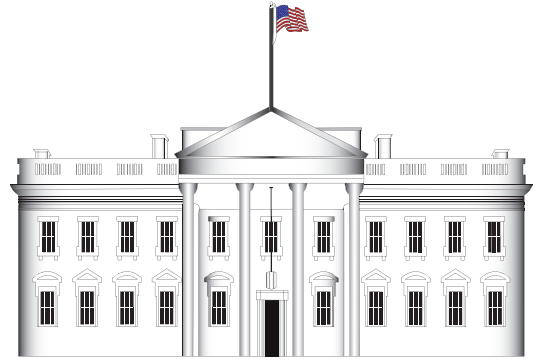


Name : _____

The Presidential Residence

by Katie Clark

When a person becomes the President of the United States, that person must live in the Presidential Residence. This residence is called the White House.



The White House is located within the capital of the United States of America. The capital is Washington D. C. It is important for the President to be close to the other government offices. This helps things run smoothly when laws are being made or foreign dignitaries visit. It also helps keep the President safe.

The White House is where the President lives, but it is also where the President works. There are government offices all around the White House, and there are even government offices inside of the White House.

The most famous office inside the White House is probably the Oval Office. This is the President's office, and it's from this room that many important decisions are made. There are many famous pictures of past presidents signing new laws at the desk inside the Oval Office.

Every President except George Washington has lived in the White House during his presidency. George Washington helped choose the location for the American capital. He also helped choose the land for the White House, and he was there when the builders laid the first stones to begin construction.

However, the building was not completed during his presidency. During the construction process, George Washington lived in New York and Philadelphia. Each of these cities was used as the national capital during this time.

John Adams was the second American President. However, he was the first

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President to live in the White House.

Today, the President moves into the White House on the day he is sworn into office. His family can decorate it in their own style. The staff does things the way the family likes them to be done. If the President likes a certain food, he can ask the chef to cook it every night!

The White House is really a mansion. There are 132 rooms, and there are 35 bathrooms. There are also 28 fireplaces and eight different sets of stairs. It takes over three hundred staff to do all the cleaning, arranging, and cooking at the White House.

The White House also has a few fun features. There is a swimming pool, a bowling alley, gardens, and a gymnasium.

There are three main parts of the White House. These three parts are the West Wing, the East Wing, and the Residence. The Residence was built first. The second floor of this building is where the family lives. It is also where the family entertains guests.

The West Wing is where many of the government offices are located. The East Wing has uses that vary. These uses are up to the current president. The East Wing may be used for the First Lady's offices. It may be used for the house staff. It may be used for guests.

The West Wing and the East Wing were built during Theodore Roosevelt's presidency, in 1902. The entire White House has been updated many times since then.

Guests can visit and tour the White House. They must request a special pass to do this. The pass can be requested from their state congressman. Once a pass is granted, visitors can tour many rooms in the White House. However, they are not allowed to see the rooms where the family lives. They are also not allowed to see the West Wing or the Oval Office. This is for safety reasons.

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The Presidential Residence

- 1) Choose the president whose name is not mentioned in this passage.
 - a) George Washington
 - b) John Adams
 - c) Theodore Roosevelt
 - d) Abraham Lincoln

- 2) Complete the comprehensive chart about the three wings of the White House.

Which wing?	What's the purpose?	When was it built?
The West Wing		
The East Wing		
The Residence		

- 3) "The most famous office inside the White House is probably the Oval Office." What reasons does the author provide to justify his assumption?
