



Democracy for Juniors

Troop Leader Guide

Welcome to the Richard Nixon Presidential Library! To earn your “Democracy for Juniors” badge today, you must complete the five activities listed on this worksheet and have an adult witness sign it. Good luck and have fun!

1. Find out about local government.
2. Find out about state government.
3. Find out about our country’s legislative branch.
4. Find out about our country’s executive branch.
5. Find out about our country’s judicial branch.

You will discover some new things about America’s presidents while creating a presidential trivia challenge!

Exhibits of interest for this badge: *America's Government (front of Theater 37), Foreign Policy, and Domestic Policy.*

- 1) What are the three parts of state and local government?

All state governments and the federal government consist of three parts, which are called the branches of government. You can imagine the government as a tree with three branches: legislative, executive, and judicial.

- 2) Why is it divided into parts?

The government is divided in this way to ensure power is shared so no part has too much.

- 3) What does each branch do?

- The legislative branch makes laws.
- The executive branch implements laws.
- The judicial branch interprets the laws - decides what the law means if there are questions.

- 4) Who is the head of the executive branch?

The head of the executive branch in the U.S. is the president. Starting at age 18, citizens of the United States can vote for president every four years.



5) Collect fun facts about President Nixon for a trivia challenge.

Now it's time to create your trivia challenge! Go online and research interesting facts about America's presidents. Some examples:

- Which president had a cat named Socks? President Bill Clinton
- How many presidents have stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame? 2 - President Ronald Reagan and President Donald Trump
- What President is in the most requested photograph from the National Archives? President Richard Nixon. The photo of Elvis and President Nixon shaking hands in the Oval Office is the most requested photo from the US National Archives.
- Who is the only native Californian to be President? President Richard Nixon. Although the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum is in Simi Valley, California, he was born in Tampico, Illinois.
- Who was President during every successful moon landing? President Richard Nixon
- What is President Nixon's favorite snack? Cottage cheese with ketchup.

Reflection

- 6) What was the most surprising thing you discovered?
- 7) Would you want to be president of the United States? Why or why not?
- 8) How can you share what you've learned with other girls?

Fun Idea:

Come up with fun questions and quiz your friends or family. Can you think of prizes for the winners? You could even host a trivia night with your family at home. Make themed snacks or have guests dress up as their favorite president or presidential candidate.

