In 2016 and 2017, the White House Historical Association and the Washington Nationals partnered for an educational contest—White House at Bat: A Presidential History Challenge. This program asked local high school students to create a storyboard examining the Constitutional powers and decision-making of one of the Racing Presidents. The winning students saw their storyboards come to life as short videos which were shared with fans during a game at Nationals Park and then showcased online.

2016 Winning Project for Teddy Roosevelt
Teddy Roosevelt’s Park Preservation
By Sam and Philip O’Sullivan from School Without Walls in Washington, D.C.

2017 Winning Project for Teddy Roosevelt
The Spooner Act of 1902
This video examines Teddy’s love for nature and wildlife and his 1906 signing of the American Antiquities Act, preserving and protecting public lands.
By Sam and Philip O’Sullivan from School Without Walls in Washington, D.C.

2017 Winning Project for Teddy Roosevelt
The Spooner Act of 1902
This video details the Spooner Act, authorizing the United States to buy the land and properties in Panama needed to build the Panama Canal, creating a much more efficient shipping route between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
By Mihika Peshwa, Miranda Pierce, and Sukhman Kaur from Northwest High School in Montgomery County, MD.
On October 27, 1858, Theodore Roosevelt was born in New York City. Often sick as a child, Teddy grew to be an active young man who enjoyed traveling, history, and exploring nature. In 1880, he married Alice Lee and two years later was elected to the New York State Assembly. Sadly, his wife away in 1884, days after giving birth to their only daughter, also named Alice. Teddy then spent much of the next two years working on his ranch in the Badlands of Dakota Territory. He eventually got remarried to Edith Carow in December 1886. Together they had five more children: Theodore, Kermit, Ethel, Archie, and Quentin.

Teddy later served as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and also as a colonel in the Rough Rider Regiment during the Spanish-American War. After this, Teddy was Governor of New York, then vice president for President William McKinley. In September 1901, President McKinley was assassinated, and the 43-year-old Teddy became the 26th and youngest president. He was reelected for a second term in 1904. As president, Teddy wanted “a square deal for every man.” He became known as a “trust-buster” as he sought fairness for working citizens and stopped large companies from gaining unfair amounts of power. Teddy also worked to protect nature and wildlife in the United States, paving the way for the National Park Service. Teddy also steered the United States more actively into world politics. He liked to quote a proverb, “Speak softly and carry a big stick.” Teddy’s diplomacy resulted in the construction of the Panama Canal, an important shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. He won a Nobel Peace Prize for helping to end a war between Russia and Japan, and he sent U.S. Navy ships on a goodwill tour of the world, known as the “Great White Fleet.”

After nearly two full terms in the White House, Teddy chose not to run for president in 1908, instead going on an African safari and living a somewhat private life, except in 1912 when he ran once more on the Progressive Party ticket, unsuccessfully. Teddy passed away in his sleep in 1919.
1. In what year(s) did Teddy Roosevelt run for president? Circle all that apply!
   a. 1900
   b. 1904
   c. 1908
   d. 1912

2. Which of the following roles did Teddy fulfill prior to becoming president?
   a. Assistant Secretary of the Navy
   b. Governor of New York
   c. Vice President
   d. All of the above

3. Teddy sought fairness for working citizens and stopped large companies from gaining unfair amounts of power, earning him the title of...
   a. “Rough Rider”
   b. “Peacemaker”
   c. “Trust-Buster”
   d. “Bull Moose”

Fill in the Blank
1) Teddy often quoted his favorite proverb, “speak softly and __________.”

2) Teddy won a Nobel Peace Prize for helping to end a war between __________ and __________.

Matching Draw a line from the words on the left to the matching words on the right.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOBEL</th>
<th>DEAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROUGH</td>
<td>PRIZE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDITH</td>
<td>CANAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQUARE</td>
<td>RIDER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANAMA</td>
<td>CAROW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trace over the signature and then try to recreate it on the blank grid below.

Theodore Roosevelt

Teddy Roosevelt Quotes

“We must dare to be great; and we must realize that greatness is the fruit of toil and sacrifice and high courage…”
– Speech while campaigning for governor of New York (1898)

“I have always been fond of the South African proverb: ‘Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far.’ ”
– Letter to Henry L. Sprague (1900)

“A sound body is good; a sound mind better; but a strong and clean character is better than either.”
– Speech to students in Massachusetts (1904)

“There can be no greater issue than that of conservation in this country.”
– Speech at the Progressive National Convention (1912)

“There are many kinds of success in life worth having.”
– Autobiography (1913)
In 1901, Teddy moved into the White House with his large family. He had six children—Alice from his first marriage and Theodore Jr., Kermit, Ethel, Archie, and Quentin from his second marriage. With the Roosevelt family also came many pets, toys, and a greater need for space. The White House had never hosted such a large, young family.

The second floor of the White House was supposed to house space for the first family’s bedrooms and for the president’s office. First Lady Edith Roosevelt sketched a plan with this space for her family, but quickly realized it would not work long-term. In 1902, she hired architect Charles McKim to renovate the White House and design a temporary office building that eventually became the modern West Wing.

Check out this short video, The Roosevelt Family at the White House, to learn more about how Teddy’s family made the most of their space.

Redesign Your Space
Imagine you are an architect charged with redesigning the layout of your family’s home—or imagine your apart of the first family—and redesign the layout of the White House! Use this sheet of paper to sketch your own plans.

What does your family need more space for: work, fun, more bedrooms? Would you add anything outside, like a baseball field or...
LEARN TO DRAW TEDDY!

STEP ONE

STEP TWO

STEP THREE

STEP FOUR

NOW YOU TRY!
Add the body underneath the head if you like.

ARTIST: JOHN HUTTON
COMPARE & CONTRAST PORTRAITS

Two famous paintings of Teddy from the White House Collection:

Theodore Roosevelt, by John Singer Sargent, 1903:
This is Teddy’s official presidential portrait by American artist John Singer Sargent.
This painting currently hangs in the East Room.

Theodore Roosevelt, by Tadé Styka c. 1909:
This painting of Theodore Roosevelt was painted by Polish artist Tadé Styka.
Teddy is depicted during his time serving with the “Rough Riders” volunteer cavalry unit.
This painting currently hangs in the Roosevelt Room.

Use the Venn diagram below to compare and contrast these two iconic paintings of Teddy.
In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?
Answers for Multiple Choice:
1. B
2. D
3. C

Answers for Fill in the Blank:
1. “Carry a big stick.”
2. Russia, Japan

Answers for Matching:
Nobel Prize
Rough Rider
Edith Carow
Square Deal
Panama Canal

NATURE
TRUST BUSTER
NEW YORK
ROUGH RIDER
NOBEL PRIZE

SAFARI
PANAMA
BADLANDS
PRESIDENT
STRENUOUS