

CLASSROOM DISCUSSION: ROCK THE PRESIDENTS

Show & Theater Company:

- *Rock the Presidents* by Childsplay

Art Form:

- Musical theater
 - ? What is musical theater? (a play with songs)

Context:

- This play is about the men who held the highest office in the United States – President of the United States.
 - ? Who was the first President of the United States? (George Washington)
 - ? Who can recite the Presidential Oath of Office?
 - ? What does the term “Oath” mean? Why is it important?
- Throughout the play students will learn about how these men made an impact during their term(s) as president.
- Each president made an impact in the United States in different ways. For example:
 - ? Which Presidents were recognized for high taxes and freedom of government that lead to the movement towards Independence? (George Washington and Thomas Jefferson)
 - ? Which President wrote the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the document that told England we were now our own country? (Thomas Jefferson)
 - ? Abraham Lincoln was most famous for getting the country through the Civil War.
 - ? What social rule did Lincoln make illegal? (slavery, in the 13th Amendment)
- Name other presidents and the impact they made in US history.

Main concepts:

- ? Who is the most powerful person in the United States?
- ? How is a President elected? (The President is elected by the people through the Electoral College)
- ? How long does the President serve in office? (A person may serve as President up to 2 four-year terms.)

Main concepts: Ethics, Morality & Citizenship

Special things to look for:

- How many presidents have held the highest office in the United States? 44
- How would you make a difference in the world if you were the President of the United States?
- Which president of the United States did you identify with most and why?

Theater Etiquette:

- Respect the theater, limit bathroom breaks, one person to a seat, do not kick the seats, no food or drink in the theater (bottled water okay), no audio, video recording or photography and remember to turn off cell phones and please no texting.
 - ? How is watching live theater different than watching a movie or TV?
 - Can't pause, rewind, or fast forward with live theater
 - Live theater is exciting, because each performance is unique
 - Students are in the same room as the performers. Every sound they make and moving around can affect the performers and other members of the audience.

Show info: *Rock the President* • Monday, October 3, 2016 • 9:30am • Grades 3-8



PRESIDENTS of the UNITED STATES



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|  | Washington | 1789-1797 |  | J. Adams | 1797-1801 |  | Jefferson | 1801-1809 |  | Madison | 1809-1817 |  | Monroe | 1817-1825 |  | J. Q. Adams | 1825-1829 |  | Jackson | 1829-1837 |  | Van Buren | 1837-1841 | | | |
|  | W. Harrison | 1841-1841 |  | Tyler | 1841-1845 |  | Polk | 1845-1849 |  | Taylor | 1849-1850 |  | Fillmore | 1850-1853 |  | Pierce | 1853-1857 |  | Buchanan | 1857-1861 |  | Lincoln | 1861-1865 |  | A. Johnson | 1865-1869 |
|  | Grant | 1869-1877 |  | Hayes | 1877-1881 |  | Garfield | 1881-1881 |  | Arthur | 1881-1885 |  | Cleveland | 1885-89, 1893-97 |  | B. Harrison | 1889-1893 |  | McKinley | 1897-1901 |  | T. Roosevelt | 1901-1909 |  | Taft | 1909-1913 |
|  | Wilson | 1913-1921 |  | Harding | 1921-1923 |  | Coolidge | 1923-1929 |  | Hoover | 1929-1933 |  | F. Roosevelt | 1933-1945 |  | Truman | 1945-1953 |  | Eisenhower | 1953-1961 |  | Kennedy | 1961-1963 |  | L. Johnson | 1963-1969 |
|  | Nixon | 1969-1974 |  | Ford | 1974-1977 |  | Carter | 1977-1981 |  | Reagan | 1981-1989 |  | G. H. Bush | 1989-1993 |  | Clinton | 1993-2001 |  | G. W. Bush | 2001-2009 |  | Obama | 2009-present | | | |

