

Name: _____

Learning About Presidents' Day

Meet Culhane. Culhane is an engineer. Some engineers design structures, like buildings and bridges. Other engineers design different types of transportation. For example, some engineers design cars and boats. Other engineers design hot air balloons.



Today, you will design a new hot air balloon. Your hot air balloon will be inspired by a holiday in the United States called Presidents' Day. Follow the steps below.

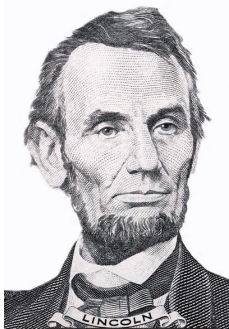
Step 1: Learn About Presidents' Day

Read the story below about Presidents' Day. Then, answer the questions.

Presidents' Day is a holiday in the United States. It is celebrated every year in February.

Presidents' Day was started as a way to remember George Washington, the first President of the United States. He is remembered for helping make a list of rules for the government of the United States. The rules are called the Constitution of the United States.

On Presidents' Day, Americans celebrate the good work that presidents have done throughout history. Here are a few examples of presidents that Americans celebrate:



Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States. He is remembered for getting rid of slavery in the United States. In the past, some African Americans were enslaved in the United States. This means that they were owned by other people. They were treated badly and were not paid when they worked. Abraham Lincoln said that there would be no more slavery. All people would be free. This meant that all people would be treated fairly and would be paid when they worked.

Theodore Roosevelt was the 26th President of the United States. He is remembered for helping to make our national parks. For example, he created an organization called the United States Forest Service. This organization has rules that protect parks in the United States. For example, there is a rule that you cannot pick flowers or bother animals in a national park. There is also a rule that you cannot build buildings or roads on the land in a national park.



Barack Obama was the 44th President of the United States. He was the first African American president in the United States. Americans also celebrate how Barack Obama helped most Americans have access to healthcare. This means that almost all Americans can see a doctor if they are sick.

Name: _____

Learning About Presidents' Day

Step 2: Write About Presidents' Day

Write about Presidents' Day below.

Presidents' Day began as a way to celebrate Abraham Lincoln.

True

False

Presidents' Day is celebrated every year in February.

True

False

We celebrate Presidents' Day to...

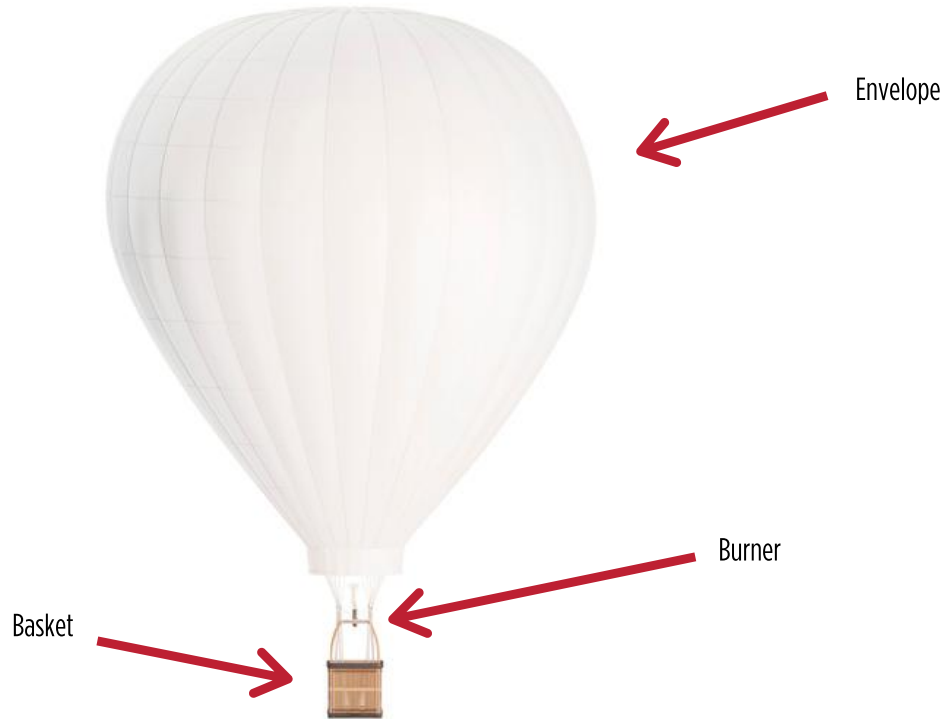
Abraham Lincoln is known for...

Name: _____

Learning About Presidents' Day

Step 3: Learn About Hot Air Balloons

A hot air balloon has three main parts: the envelope, basket, and burner.



The envelope is the fabric that is attached to the basket by cables. The fabric traps hot air, which causes the balloon to rise.

The basket is where people sit during the flight.

The burner is a tank that heats the air. Most hot air balloons heat the air by burning propane, a type of gas.

Name: _____

Learning About Presidents' Day

Step 4: Design a Hot Air Balloon

Imagine that you are an engineer who is designing a hot air balloon. Your hot air balloon will fly over your town on Presidents' Day and provide information to people about why people celebrate Presidents' Day.

First, draw a picture of a hot air balloon in the box below. Make sure your hot air balloon has an envelope, burner, and basket!

Next, write and draw on the envelope of the hot air balloon to teach others about Presidents' Day and why it is important.

Third, draw a picture of yourself in the hot air balloon basket!

