

# CONNECT 123

Your Family • Community • World

## THIS ISSUE

- Week 1:  
Black history month
- Week 2:  
Library lovers month
- Week 3: Presidents,  
elections



### Black History Month

As the son of former slaves, Carter G. Woodson knew firsthand that there was plenty to be told about the black experience in America. The problem was, no one was telling it, at least in school. Woodson, a teacher, was so troubled by the fact that there was no information on black history that he took it upon himself to start the American Negro Academy to study the history of blacks and, in 1926, established Negro History Week to celebrate their proud heritage.

That weeklong observance grew into Black History Month in February. Today, Black History Month not only provides Americans an opportunity to learn about the African-American culture and its contributions, but also about how all people, regardless of race, religion or nationality, have a rightful place in the story of our country.



## Against the odds

In pre- and post-Civil War America, African-Americans suffered the bonds of slavery and faced the discouragement of postwar poverty and legal discrimination in the educational system. Yet a quick look back through our country's history shows that despite these obstacles, African-Americans are well represented on America's list of important inventors.

As the saying goes, "Necessity is the mother of invention," and as these Americans looked around their world and saw things that needed

changing, they rose above their circumstances, showing the best of human intellect and determination.

You might not recognize the names you see on the following pages, but you'll be surprised at how familiar their inventions are in your everyday life! And, while their individual stories are important in American history, as a group, the people behind the names demonstrate that human imagination and our drive to better ourselves are powerful tools that can overcome great odds.



MOUNTAIN AMERICA  
CREDIT UNION



## Want to become a millionaire?

Have you ever dreamed of being a millionaire? Do you know anyone who has made millions of dollars? It may seem like a difficult goal to achieve, but if you save your money and invest it well, you can become a millionaire.

Follow these important strategies to start making moolah:

- Start now.** The sooner you begin saving, the sooner you can make your dreams come true.

- Consistency** is a key to building your savings. A good habit is to save at least 10 percent of everything you earn.

- Don't put all your eggs in one basket.** Keep savings separate from your cash flow for expenses. Think long term for your future goals — college, a car, a home — and short term for other expenses.

- Look for a high rate of return** (higher than the rate of a regular savings account). For instance, regular savings accounts pay lower interest than share certificates or certificates of deposit, but you can access your funds in your savings account anytime. CDs require a minimum balance and restrict withdrawals to certain periods of time in return for higher dividend rates. If you are OK with the tradeoffs of a higher rate, go with it. It will help grow your savings faster.

- Get compounding interest,** which means your earnings are reinvested. This is another vital key to building your fortune. The really big changes in your balance will occur in the later years, but only if you start early.

# NORBERT Rillieux

(1806-1894)

Born in New Orleans, Norbert Rillieux was the son of a wealthy, white plantation master and a slave mother. When Norbert was born, his father could declare him free or a slave. Most plantation owners would have declared him a slave, but Norbert's father declared him free, which gave Norbert access to education and other "white" privileges.

As a young man, Rillieux was sent to L'Ecole Central in Paris, France, to be educated as an engineer. After graduating, he returned to Louisiana and became one of the most famous engineers in the state.

Despite his professional success, Rillieux eventually returned to France because of increasing restrictions on blacks in Louisiana.



### ACTIVITY

Find and read articles in the Deseret News that are profiles of people. Then, choose one of the inventors profiled in this section and read more about him or her, looking for details that a newspaper profile includes. Using the information in this section and other resources, write a newspaper-style profile for this inventor.



SHUTTERSTOCK

### HOW HE CHANGED YOUR LIFE

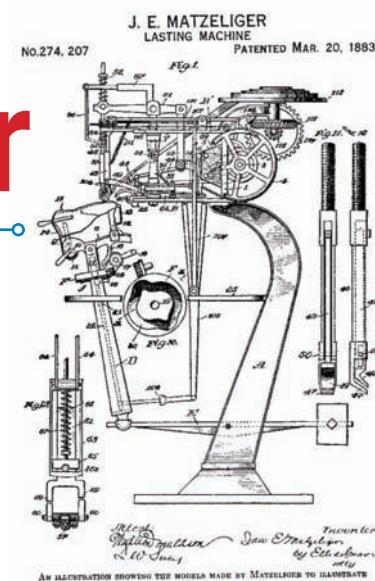
In the 1830s, sugar was an expensive luxury. The process used to extract the sugar from sugar cane or sugar beets was slow and costly. But more important to Rillieux was that the process was dangerous and required the back-breaking labor of slaves. Even after that process, sugar at the time was a brown and sticky mass, rather than the fine white crystals we use today. Rillieux developed a process that was safer, more efficient, less costly and produced higher quality granulated sugar. This not only made sugar affordable to the masses but drastically changed the food-manufacturing industry and our eating habits.



# JAN ERNST Matzeliger

(1806-1894)

Jan Ernst Matzeliger was born in Dutch Guiana to a Dutch father and Surinamese mother. At the age of 10, he went to work in his father's machine shop. Later, though barely able to speak English, Matzeliger earned his way to the United States by working as a sailor. Once on U.S. soil he worked in Philadelphia for a while before moving to Lynn, Massachusetts, where, at 18, he went to work in a shoe factory.



AN ILLUSTRATION SHOWING THE MODEL MADE BY MATZELIGER TO ILLUSTRATE HIS INVENTIONS IN SHOE MACHINES.

### HOW HE CHANGED YOUR LIFE

Just six years after landing in the United States, Matzeliger revolutionized the American shoe industry by inventing a machine that opened the doors for the mass production of shoes. Before Matzeliger's invention, only part of a shoe was made by machine. The last step — shaping the leather over the form of a human foot and stitching it to the sole of the shoe — is called lasting.

and lasting was still being done by hand. So, no matter how fast the rest of a shoe could be manufactured, this final step — the hand work — slowed the production of shoes to only 40 to 50 shoes per worker per day. Because they were handmade, shoes were expensive.

Many inventors had tried, and failed, to create a machine to perform this final step. It was believed throughout the shoe industry that it simply couldn't be done. Matzeliger

was determined and worked for years to create a machine that could complete the shoemaking process. In 1882, he applied for a patent, sending a diagram of his lasting machine to the Washington patent office. The drawings were so complicated that patent officers couldn't understand them; they actually visited Matzeliger to see the model. His patent was awarded in 1883. Because of Matzeliger's invention, Lynn, Massachusetts became the shoe capital of the world.



Madam C.J.

**ACTIVITY**

Setting up a business to manufacture your invention will take money. Go through the ads in your paper and cut out those that are advertising banking or lending services. As a class, discuss which lending institution you would approach for a loan.

*"If I have accomplished anything in life it is because I have been willing to work hard."*

— Madame C.J. Walker

## MADAME C.J. Walker

(1867-1919)

**S**arah Breedlove McWilliams Walker was born in Louisiana in 1867, the daughter of former slaves. Orphaned at the age of 6, she and her sister survived by working in the cotton fields.

At 14 she married C.J. Walker and had a daughter. Her husband died a few years later, though, and she found herself a widow at 20. To support herself and her daughter, she worked as a laundry woman. During the 1890s, she began to lose her hair and started to experiment with home remedies. She eventually developed a line of hair products and cosmetics that made Madame Walker America's first self-made female millionaire — of any color.

*"I am a woman who came from the cotton fields of the South. From there I was promoted to the washtub. From there I was promoted to the cook kitchen. And from there I promoted myself into the business of manufacturing hair goods and preparations. ... I have built my own factory on my own ground."*

— Madame C.J. Walker

**HOW SHE CHANGED YOUR LIFE**

Walker's most famous invention was a way to straighten hair chemically. Before her product, black women who wanted straight hair had to press their hair with a flat iron. Her hair softener and straightening comb

made straightening hair easy and affordable. Walker's line of hair products and cosmetics opened the door for a beauty and cosmetics industry that catered to black women. Perhaps more importantly, her company gave thousands of black women an opportunity for meaningful employment.

**HOW HE CHANGED YOUR LIFE**

After a conversation with a truck driver who had lost a shipment of chickens because the trip had taken too long, Jones invented a practical refrigeration system for trucks and railroad cars. This invention revolutionized the eating habits of the country.

The following is a list of

African-American

inventors and their

creations. As you go

through the list, pay

attention to the things

you might be using or

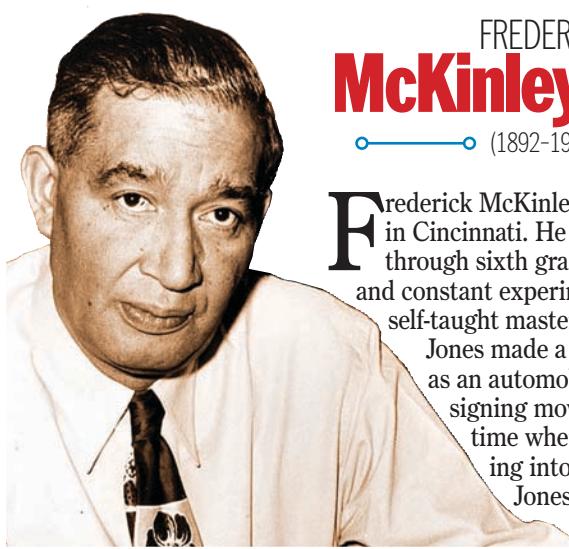
experience the benefits of

every day. Keep in mind, though, that more than one patent can (and usually is) awarded for the same type of machine. For example, the horseshoe listed below might have its own patent because of a variation in shape or how it is attached to a horse's hoof.



INVENTOR	INVENTION	PATENT DATES
A.P. Ashbourne	Biscuit cutter	Nov. 30, 1875
L.C. Bailey	Folding bed	July 18, 1899
A.J. Beard	Rotary engine	July 5, 1892
A.J. Beard	Car coupler	Nov. 23, 1897
G.E. Becket	Letter box	Oct. 4, 1892
L. Bell	Locomotive smoke stack	May 23, 1871
M.E. Benjamin	Gong and signal chairs for hotels	July 17, 1888
M.W. Binga	Street sprinkling apparatus	July 22, 1879
A.B. Blackburn	Railway signal	Jan. 10, 1888
Henry Blair	Corn planter	Oct. 14, 1834
Henry Blair	Cotton planter	Aug. 31, 1836
C.B. Brooks	Street sweepers	March 17, 1896
O.E. Brown	Horseshoe	Aug. 23, 1892
J.A. Burr	Lawn mower	May 9, 1899
J.W. Butts	Luggage carrier	Oct. 10, 1899
W.C. Carter	Umbrella stand	Aug. 4, 1885
T.S. Church	Carpet beating machine	July 29, 1884
G. Cook	Automatic fishing device	May 10, 1899
P.W. Cornwall	Draft regulator	Feb. 7, 1893
A.L. Cralle	Ice-cream mold	Feb. 2, 1897
W.R. Davis Jr.	Library table	Sept. 24, 1878
C.J. Dorticus	Machine for embossing photos	April 16, 1895
T. Elkins	Refrigerating apparatus	Nov. 4, 1879
F. Flemings Jr.	Guitar (variation)	March 3, 1886
G.F. Grant	Golf tee	Dec. 12, 1899
J. Gregory	Motor	April 26, 1887
M. Headen	Foot power hammer	Oct. 5, 1886
B.F. Jackson	Gas burner	April 4, 1899
J.L. Love	Pencil sharpener	1897
T.J. Marshall	Fire extinguisher (variation)	May 26, 1872
Elijah McCoy	Lubricator for steam engines	July 2, 1872
J.F. Pickering	Airship	1900
W.B. Purvis	Fountain pen	1890
H. Spears	Portable shield for infantry	Dec. 27, 1870
Rufus Stokes	Air-purification device	1968
E.H. Sutton	Cotton cultivator	April 7, 1878
Granville T. Woods	Electromechanical brake	Aug. 16, 1887

Patent rules passed in 1793 and 1836 allowed slaves to legally patent their inventions. Despite these rules, however, an invention was often stolen by a slave's owner, who would patent it in his name.



## FREDERICK McKinley Jones

(1892-1961)

**F**rederick McKinley Jones grew up an orphan in Cincinnati. He attended school only through sixth grade, but through curiosity and constant experimentation, he became a self-taught master of electronic devices.

Jones made a career for himself working as an automobile mechanic as well as designing movie sound equipment at the time when silent movies were turning into "talkies." Over his career, Jones patented 61 inventions.



### HOW SHE CHANGED YOUR LIFE

In 1988, Bath patented the Cataract Laserphaco Probe. This device uses the power of a laser to quickly and painlessly vaporize cataracts from patients' eyes. With this invention, Bath was able to give sight back to several people who had been blind for more than 30 years.

**D**r. Patricia Bath, an ophthalmologist, was born in Harlem in New York City. Her father, Rupert Bath, came to the United States from Trinidad and became the first black motorman for the New York City subways. Her mother, Gladys, was descended from African slaves and Cherokee Indians. She was determined Patricia and her brother would have the best education possible. When Patricia was in middle school, her mother went to work cleaning people's homes. "She scrubbed floors so I

## DR. PATRICIA Bath

(1942—)

IRRIGATOR

20  
LASER

34  
OPHTHALMOLOGIST

could go to medical school," Bath said.

After graduating from the Howard University School of Medicine, Bath became the first African-American woman surgeon at the UCLA Medical Center and the first woman on the faculty of the UCLA Jules Stein Eye Institute. She is also the first African-American woman doctor to receive a patent for a medical invention. Bath has focused her career and research on the prevention, care, and treatment of blindness.



## SHIRLEY A. Jackson

(1946—)

**S**hirley A. Jackson was born in Washington, D.C. Her early interest in math and science was encouraged by her father, who would help her with class projects. After high school, Jackson enrolled at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As one of only a few black students at MIT, Jackson was treated differently by her classmates, and some faculty even tried to discourage her interest in physics. But Jackson persevered and became the first African-American woman to receive a doctorate in the field of particle physics. While at MIT, Jackson co-founded the Black Student Union to encourage more African-Americans to attend the prestigious school. She has received numerous awards and honors throughout her career, including being named chair of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by President Bill Clinton in 1995.

This section holds only a few of the many African-American inventors in our country's history. In small groups, learn about three more African-American inventors, then present your findings to the class.

### ACTIVITY

Look through the ads in the newspaper and choose a product that you are particularly thankful for (a computer, favorite soft drink, etc.). Now, conduct research to find out how that product was invented. Was there one inventor or many who built on previous inventions?

### HOW SHE CHANGED YOUR LIFE

After college, Jackson worked at Bell Laboratories, the research division of AT&T. There she made advances in the field of telecommunications that led to the development of the touch-tone telephone and fiber optic cables. Her work also made Call Waiting and Caller ID possible.

**Read Today™**  
POWERED BY  
Deseret News



PHOTO COURTESY BRAYDEN STRATE

**This little reader can't quite say the words, but she sure can pretend! It's never too late to start them!**

## Read Today

Read Today is on a mission to help every child in Utah learn to read. We EDUCATE, MOVTIVE and CELEBRATE the children in Utah. Last year we were about to help service over 5,000 students through volunteer tutoring. We landed the helicopter 10 times across the state and gave away over 10,000 pencils!

We LOVE to share your reading experiences on our website and social media outlets. After all, what better way to celebrate then share with others?!

If you have a picture you'd like to share, send it our way. We want to inspire everyone to read **MORE!**

[contact@readtoday.com](mailto:contact@readtoday.com)

# Library lovers MONTH

A GOOD LIBRARY WILL NEVER BE TOO NEAT, OR TOO DUSTY, BECAUSE SOMEBODY WILL ALWAYS BE IN IT, TAKING BOOKS OFF THE SHELVES AND STAYING UP LATE READING THEM.

— DEMONY SNICKET

"WHEN I  
WAS YOUNG,  
WE COULDN'T  
AFFORD MUCH. BUT MY  
LIBRARY CARD WAS MY KEY TO  
THE WORLD."

— JOHN GOODMAN  
actor

**S**top hugging that library. No wait, my mistake, I forgot that it's Library Lovers Month. So why love your local library? Libraries are a sanctuary away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life; they offer security and peace and quiet.

It's important to understand that not everything is available on the Internet (yet).

Love your library for what it is, a community

meeting place or treasure trove of ideas. Why not push against the declining attendance of libraries and go and learn something new that will expand your knowledge of who you are, of where you live or what you do? This is a time for everyone to recognize the value of libraries and to work to ensure that the nation's libraries will continue to serve.

SOURCE: [www.daysoftheyear.com](http://www.daysoftheyear.com), [www.librarysupport.net](http://www.librarysupport.net)



MOUNTAIN AMERICA  
CREDIT UNION



## Learn more, earn more

When it comes to money, a post-high school education will be one of your most expensive propositions and also one of your most lucrative. Education affects people's earning power more than anything else. For college graduates, that means greater earning potential and income that increases with every level of higher education.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' website, here's what it'll take to get a job with the following earnings:

### Median weekly earnings:

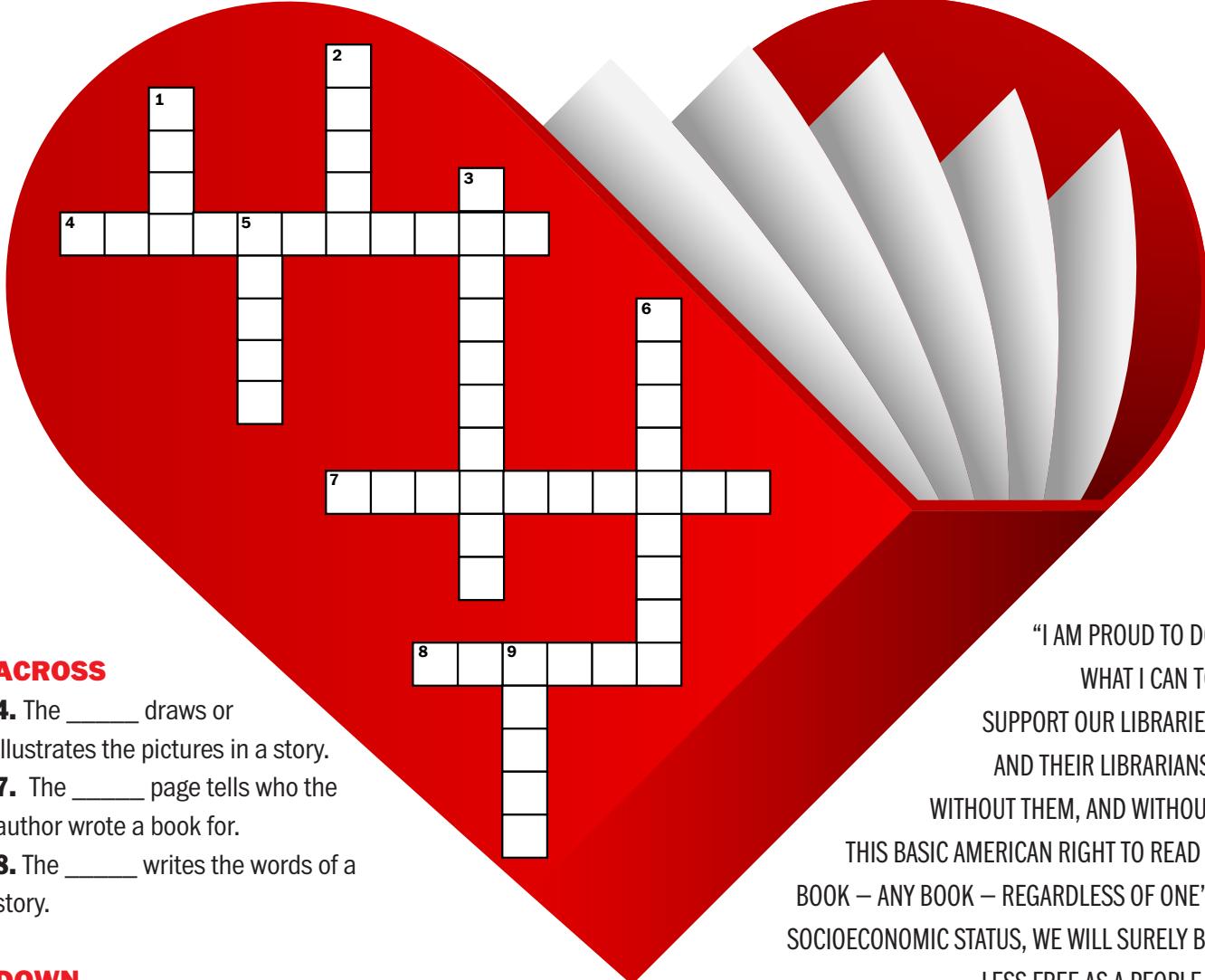
Education attained
<b>\$488:</b> Less than a high-school diploma
<b>\$668:</b> High-school graduate
<b>\$761:</b> Some college
<b>\$1,193:</b> Bachelor's degree

The salary advantage is especially important to the majority of post-high school students who graduate with student debt. Because income isn't growing fast enough to keep pace with tuition hikes, and fewer people are likely to qualify for – and get – financial aid than before, students and their families are responsible for more of the bill.

Saving upward of \$50,000 seems like a lot but it's not impossible. Now is the time to start saving and reviewing college financing options that will best meet your educational goals. Having a good education – and minimizing debt – will put you on the road to achieving your financial dreams.

## 2 CONNECT 1•2•3

### Activities

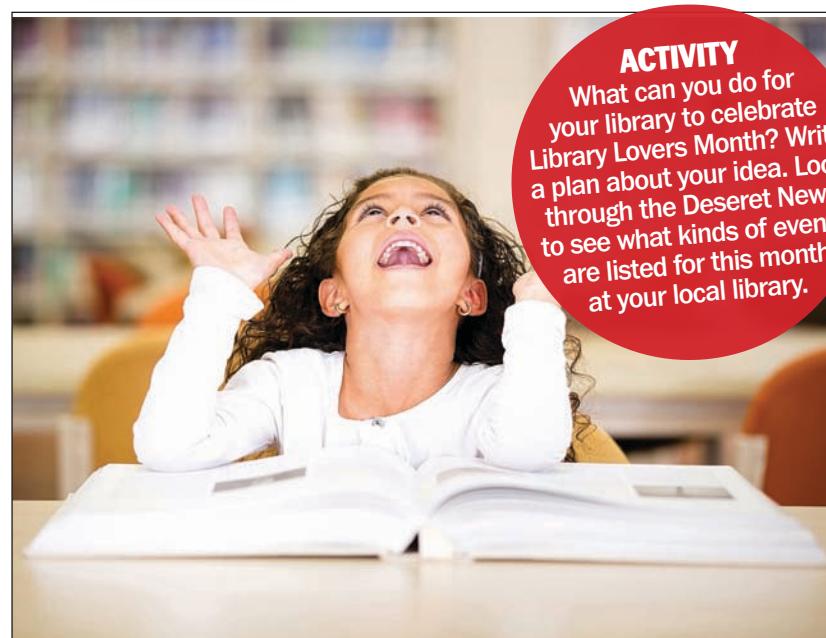


#### ACROSS

4. The \_\_\_\_\_ draws or illustrates the pictures in a story.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ page tells who the author wrote a book for.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ writes the words of a story.

#### DOWN

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ number is located on the spine of a book and tells the reader where it belongs in the library.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the book protects the pages and keeps them from getting dirty or bent.
3. A story with real facts in it about sharks is a \_\_\_\_\_ story.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a book holds the pages together.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the company who makes or puts the book together so it can be bought and sold.
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ page gives important information about a book such as, the title or name of the book, and the names of the author, the illustrator, and the publisher.



#### ACTIVITY

What can you do for your library to celebrate Library Lovers Month? Write a plan about your idea. Look through the Deseret News to see what kinds of events are listed for this month at your local library.



## TIN MAN HEART COOKIES

### INGREDIENTS:

1 cup vegetable shortening  
1 cup white sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup milk  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
3 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup butter  
3 cups confectioner's sugar  
 $1\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons vanilla extract, or more to taste  
2 tablespoons milk, or as needed

### DIRECTIONS:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- Beat vegetable shortening, white sugar,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup milk, eggs and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract together in a bowl. Whisk flour, salt and baking soda in a separate bowl. Slowly beat flour mixture into shortening mixture to make a smooth dough.
- Roll dough out  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch thick on a floured work surface and cut into shapes. Arrange cookies on baking sheets.
- Bake in the preheated oven until cookies are firm, about 10 minutes. Let cool.
- Beat butter, confectioner's sugar,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon vanilla extract and 2 tablespoons milk in a bowl with an electric mixer on high speed until frosting is spreadable and slightly fluffy. Frost cooled cookies. Decorate with sprinkles, candy or sugar to add some fun variety.

SOURCE: [allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)

## MELTED WITCH PUNCH RECIPE

### INGREDIENTS

1 2-liter bottle Lemon-Lime Soda  
1 packet lime Kool Aid (unsweetened)  
1 large bottle Perrier or soda water  
1 container lime sherbet

### DIRECTIONS:

In a large punch bowl empty the Kool-Aid packet into the punch bowl and then add the Perrier and Lemon-Lime soda. Next add the sherbet scoop by scoop. Add enough scoops to cover the top of the bowl with froth. Stir gently to make more froth if needed. If there are many guests, you can refresh the punch by adding more soda and sherbet as needed. It is very forgiving, so don't worry about getting the ratios perfect. Enjoy!

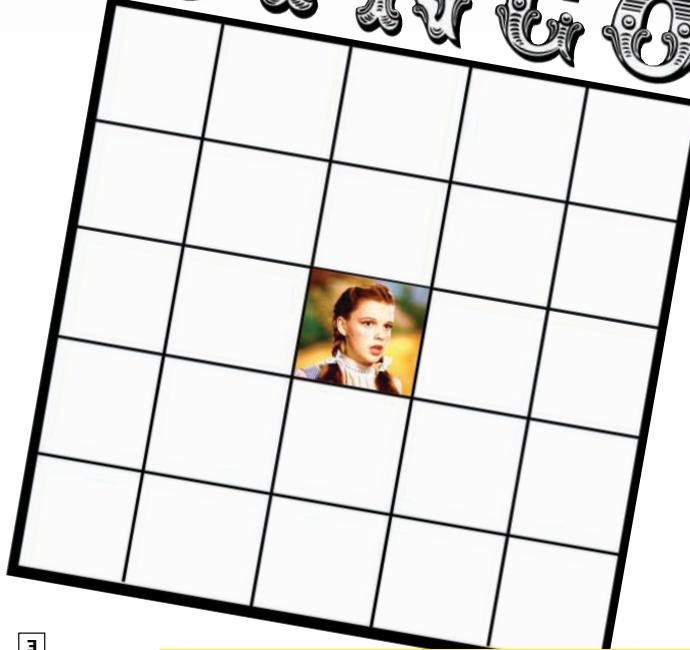
<http://www.squidoo.com/melted-witch-punch-recipe>

## Book party!

Have you ever chosen a favorite book for your party theme? As a class, pick book and then brainstorm what you can do for decorations, games and food. Here's a few ideas to get you started using "The Wizard of Oz."

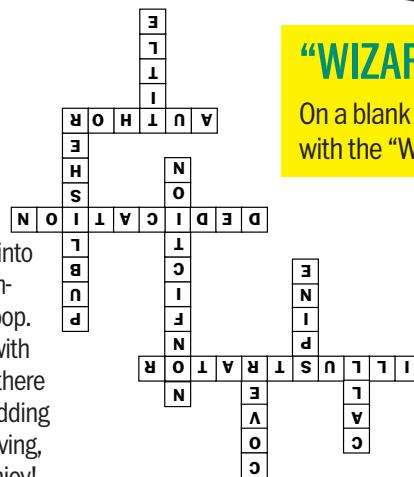


## B I N G O



### "WIZARD OF OZ BINGO"

On a blank Bingo sheet write in words having to do with the "Wizard of Oz." Play like regular Bingo.



## CHARACTER CHALLENGE

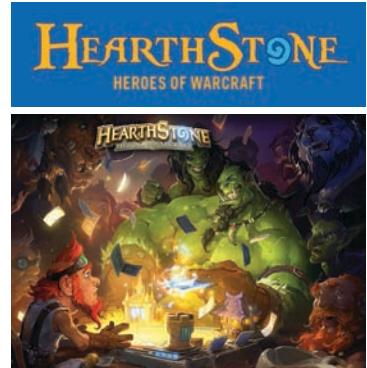
The Cowardly Lion, The Scarecrow and the Tin Man each sought something from the Wizard: courage, a brain and a heart. Brainstorm ideas for activities that represent each of those traits. For example: you could fall back into the arms of a classmate to show courage.

## The City Library children's events



### The City Library

THE SALT LAKE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM



### WHEN & WHERE:

Mondays: 5 p.m., Day-Riverside Branch  
1575 W. 1000 North

Wednesdays: 4 p.m., Glendale Branch  
1375 S. Concord

Fridays: 3:30 p.m., Sprague Branch  
2131 S. 1100 East

Explore Hearthstone: Heroes of WarCraft while improving your strategy and mathematical skills. This program, intended for children ages 8-13, will teach participants how to be successful in this digital strategy card game. Learn how to play different card deck classes, summon powerful creatures, and use heroic abilities to crush your opponents.

Each Hearthstone: Heroes of WarCraft program is a month-long session. Space is limited to 10 participants. Registration is required and opens one week before the first session. Register in-person or by calling the branch: Day-Riverside, 801-594-8532; Glendale, 801-594-8660; Sprague, 801-594-8640. Participants will not be able to access their personal Battlenet accounts and will not be able to play against off-site players. Computers for this program will be supplied by the Library.



WHEN & WHERE: Tuesdays: 4 p.m., Glendale Branch

1375 S. Concord

Each week, create a new project using a variety of found and reclaimed objects and explore the science behind art and engineering. This program is intended for children and teens ages 8-15.

EVENTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Activities

### CHECK IT OUT



### The City Library

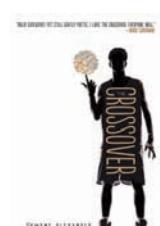
THE SALT LAKE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

**"Brown Girl Dreaming,"** by Jacqueline Woodson.

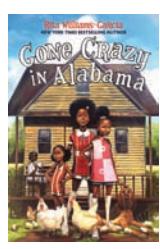
Jacqueline Woodson writes about what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and my growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.



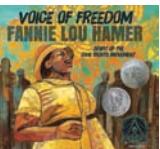
**"The Crossover,"** by Kwame Alexander. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.



**"Gone Crazy in Alabama,"** by Rita Williams-Garcia. The Gaither sisters are about to learn what it's like to be fish out of water as they travel from the streets of Brooklyn to the rural South for the summer of a lifetime.



**"Voice of Freedom Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement,"** by Carole Boston Weatherford; illustrated by Ekua Holmes. Stirring poems and stunning collage illustrations combine to celebrate the life of Fannie Lou Hamer, a champion of equal voting rights.



**"The Mighty Miss Malone,"** by Christopher Paul Curtis. It's 1936 and the Great Depression has hit hard and there are no jobs for black men. When her beloved father leaves to find work, Deza, Mother, and her older brother, Jimmie, go in search of him. The twists and turns of their story reveal the devastation of the Depression and prove that Deza truly is the Mighty Miss Malone.



### WORD SEARCH

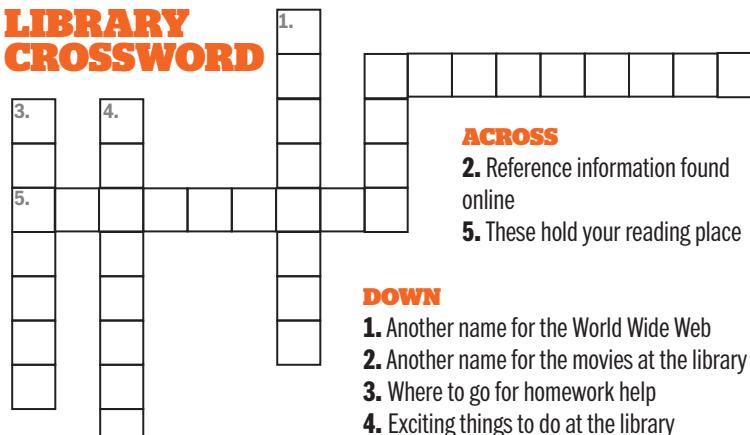
ANIME  
BIOGRAPHY  
BOOKMARKS  
BOOKS  
CALL NUMBERS  
CDS  
COMPUTERS

DATABASES  
DEWEY  
DVDS  
FANTASY  
FICTION  
HOMEWORK HELP  
HORROR

INTERNET  
LIBRARY CARD  
MAGAZINES  
MYSTERY  
PROGRAMS  
REFERENCE

H	O	M	E	W	O	R	K	H	E	L	P	S	M	B
C	X	H	N	R	O	I	I	K	B	I	T	E	A	O
D	A	B	O	Y	S	N	J	O	X	B	F	S	G	O
S	E	L	Q	R	T	D	O	N	E	R	T	A	A	K
D	Z	G	L	E	R	K	V	C	U	A	U	B	Z	S
C	M	E	R	N	M	O	N	D	Z	R	M	A	I	T
M	Z	N	B	A	U	E	R	Y	U	Y	Y	T	N	M
W	E	Y	R	S	R	M	D	U	S	C	R	A	E	M
T	F	K	S	E	D	M	B	G	Q	A	E	D	S	R
L	S	P	F	F	Y	E	W	E	D	R	T	R	C	A
S	R	E	T	U	P	M	O	C	R	D	S	N	N	D
L	R	F	I	C	T	I	O	N	W	S	Y	I	A	B
Y	B	I	O	G	R	A	P	H	Y	B	M	V	Y	F
S	M	A	R	G	O	R	P	E	A	E	O	L	E	B
K	V	D	T	T	U	R	I	Q	R	S	E	T	X	O

### LIBRARY CROSSWORD



#### ACROSS

- 2. Reference information found online
- 5. These hold your reading place

#### DOWN

- 1. Another name for the World Wide Web
- 2. Another name for the movies at the library
- 3. Where to go for homework help
- 4. Exciting things to do at the library

SOURCE: www.ala.org

1: Internet, 2: across; Databases, 2 down; dvds, 3: library, 4: programs, 5: bookmarks

#### ANSWERS

The City Library  
children's events cont.

LEAP  
INTO SCIENCE



### Family workshops

WHEN & WHERE: Third Saturday of

every month, 1 p.m.,

Main Library, 210 E. 400

South

Explore science with a series of hands-on experiences. Kids and families can learn about and investigate new concepts each month by working with different materials.

#### A BALANCING ACT

Feb. 20

We balance all the time, without even realizing it. We balance when we stand, walk and run. Explore and manipulate the placement of weight in objects and your own body to learn about the science of balance.

#### CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?

March 19

Sounds are all around us. You've heard them; you've probably felt them; and maybe you've even seen evidence of them. Listen and explore sound and vibration by making noise for the sake of learning.

#### FOR GOOD MEASURE

April 16

We measure lots of things every day to help ourselves make decisions in the world around us. From standard to non-standard, measurements give us a general sense of size. In this workshop, you'll compare the sizes of many things and explore the variety of ways that measuring helps us gather information.



### WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

REFERENCE (2,12,NE)  
PROGRAMS (8,14,W)  
MYSTERY (12,13,S)  
MAGAZINES (14,1,S)  
LIBRARYCARD (11,1,S)  
INTERNET (8,2,SW)  
HORROR (3,2,SE)  
HOMEWORKHELP (1,1,E)  
FICTION (3,12,E)  
FANTASY (15,13,NW)  
DVDS (9,6,WW)  
DEWEY (10,1,WW)  
COMPUTER (9,11,W)  
DATABASES (9,11,WW)  
COGS (1,6,N)  
CALMNUMBER (1,2,SE)  
BOOKS (15,1,S)  
BOOKMARKS (10,2,SW)  
BIOGRAPHY (2,13,E)  
ANIME (15,10,SW)  
(Overdown Direction)  
ANSWERS

#### SPLASH SPLASH

May 21

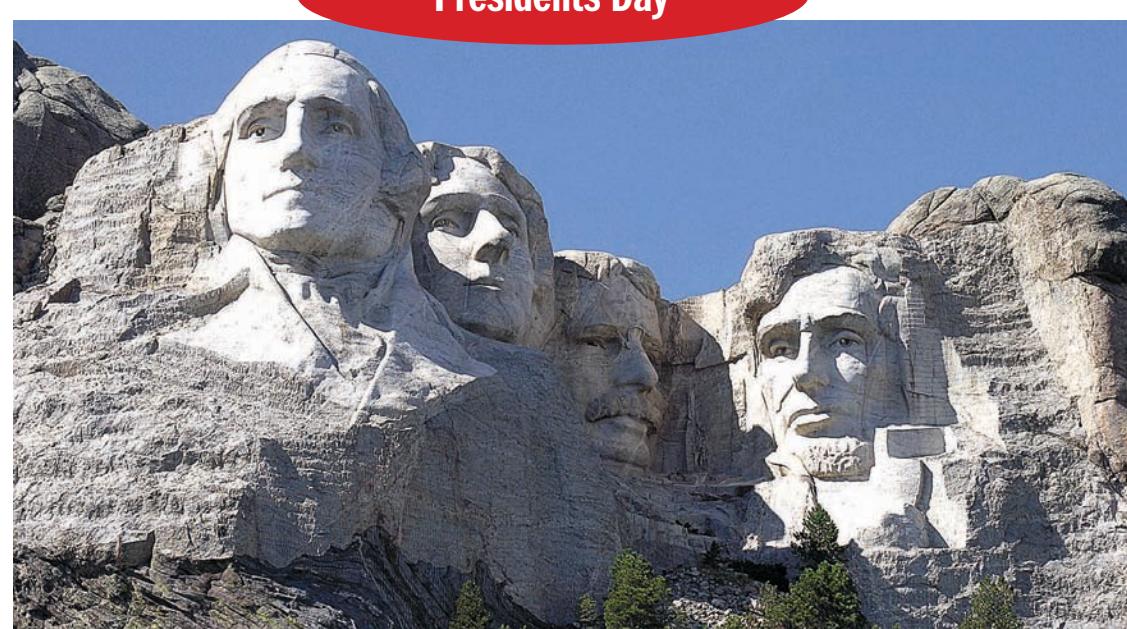
Water is all around us and is a necessary part of life. It is a unique substance that forms in droplets, flows in a stream, and fits the shape of whatever container it is in. Explore the properties of water together by testing how water moves and interacts with different materials.



## Presidential trivia

*Every American president has been honored as the father of our country. There are many interesting facts about many of them.*

- The average age of all the presidents on the day of their inauguration is 55.
- John Tyler, the 10th president, was the father of 15 children.
- The tallest president was Lincoln at 6-foot-4; at 5-4, Madison was the shortest.
- The oldest president inaugurated was Reagan (age 69); the youngest was Kennedy (age 43).
- The only bachelor president to occupy the White House was James Buchanan.
- Presidents Adams, Jefferson and Monroe died on the 4th of July.
- Franklin D. Roosevelt was related by either blood or marriage to 11 other presidents.
- Before he became president, Lyndon Johnson was a teacher at a small school in South Texas.
- Woodrow Wilson was president of Princeton University.
- William Howard Taft is the only President who served as both President and Chief Justice of the United States.
- President John F. Kennedy won a Pulitzer Prize in 1957 for his collection of essays, *Profiles in Courage*.



Presidents Day

## Honoring our Presidents

**P**residents Day is celebrated in the United States on the third Monday of February. It was designated a federal holiday by Congress in 1971. Originally, birthdays of both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were celebrated. Now both are celebrated as Presidents Day.

Washington's birthday was celebrated for the first time in the late 18th century, while George Washington was still president.

In 1885, President Chester Arthur signed a bill making Washington's birthday a federal holiday. It was the first federal holiday to honor an American citizen. The holiday was celebrated on Washington's actual birthday, February 22.

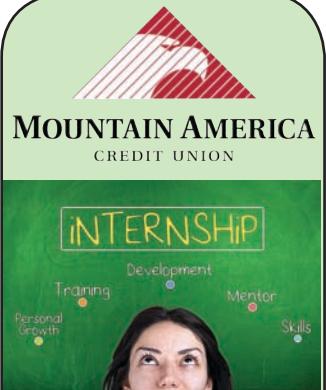
The earliest known observance of Lincoln's birthday occurred in Buffalo, New York, in 1874. Julius Francis, a Buffalo druggist, made it his life's mission to honor President Lincoln. He repeatedly petitioned Congress to establish Lincoln's birthday as a legal holiday. Lincoln's birthday never was an official federal holiday.

In 1968, Congress passed the Monday Holidays Act, which moved the official observance of

Washington's birthday from Feb. 22 to the third Monday in February. Some wanted to change the name of the holiday as well, to Presidents Day, in honor of both Lincoln and Washington, but that proposal was rejected by Congress, and the holiday remained officially Washington's birthday.

Nevertheless, there was a popular misconception that the day had been officially renamed, a misconception only reinforced by the fact that the third Monday in February can only occur between Feb. 15 and Feb. 21. This means that the holiday is always after Lincoln's birthday and before Washington's birthday. Furthermore, some states which had previously celebrated Lincoln's birthday dropped the observance after the federal holiday reforms, supporting the notion that the two presidential birthdays had been combined.

While the name change has never been authorized by Congress, approximately a dozen state governments have officially renamed their Washington's birthday observances as "Presidents Day." By the mid 1980s, advertisers pushed for the name and it is generally used on calendars, in advertising.



## Interns earn cash, experience

Have you ever thought about doing an internship? Internships provide money and experience toward a future career. Some internships are available for middle school students and more are available for high school students.

Internships give you something that many conventional jobs don't—experience.

### In an internship:

Employers teach you the ropes of various jobs in a real work environment.

- If you get paid at all, it's at a flat internship rate. Your pay might not be called "pay," but "award" or some other term, like "stipend."
- Your employer knows you'll be moving on as soon as the school year ends or within some other predetermined time.

There are a lot of benefits to internships. You may have thought of the two obvious benefits: You could get paid, and it's fun.

But, whether you get paid or not, there are some benefits you probably didn't think of:

- Internships give you experience and useful skills for future careers.
- You learn things that you wouldn't learn in school.
- You can see if a field interests you.
- You could discover new talents or interests.

### You can find out about internships in these ways:

- Surf the Web
- Check your local newspaper
- Ask family, friends, teachers, or librarians if they know of opportunities

Internships are a great way to gain experience, meet new people, and possibly earn money.

# Primary election season is here

February is the month Americans celebrate President's Day. It's also a time when the primary election season heats up as candidates try to become the next president of the United States.

The U.S. presidential election is the biggest event in American politics. It's an exciting and complicated process that begins immediately after the preceding election and doesn't end until the voters have their say.

What happens during this extended campaign is a quest not just for votes, but also for political contributions, favorable media coverage, online advertising exposure, social media—likes & tweets, endorsements, and all the other makings of a winning candidacy for the highest elected office in America.

## ★★★ THE PLAYERS ★★★

### WE THE PEOPLE

The most important players in the election of a U.S. president are not the candidates or their staffs, not the political parties or the other organizations, and not the media pundits. A presidential election revolves around the beliefs and the actions of American voters. Come Election Day, no one else's opinions matter, and no one else has control over the outcome.

Voting is the great equalizer in American society. No matter how much money you have or who your friends are or whether or not you contributed to a particular candidate, you have one vote—the same as everybody else. And with that one vote, you have the power to influence decisions that will affect your life.

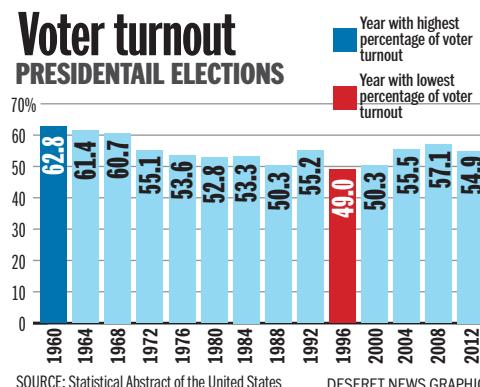
### VOTING IN THE NATION'S EARLY YEARS

Today, every American citizen age 18 and older has the right to vote. Sometimes it's a right we take for granted. We forget how much blood, sweat, and tears have gone into making sure that all segments of the American population are able

to have their say.

Despite their opposition to arbitrary rule and their faith in popular sovereignty, the founders of the United States did not believe that all adults should be able to vote. During the early years of the country's history, legislatures in the United States generally restricted voting to white males who were 21 or older. Many states also limited voting rights to those who "had a stake in society." Translation: To vote, you had to own property. State governments began to eliminate the property requirement during the 1820s and 1830s.

### Voter turnout PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS



### THE CANDIDATES

The candidates, of course, are the star players in the presidential election. They get all the attention, and they select the issues they'll focus on and the messages they'll convey to voters. They also determine how their campaigns will be run—though the candidate's campaign managers, pollsters, and other advisers usually play major

### ELECTIONS PAGE 3



**FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT, Section 1.** The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.  
(Ratified in 1870)

### NEWSPAPER ACTIVITIES

#### PICTURE TELLS A THOUSAND WORDS

Find several pictures of the candidates in the newspaper over time. Do you think the pictures show the candidate positively or negatively? Why might a particular picture of a candidate be chosen for the particular story? What does the picture tell you?

#### TAKE ACTION

Look through today's newspaper for an article about a problem you think needs to be solved. Write a letter to the presidential candidates asking them how they plan to address the problem. Tell them your ideas for a solution.

## ELECTIONS CONTINUED

roles in these decisions. How they'll go about their fundraising, how many debates they'll participate in, how they'll organize their social media and digital outreach strategies, whether they'll "go negative" in their advertising, and how much information they'll provide about their policy positions: These are all aspects of the campaign the candidate must address.

### CAMPAIGN STRATEGY: THE CANDIDATES AND THE ISSUES

Deciding what issues to focus on — and how to do that — is a major decision for the candidates as they weigh how best to connect with American voters. To be taken seriously by the media and the public, candidates need to define in simple terms why they are running and project ideas that connect with key concerns of the electorate. Many candidates, in fact, select just one or two high-profile issues that will differentiate them from the other contenders in their party. Standing out is key in the early going, when a candidate may face 10 or more possible competitors for the party's nomination.

### DIVIDING THE ELECTORATE

Many candidates seek to differentiate themselves by making direct appeals to specific segments of the party faithful, e.g., the conservative wing or the liberal wing. However, front-running candidates in both parties rarely propose controversial goals or policies that might alienate significant portions of their party's voters and prove a liability during the general election.

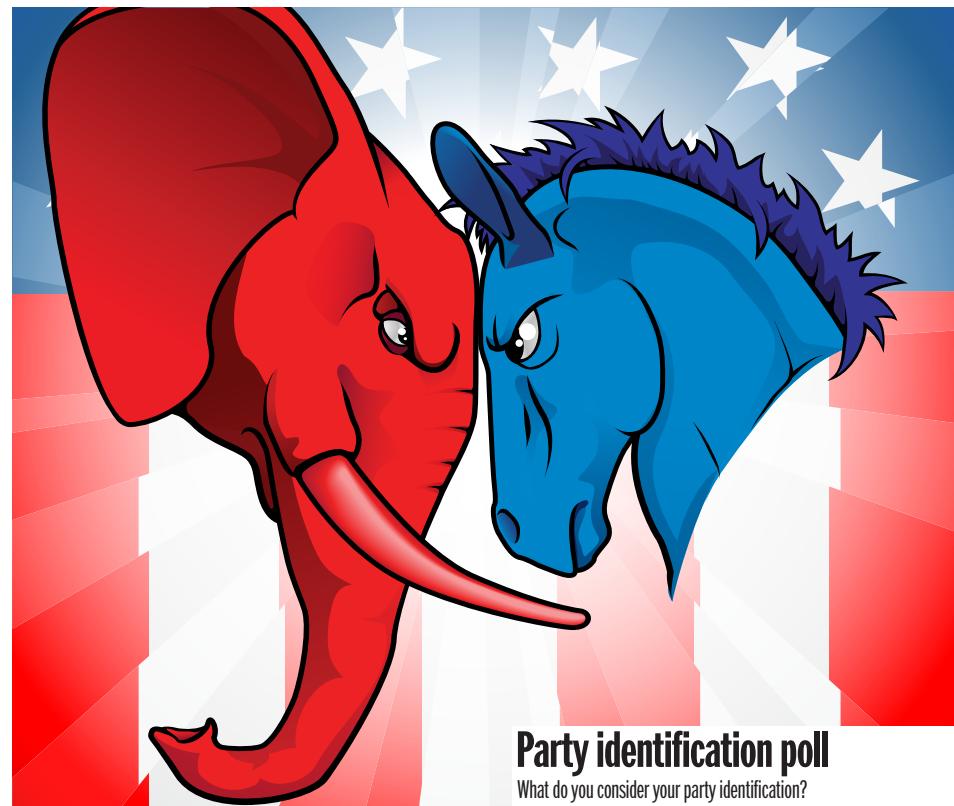
### THE PARTIES

The challenge of running a competitive campaign for the U.S. presidency is made easier by the existence of the political parties and other organizations that support individual candidates and their agendas. The Democratic and Republican parties sponsor political advertising, organize volunteers, and help get-out-the-vote on Election Day.

### THE LIFE OF THE PARTIES: THE DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS TAKE CENTER STAGE

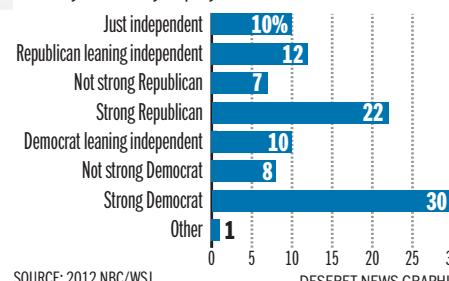
From the beginning, American politics has been dominated by two major parties. However, the constituencies and the names of these parties changed during the early years of the republic.

Many observers note that in recent years the Republican Party has become increasingly conservative. Although there is a range of opinion within the party, Republicans generally advocate a limited role for the federal government in solving society's ills. Republicans also tend to support lower taxes, cuts in a range



### Party identification poll

What do you consider your party identification?



of domestic programs from social welfare to environmental protection, and increases in spending for defense. They also tend to oppose reproductive choice and gun control.

The Democrats have been identified since the 1930s as the more progressive party, due in large part to Democratic President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs, designed to alleviate problems caused by the Great Depression. The Democrats generally support a more active government role in protecting the environment, public education, and public health and in ensuring equal opportunity for all citizens. The party also tends to support reproductive choice and some forms of gun control.

### INDEPENDENTS' DAY: BEYOND THE PARTIES

While the Democratic and Republican parties have been the dominant political parties, a considerable number of Americans have called themselves independents.

### THE MEDIA

Broadcast television, radio news, and the mainstream print and online newspapers and newsmagazines have enormous influence on the presidential election process.

In recent years, however, Americans have become increasingly disenchanted with the traditional media and their dominant role in American politics. The public's distrust of traditional institutions — together with the advent of new technologies — has opened the door to new ways for voters to get their election information.

## What do donkeys and elephants have to do with elections?

Donkeys and elephants have long been the symbols of the two biggest political parties in the United States, thanks to a cartoonist named Thomas Nast. In the 1870s, Nast drew a donkey to represent one party and an elephant to represent the other in cartoons for Harper's Weekly magazine.

## NEWSPAPER ACTIVITIES

### EDITORIAL CARTOONS

Editorial cartoonists use a variety of tools to communicate their message. Among them are use of symbols, caricatures, stereotypes and analogies. Find editorial cartoons about the candidates. Which of these tools is being used in the various cartoons? What prior knowledge did you need to call on in order to make sense of the cartoon? Now create your own editorial cartoon about a candidate's position that you either agree or disagree with.

## ★★ THE PROCESS ★★

### EARLY ACTION

Presidential campaigns have always started well in advance of the first caucus or party primary. The 2016 election has followed, and even accelerated, this pattern. Because of the primary schedule and the need to raise increasing amounts of campaign cash, contenders in the 2016 presidential contest were busy campaigning and raising money in 2014.

### LAYING THE GROUNDWORK: CAMPAIGNING UNANNOUNCED

A presidential campaign begins long before a contender's formal announcement of candidacy. In the earliest stages of the

### WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND ON THE ISSUES

Using newspaper articles and online resources, create a guide showing where the candidates stand on important issues such as: the war in Iraq, the economy, health care/insurance, defense/home-land security, education, immigration, crime, reproductive choice, environment/global warming, the trade deficit, and taxes/federal budget deficit.

**ELECTIONS CONTINUED**

campaign, “unannounced” presidential candidates try to build a favorable image in their party and throughout the country by making frequent public speeches and appearing at important party functions.

**THE PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES**

The series of Presidential primary elections and caucuses is a very important step in the long, complex process of electing the President of the United States of America. The primary elections are run by state and local governments in the states that do not have caucuses. The goal of the primaries and caucuses are to choose delegates that have committed themselves to a particular candidate that they will represent at the party’s national convention.

A caucus is a meeting of members of a political party on the precinct level, the smallest election district. Thousands of caucuses occur at the same time and date throughout a state.

In most states, only voters registered with a party may vote in that party’s primary, known as a closed primary. In some states, a semi-closed primary is practiced, in which voters unaffiliated with a party (independents) may choose a party primary in which to vote. In an open primary, any voter may vote in any party’s primary.

**SUPER TUESDAY, MARCH 1,  
A MEGA PRIMARY FOR 2016**

Super Tuesday is the day when the most states simultaneously hold their primary elections, and the single day when the most nominating delegates can be won. This is an incredibly influential primary day.

**THE CONVENTIONS**

The national party conventions mark the official turning point in the presidential campaign from the primary season to the general election in the fall. The convention allows the party to put aside any intra-party jockeying and squabbles that occurred during the primaries, unite behind its nominee and define itself for the voters.

**THE GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN**

Today’s general election contest is an elaborate production, with the candidates and their supporters crisscrossing the country and blanketing the airwaves with poll-tested political commercials.

With the primaries and the conventions behind them, the goal of the presidential candidates during the fall is to appeal to as many different kinds of people in as many different ways as possible. To accomplish this in a country where more than 200 million individuals are eligible to vote is a staggering task.

**ELECTION DAY**

On the Tuesday in November that falls between Nov. 2 and Nov. 8, control of the presidential election finally passes into the hands of the American voter — where it belongs. Join with others in your community in helping to make this decision. It comes down to this: the voters’ decision about which of the candidates they feel is most qualified to lead the nation.

Ways states can help boost voter turnout are by early voting programs by mail or in-person and allowing voter to register to vote or update their voter registration close to or on Election Day.

**TABULATING THE OUTCOME:  
THE RESULTS ARE IN!**

Before the advent of television, electronic voting machines, and computerized balloting, it could take days or even weeks for the nation to know whom it had elected president. But starting in the 1950s, and accelerating in later decades, this process changed. The national TV networks began coverage of election returns while the polls were still open and continued until the results were known.

Early projections of election results became a controversial public issue. Critics said that by predicting the outcome while Americans were still voting, the media were in effect discouraging some people from voting.

As a result of these concerns, the major broadcast and cable networks decided



CECIL W. STOUGHTON

**Lyndon B. Johnson taking the oath of office aboard Air Force One two hours and eight minutes after the assassination of John F. Kennedy.**

to wait until a state’s polls have closed before reporting election results for that state. But they still are able to project a winner of the presidential election before the polls close in all states across the country.

**MAKING IT OFFICIAL**

Normally, by the morning after the election, the final results are in, and the entire country knows who the next president and vice president will be. But whether we have a normal election or a contested one, the outcome still has to be made official. In December, the members of the Electoral College travel to their state capitals to cast their official electoral votes, sign some necessary documents, and pose for pictures, before returning home. When Congress convenes in January, senators and representatives gather for a joint congressional session, and the official results are announced from all the states.

At noon on the 20th of January following a presidential election, the term of the preceding president ends and that of the incoming president begins. At a formal inauguration ceremony, the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court swears in the president and the vice president before members of Congress, government dignitaries, representatives of foreign governments, and important well-wishers, as well as a national television audience.

After an inaugural address and parade, the new president is on the job. The American people have made their choice and are looking to the new president to prove them right.

**I love to read!**

Kids from around the world tell us why they love to read. From Valentine’s Day to World Read Aloud Day on March 6, this time of year is all about spreading the love — love of reading, that is.

*“When I read, my grades will be better.”*

*—Umesh, 3rd grader, Nepal*

*“I love to read because the pictures and stories help me to imagine that I am somewhere else!”*

*—Nevaeh, 7, Landers, CA*

*“I like to read because there are new adventures all the time.”*

*—Brandon, 11, Lobelville, TN*

*“I think reading will make me smart.”*

*—Anita, 1st grader, Nepal*

*“I read because Nana says I got to. It is fun and I learn my ABC’s from books.”*

*—Emilee, 3, Jackson, KY  
(Article Courtesy of Ajla Grozdanic)*

Why do you love to read? Tell us contact@readtoday.com and we will send you a **FREE book!**