

Name _____

Skill: Reading Comprehension

Read the story and answer the questions.

Dolley Madison

Many people have heard of President James Madison, who was the fourth president of the United States. Madison was president from 1809-1817. Many people today don't realize that his wife, Dolley Madison, was a brave woman in addition to being the First Lady. During the War of 1812, the city of Washington D.C. and the White House were under fire from the British. President Madison had to leave the White House to direct troops, but the First Lady stayed in the White House. Although the British were marching toward the White House, Mrs. Madison refused to leave. She wanted to make sure that a picture of George Washington and a copy of the Declaration of Independence had been safely removed. Not long after she fled, the British burned the White House to the ground. Many people admire Dolley Madison for being so brave when she was in such danger.



1. What is the main idea of this story? (Circle the answer)
- A. President Madison served as president during the War of 1812.
 - B. Dolley Madison is admired for her bravery.
 - C. The United States and the British fought against each other at the White House.

2. What is another name for the wife of the President of the United States?

3. What does the word "admire" mean? (Circle the answer)
- A. to look in the mirror
 - B. dislike
 - C. to regard with pleasure or respect

4. For how many years was James Madison President?

5. What did Dolley Madison want to do before leaving the White House as the British were marching there?

6. Why were the actions of Dolley Madison considered brave?
