

## Reagan Library Project Kit

Congratulations! You're going to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum! Use these project ideas to enrich your educational experience. Read through them before you go to make sure you understand the terms and concepts, and to help you determine if you want to expand upon any of them. **You'll find fun facts and printable worksheets at the end of this packet.**

a- elementary level activity    b- middle school level activity    c- high school level activity

### **Language Arts**

Ronald Reagan gave many speeches during his political career. Speeches are an important part of a President's job, but did you know that most politicians don't write their own speeches?! There is a team of people who research and write speeches for others. Explore being a speech writer.

- a. Find something at the Library which you could write a speech about and write or draw a short presentation about that thing. Learn about audience and tone and their importance.
- b. Choose one of the events or ideas which Ronald Reagan delivered a speech for. Identify the audience, the tone, and any other markers of good persuasive writing. Try your hand at writing a speech for that event or idea.
- c. Write a speech for a current event or policy. Identify your audience, appropriate tone, and include elements of good persuasive writing. Delivery your speech to another person or group.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil

Submission: A copy of your writings/drawing, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

### **Applied Math**

Go on a math hunt! Math isn't as obvious in some places as it is in others, but it is everywhere! Presidents receive reports from analysts which must be extremely accurate. Lives and the fates of nations depend on it. Be observant on your trip to find stories, events, procedures, etc which require the use of math.

- a. Go on a shape hunt. Draw and label the shapes you find. Also, draw a representation of at least two patterns you find.
- b. Identify a useful application of math in the job of being President. What does the President need to know about math to be good at his job? Outline a scenario that you encountered on your trip and use math to solve it.
- c. Imagine you're part of an analyst team. Identify the types of math you might encounter when developing a report for the President. Create a scenario and write a report, making sure your math is accurate. You can get ideas for your scenario on your visit.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil, calculator or smartphone (optional)

Submission: Your calculations, estimations, and conclusions, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

## **Science**

Air Force One looks like a luxurious air cruiser, but the technology it needs to serve the President is intricate and nuanced. Explorer Air Force One and all of the engineering and tech it uses.

- a. Draw and/or write about one feature of the plane which requires unique engineering or technology. Look for examples in security and communication.
- b. Identify three features of the plane which requires unique engineering or technology. Write a brief description of each feature and its use and importance.
- c. Choose one feature of the plane and write a detailed report on the engineering and/or tech it utilizes. Include materials, function, maintenance, and that features importance to the function of the plane or the office of the President.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil

Submission: A copy of your drawings, diagrams, or designs, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

## **Social Studies**

“Let our children and grandchildren come here and see this wall and reflect on what it meant to history. Let them understand that only vigilance and strength will deter tyranny.” Visit the piece of the Berlin wall and reflect on its significance. Learn more about the history of the wall and what it meant to the people when it came down.

- a. Draw or write about the wall piece and what you think it would be like to live on one side versus the other.
- b. Research the history of the wall. What was it’s original purpose? What did the Soviet Union hope to achieve? What effect did it have? Why did it come down? How did life in Germany improve after that? Be sure to include dates.
- c. Research in depth the process of erecting the wall. Read first-hand accounts and stories about that time. Write a short essay on the process and the effect it had on the people. Include dates and names where appropriate. Distinguish between fact and your world view in your research and in your writing. Include your views on the events in your paper.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil, smartphone (optional)

Submission: A copy of your writings/drawings, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

# FUN FACTS

- The Reagan Presidential Library receives thousands of requests from researchers all over the world to study over 50 million pages of presidential papers, documents from Reagan's eight years as California's Governor, and half a million feet of motion picture film. The library has 20,500 video tapes, 25,500 audio recordings, nearly 1.5 million photographs, and 10,000 volumes of books and other publications.
- Starting out in radio and small role acting, Ronald Reagan won a seven-year contract with Warner Brothers in 1937, and became a famous movie and television actor; he is credited with 53 different acting roles in his television/movie career.
- Ronald Reagan became the 40th President of America in 1981, when he was 69 years of age, he served for 8 years until 1989.
- 69 days after Ronald Reagan became president an assassination attempt was made on his life, a shot punctured his lung and he suffered internal bleeding. At the time he light-heartedly said, "I forgot to duck."
- Ronald Reagan was known to some as the "Jelly Bean Man" because of his love of them! 3.5 tons of Jelly Bellie beans were dispatched to the White House for his 1981 presidential celebrations. A blue one, blueberry flavour, was developed especially for the occasion so that red, white and blue were each represented.
- The President lost partial hearing in one ear when he was hurt on a movie set in the late 1930s, after a gun was fired next to his ear. Decades later, President Reagan wrote to Michael Jackson offering his support after Jackson was burned filming a TV commercial.
- Ronald Reagan was once quoted as saying "We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone"

# The Reagan Library

1. Draw a picture of your favorite part of the library.



2. Describe your favorite part and why you love it..

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3. What is one thing you learned about Ronald Reagan?

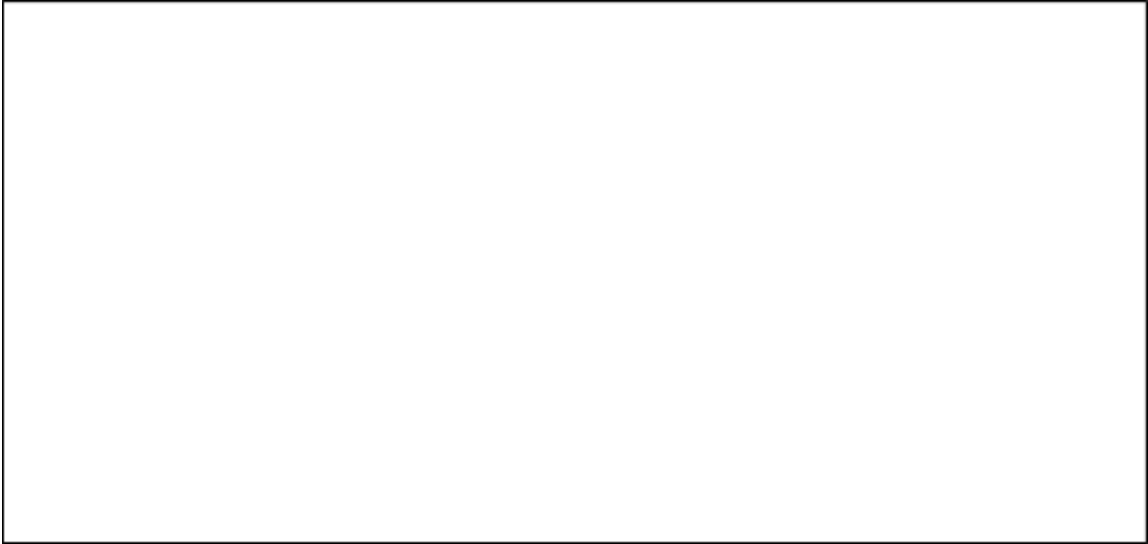
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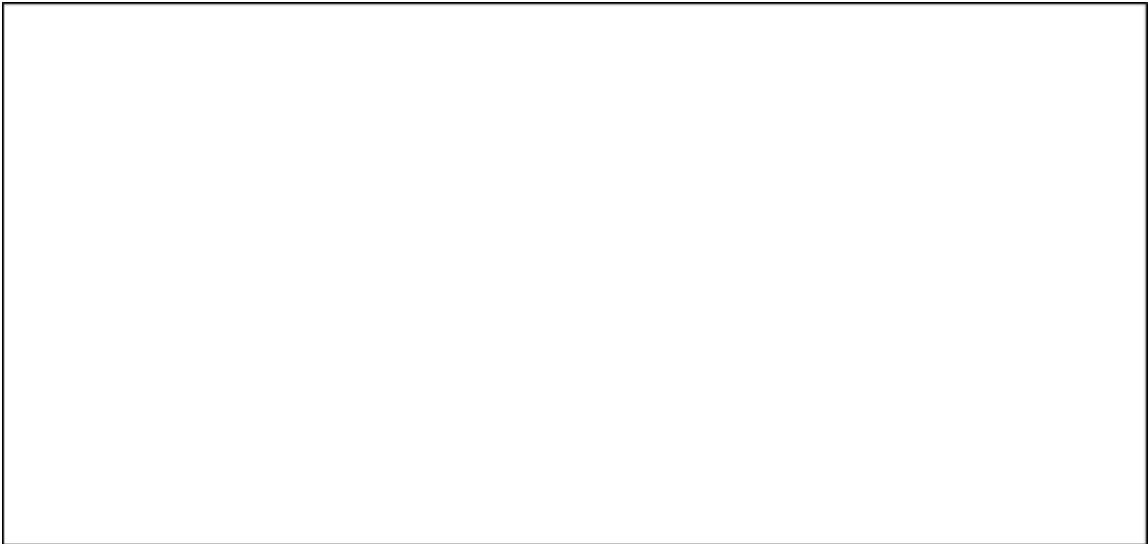
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4. Draw or describe how the library catalogs its books.



5. Describe or draw something that has historical importance.



6. Explain one thing you learned about being President.

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BONUS:

Describe something you learned about taking care of collections of materials like books and audio recordings. Ask a docent for more information or research yourself.

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