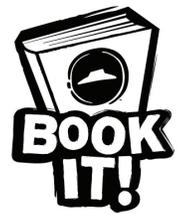


# White House Kids

By Joe Rhatigan

This glimpse into the lives of presidential children throughout our country's history provides weird and wacky stories about what it really means to grow up in the White House.



R.E.D. Zone

## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, **What do you think it would be like to live in the White House?** Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder where the pictures of the first families were taken.

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *White House Kids*

- inauguration: the ceremony that makes a new president's job official
- reelected: to elect someone to another term in office
- paparazzi: reporters who photograph celebrities' everyday lives
- misinformation: false information, often intended to trick
- knickerbockers: loose-fitting pants, gathered at the knee or calf, often worn by children in the Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries.
- rambunctious: unruly, uncontrollably excited
- adulation: excessive or exaggerated praise
- assassination: murder of a public figure by surprise attack

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Have you ever been to the White House?
- How many rooms are in the White House?
- How has the White House changed since the Adams family moved there in 1800?
- During which time period in the history of the White House would you have most liked to have lived there?
- Why do you think that people are so interested in the first family?
- Which first kid would you most like to meet, and why?
- What are some positives to living in the White House? Negatives?
- What would your Secret Service code name be?

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Visit the R.E.D. Zone for more reading-readiness, printables, read-aloud tips, resources and more!

# Do

## Virtual Field Trip

After reading the story, visit the website <http://www.whitehousemuseum.org> to explore the White House. The website includes interactive floor plans of the White House Residence, East Wing, West Wing and Grounds. Break the children up into four groups and ask them to explore their assigned floor plans. Have each group discuss their favorite part of their floor plan with the class and share a fun fact about it.