Lesson Resources and Plans for Celebrating President's Day 2009

- At www.whitehouse.gov you will find an index to the biographies of all presidents of the United States of America, from 1789 to present in addition to a wealth of other current and past information. **If you have your students use the internet to search the white house site just be sure to have them go to whitehouse.gov not whitehouse.com as they will find inappropriate items on the wrong site.
- This year's law day theme is Legacy of Liberty—Celebrating Lincoln's Bicentennial. As such you can find lesson plans related to the theme at www.lawday.org.
- www.ehow.com: How to Write Lesson Plans for Presidents' Day By eHow Education Editor: Instructions

Step1: Borrow lesson plans from other teachers. Many teachers exchange their lesson plans. You can then use the plan as an outline to write material geared for your students.

Step2: Search the library and Internet for information on the presidents. Make a timeline of the presidents' terms. The timeline can organize the information you gather. Visit the White House's website to find more information about each president.

Step3: Play a game of what it would be like to be a president for the day. For younger students, this could be a simple checklist of what duties a president performs. Older students might search for a game online like PBS Kids' "The Democracy Project."

Step4: Keep a log of the things that a president does. Look in newspapers and cut out articles to include in your lesson plans. Have kids read the newspapers to find out about the current President's activities.

Step5: Study the profiles of several different presidents and compare and contrast them. Use a VENN diagram or another graphic organizer to compare and contrast the presidents.

****This site has an enormous number of lessons for all grade levels!!! www.edhelper.com: At this website home page choose United States and scroll down to the Presidents link. There are also many other topics to choose from including tools for creating word searches and time lines. The following are some sample lessons on this site for all grade levels: Be The President – Making Your Own Budget; PDF time lines for your bulletin board; Reading Comprehensions; Read and Color; Finish the Story; Analogies; Book Units; Multiple Choice Reviews; Who is this President; Crossword Puzzles; Story Prompts; and Activity Puzzles and Printables.

Samples: What's in The White House? (Very Quick Reader; Grade 5 Readability)

Barack Obama (Short Reader; Grade 5 Readability)

The Picture of a President (Short Reader; Grade 6 Readability)

Reading Comprehensions:

Dolley Madison Saves President Washington (Grades 2-3)