

The Role of a First Lady

Although the Constitution of the United States does not assign the First Lady any official duties, since the early 1900s, the wives of the Presidents have chosen to use the prestige and power of their position to work on special projects they find important. For example, Mrs. Hoover worked hard to promote the Girl Scouts, Mrs. Johnson started a project to beautify the nation's capital, and Mrs. Bush focused on literacy and education. Do you know what Mrs. Obama is working on?

Based on what you have learned from the exhibit, what do you think was First Lady Pat Nixon most important project? _____

If you were First Lady, or First Man!, what programs would you create? _____

A Month in the White House

One of the best resources to better understand Mrs. Nixon's day-to-day activities is her daily calendar. See if you can use Mrs. Nixon schedule from April 1972 printed below to answer the questions provided.

MRS. NIXON						
April 1972						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 EASTER	3	4 Photo 2:30 pm Jesse Owens Library Photo 3:00 pm w/Mmes. Powell & Chase for Corcoran-Lib.	5 Travel for Foreign Dip. Luncheon 12:30 pm Renwick Gallery	6 L. A. Theta Sigma Phi Award 12:30 S. Calif	7 S. C. Fremont House-Tucson Rep. Conf. Banquet-Phoenix	8
9	10 Tree Planting Ceremony-WW 2:00 pm	11 Senate Ladies Luncheon U. S. Capitol Am. Pen Women Open House 2:30 pm	12 Funeral 9 a.m. by Rev. Byrne	13 Canada	14	15 OAS Dinner
16	17 DARs Tour 2:30 pm	18	19 John Stanley House Opening N. C.	20 Pandas/Zoo 10:00 a.m. Theatre 2 pm ASNE Recp. 5:00 pm	21 Int'l. Choral Festival t 2:30 pm (650)	22
23	24 Julia Teacher of the Yr.	25 "Woman of the Year" Award Presentation	26 Jefferson Lectures Group t/t 3:15 pm	27 Cong. Ladies Breakfast Shorham Hotel Int'l. Un. Op. Eng. t/t 2:30 pm	28 Teacher of the Year	29 7:30
30 Sec Comdly						

1. How many times did Mrs. Nixon meet with groups related to Congress?

2. What awards did she present?

3. Did she visit any foreign countries?

4. On April 20, Mrs. Nixon attended a very special ceremony welcoming two Giant Pandas to the National Zoo. Why was this important? Hint: It has to do with a very special visit to another country.

5. How did Mrs. Nixon celebrate Earth Day? Hint: What did she do on April 10?

The Pat Nixon Centennial Exhibit

People were her project.

Student Activity Guide



Pat Nixon

Many Different Names

Although the world knew her as Pat, Mrs. Nixon's went by many different names during her life. Using the clues below, see if you can unscramble First Lady Pat Nixon's favorite nicknames.

1. ABBE _____ *Hint: What her father liked to call her.*
2. ATLMHE _____ *Hint: Her given name.*
3. YDUDB _____ *Hint: What her high school friends called her.*
4. TRAIIPCA _____ *Hint: The name on her college diploma.*

BONUS CHALLENGE! Explore the exhibit to see if you can figure out why Mrs. Nixon was called Pat. *Hint: It has to do with the day she celebrated her birthday!*

Life in California

Before she moved into the White House, Pat Nixon lived, worked and went to school right here in California! Fill in the blanks to learn more about her early life.



Pat Nixon's family moved from Ely, Nevada to _____, California shortly after she turned one.

Her father, William Ryan, was known as the _____ King.

To help pay for her father's medical care, Pat took a job at First National _____.

She graduated from USC with a degree in _____.

After college, Mrs. Nixon taught five classes a day at _____ Union High School.

Pat worked at the Office of _____ Administration in San Francisco after Richard joined the Navy.

_____, Pat and Richard's first daughter, was born in Whittier, California.

C W H I T T I E R
 A R T E S I A H E
 B W L B N P E I B
 B I N A K L E T C
 A H Q N L I A B O
 G P A K P R I C E
 E D U C A T I O N
 P R T R I C I A I

See if you can find the answers in this word search!

Tour of Africa

In January 1972, First Lady Pat Nixon embarked on a solo tour of Africa. Over eight days she visited three different countries: Liberia, Ghana, and the Ivory Coast. Can you locate these three nations on this map of modern day Africa? How many other countries can you identify?



BONUS CHALLENGE! Can you name their capitals?



Traveling the World

As First Lady, Mrs. Nixon represented the United States in more countries than any other First Lady before her! Explore the exhibit to find the answers to the crossword clues below.

Across:

1. In 1969, Pat Nixon became the first First Lady to visit an active combat zone when she met with citizens and soldiers involved in the _____ War.

2. While on their famous visit to the People's Republic of China in 1972, President and Mrs. Nixon were photographed on the _____ Wall of China, a series of ancient stone and earthen barricades designed to protect the Chinese Empire from invasion.

Down:

1. As First Lady, Mrs. Nixon helped deliver emergency supplies to _____ after a devastating earthquake on May 31, 1970 left over 800,000 people homeless.

2. Vice-President and Mrs. Nixon encountered dangerous protesters on a visit to this capital of Venezuela.

