



He served as Supreme

Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe.

Eisenhower gave the go-ahead for the invasion of Europe called Operation \_\_\_\_\_. On June 4, 1944, the Western Allies launched an amphibious invasion of France at \_\_\_\_\_. That was called \_\_\_\_\_-Day. From there, the Allies went on to free much of northwestern Europe from Nazi control.



After World War II, Eisenhower served as Army Chief of Staff under President \_\_\_\_\_. Then in 1952, he ran for President.

## Cold War:

After WWII, tensions rose between powers in the Eastern Bloc (the \_\_\_\_\_ and its satellite nations) and the Western Bloc (including the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and other NATO allies).

The first major crisis was while Truman was still President. The \_\_\_\_\_ Blockade of 1948-1949 was when the Soviets blocked the western allies' railroad lines. Supplies were brought by \_\_\_\_\_.



## Korean War:



Another crisis was in Korea. From 1910 until the end of WWII, \_\_\_\_\_ had controlled Korea. The Soviet Union liberated Korea from Japan north of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> parallel. US forces move in \_\_\_\_\_ of the line. But as Cold War tensions increased Korea was split into two regions.

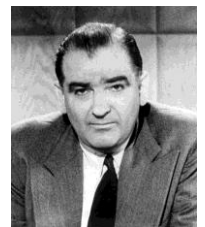
When North Korean forces moved south to unite the country in 1950, war broke out. The U.S. and other countries brought in troops to help defend South Korea.

Eisenhower became President in 1952. In his first year, he threatened to use nuclear weapons to end the fighting in Korea. Fighting ended in Korea July 1953 when an armistice was signed.

## Space Race:

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched a rocket called \_\_\_\_\_. This caught the US by surprise. Americans felt like they were behind in the space race. Eisenhower authorized the establishment of \_\_\_\_\_.

At home, a Senator from Wisconsin fueled fears of \_\_\_\_\_ subversion and infiltration in the U.S. He made claims that there were communist sympathizers and \_\_\_\_\_ in the US. He used charges of \_\_\_\_\_ to attack politicians and other individuals. Eisenhower took steps to stop \_\_\_\_\_.

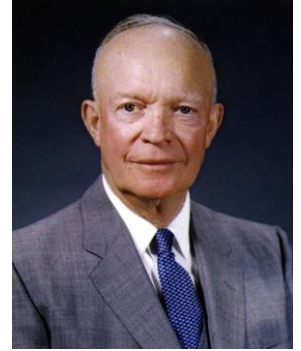


# Dwight Eisenhower, US President 1953 to 1961

Eisenhower was our 34<sup>th</sup> President. (Trump will be sworn in as our 45<sup>th</sup> President.)

Background:

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He served as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary



Forces in Europe.

Eisenhower gave the go-ahead for the invasion of Europe called Operation Overlord. On June 4, 1944, the Western Allies launched an amphibious invasion of France at Normandy. That was called D-Day. From there, the Allies went on to free much of northwestern Europe from Nazi control.

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## Cold War:

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## Korean War:



Another crisis was in Korea. From 1910 until the end of WWII, Japan had controlled Korea. The Soviet Union liberated Korea from Japan north of 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. US forces move in south of the line. But as Cold War tensions increased Korea was split into two regions.

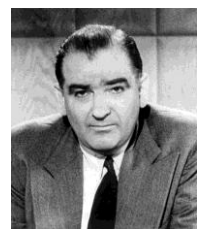
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At home, a Senator from Wisconsin fueled fears of Communist subversion and infiltration in the U.S. He made claims that there were communist sympathizers and spies in the US. He used charges of communism to attack politicians and other individuals. Eisenhower took steps to stop McCarthyism.



Be sure to check out our packets: at [homeschoolden.com](http://homeschoolden.com)  
Civics and Government Packet:



American Revolution Packet (A Study of the causes of and events leading to the American Revolution such as the French & Indian War, Sugar & Molasses Acts, Stamp Act, Boston Massacre, Townshend Acts, Boston Tea Party, Lexington & Concord and more)

**Causes and Events Leading to the AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

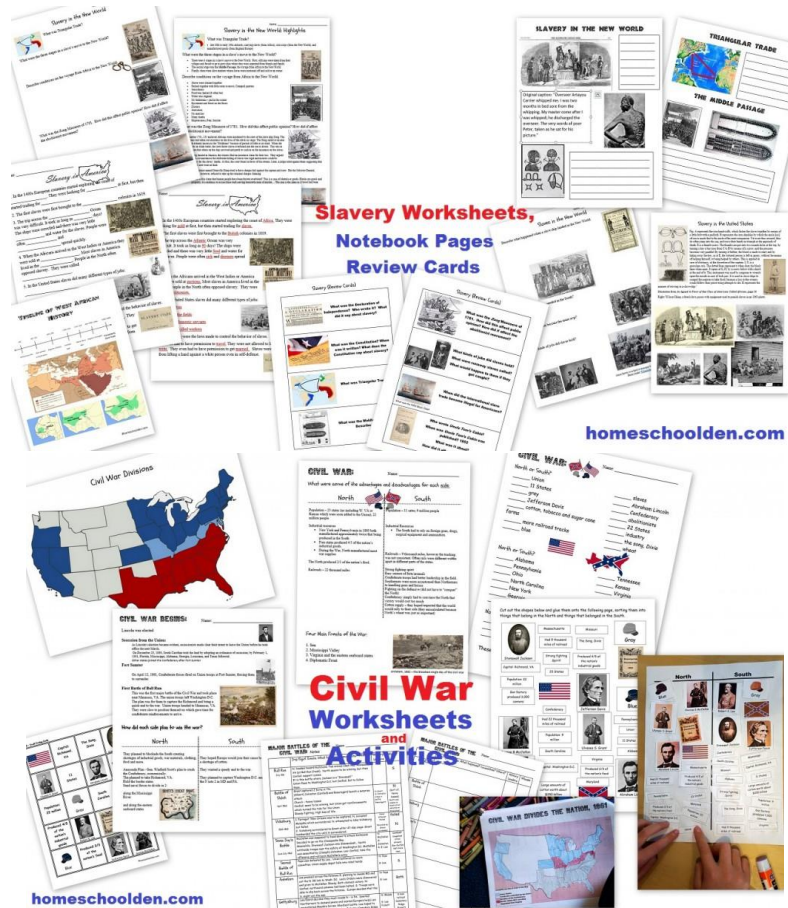
**Highlighting:**

- The French and Indian War
- Albany Plan
- Sugar and Molasses Acts
- Pontiac's Rebellion
- Proclamation of 1763
- Stamp Act
- Sons of Liberty
- No Noble Men of Boston
- Townshend Acts
- Tea Act
- Boston Tea Party
- Intolerable Acts
- First Continental Congress
- Battles of Lexington and Concord

**30-Page Packet**

**Made by Liesl at homeschoolden.com**

[Slavery and the Civil War Packet](#): Worksheets, Maps, Activities and More!

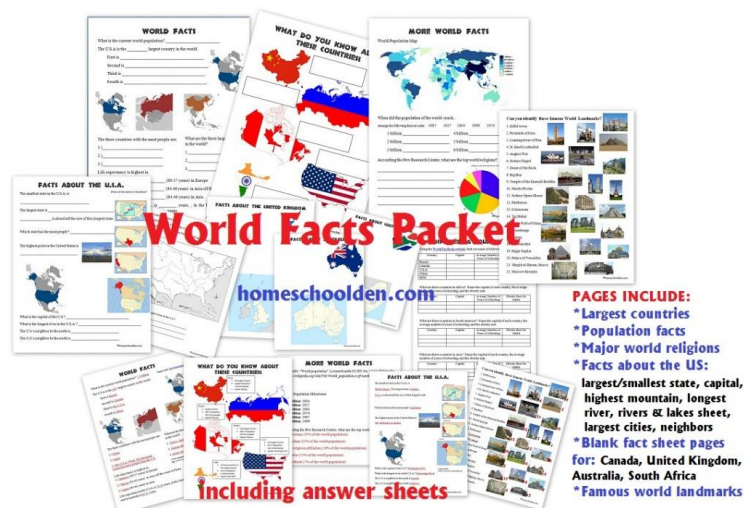


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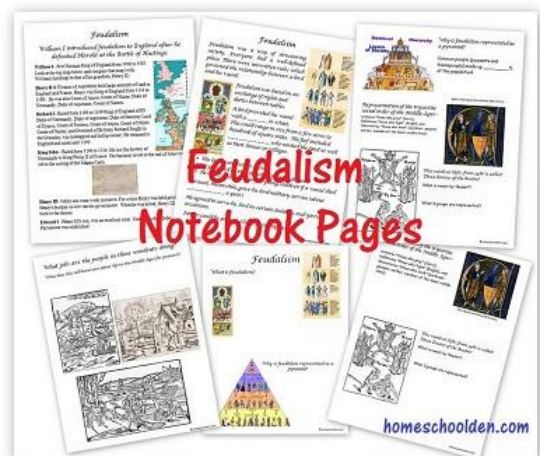
**World Facts Packet:** Do your kids know the 4 largest countries? Which countries have the most people?

The longest river? This packet covers basic world and U.S. facts!

- \*Largest countries
- \*Population facts
- \*Major world religions
- \*Facts about the World: longest river, largest desert, wettest and driest places on Earth, tallest mountain, deepest spot in the ocean, etc.
- \*Facts about the US: largest/smallest state, capital, highest mountain, longest river, rivers & lakes sheet, largest cities, neighbors
- \*Blank fact sheet pages for: Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa
- \*Famous world landmarks



## Feudalism, Medieval Art



## Middle Ages Unit Feudalism Activities




Draw cards and see what your fate is.  
Will you survive the Middle Ages?!!!



Our [History Resource Page](#) has links to dozens and dozens of our history and geography posts. We have tons of resources there that you won't want to miss including free World Religions worksheets, India learning packet, free Ancient China notebook pages, a free Civil Rights packet and more!

## History Units and Packets



### American Revolution

This year we started off with a unit on the [Causes and Events Leading to the American Revolution](#). The girls were watching the series [Liberty's Kids](#) (affiliate link) and we had also done trips to Washington's Crossing, Valley Forge and Yorktown. It made sense to do a unit on the [causes of the American Revolution](#). We covered the French and Indian War, the various acts that were passed by Parliament (Stamp Act, Tea Act, Intolerable Acts, etc.) as well as the response to that in the U.S. (the Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, etc.).



### Middle Ages Unit



Last spring, we studied the early Middle Ages. We stopped because of summer vacation. We did our unit on the American Revolution before delving back into the Middle Ages again. We picked up where we had left off and studied the Crusades, the Hundred Year's War, and the Black Plague.



