



## 5 Minute Activities:

1) All presidents and their families have had a code name given to them by the Secret Service. All of the names in a family begin with the same letter. Kennedy was Lancer, Nixon was Searchlight and President Obama is Renegade. As a class, choose a letter for your code names. Choose a Secret Service code name for yourself. No duplicates allowed.

**Theatre: S1: C2: PO 101: Imagine and describe characters, their relationships, what they want and why.**

2) All presidential candidates make promises about what they will do for the country as part of their campaign for the presidency. Make a list of 3 things you would want to do or change if you were president for four years. Post your list in your classroom or share by reading aloud to your class.  
**Social Studies: Grade 7: S3: C4: PO 2: Discuss the character traits (e.g., respect, responsibility, fairness, involvement) that are important to the preservation and improvement of constitutional democracy in the U.S.**

3) Throughout history, presidents and other notable people have been on United States coins and currency. Pull out your coins and currency and find as many presidents as you can. Do you know which president is on the \$500 bill? \$1000? \$100,000 bill?  
**Math: Grade 1: S1: C1: PO 16: Identify money by value and name.**

4) What are some things, images or symbols that represent the United States of America? As a class, come up with a list of as many as you can in 5 minutes.  
**Social Studies Grade 1: S3: C1: PO 1: Identify national symbols and monuments that represent American democracy and values.**

## 15 Minute Activities:

1) Write a letter to President Obama that includes at least 3 questions you would like to ask him. You may want to ask him a personal question or a question regarding an issue that you're concerned about. Have an adult proofread your letter before you send it and remember to be respectful in your correspondence. You can send your letter virtually or by US mail. Check [www.whitehouse.gov/contact](http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact) for contact information.  
**Writing: Grade 7: S3: C3: PO 4: Write a formal letter that follows a conventional business letter format.**

2) Find several famous photos (or paintings/drawings) of presidents and their families or staff (Nixon shaking hands with Elvis, Johnson taking the oath on the plane, etc.) to use as inspiration. In groups of 2 or 3, physically recreate the photos by making a human frozen picture (or Tableaux). If the picture were to come to life, what would happen next? Using slow motion movement, show what happens next and decide on a second frozen picture to end the action. Take turns sharing with the class.  
**Social Studies Grade 2: S1: C1: PO 4: Use primary source materials (photos) to study people and events from the past.**

3) Thinking about the list of images and symbols that you came up with in the 5 minute activity, create your own unique symbol for the United States of America.  
**Visual Arts: S1: C4: PO 101: Select and use subject matter and/or symbols in his or her own artwork.**

## 30 Minute Activities:

1) The performance included trivia questions about various presidents in the form of "The Pres-i-tron." Divide into groups of 3 or 4. Choose a president and research facts about him. Come up with 3 presidential trivia questions in the form of multiple choice or true and false. Play your own version of "The Pres-i-tron" with your class.  
**Social Studies: Grade 4: S1: C1: PO 3: Locate information using both primary and secondary sources.**

2) Ronald Reagan was the first president to leave a private note for the incoming president before he left office. Write a letter as an outgoing president to the incoming president. What advice would you give him or her about the next 4 years in office?  
**Writing: Grade 4: S3: C3: PO 2: Write communications, including friendly letters.**

3) Discuss various political parties throughout history. In small groups, create your own political party. Come up with a philosophical statement, a name, logo and 3-5 issues for your party.  
**Writing: Grade 8: S2: C3: PO 2: Convey a sense of identity through originality, sincerity, or liveliness appropriate to the application.**

4) Sit in a circle. Assign each student the name of a president in the order they served. Come up with a physical sign to represent your president (a salute, for example). The first person shares their name and sign and the group repeats it together. The second person shares, the group repeats the new name and sign and then the previous one. Continue to add on until you've made it around the circle. All signs have to be different. Go around a second time to cover all 44 presidents.  
**Dance: S1: C1: PO 204: Apply fundamental movement patterns to warm-ups and improvisation.**