

THE AMERICAN CONNECTION

UNIT 7

IN
THE WHITE HOUSE



TEACHER BOOK

**THE AMERICAN CONNECTION
UNIT 7:
IN THE WHITE HOUSE**

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Unit 6 : In the White House

This unit of work on In the White House gives pupils the opportunity to :

- Take part in a group discussion
- Learn about the American Presidency
- Find out about the lives of the American Presidents with Ulster-Scots ancestors
- Write a newspaper report
- Design their own game
- Write a letter to the President or some other influential person
- Participate in a democratic exercise based on their own school
- Reflect on their own work

KEY STAGE 3 CURRICULUM

The activities in this unit would fit into work on aspects of the *General Learning Areas* of English ; Environment and Society (History) and also link into aspects of Local and Global Citizenship.

The unit provides opportunities to teach, practise and assess some of the following skills and capabilities:

- *Critical and Creative Thinking Skills*—creativity; managing information; problem solving/ decision making
- *Personal and Interpersonal Skills*—self management, working with others
- Communication
- ICT

Aim and Objectives of the NI Curriculum

Aim

The Northern Ireland Curriculum aims to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible choices and decisions throughout life.

Curriculum Objectives

The Northern Ireland Curriculum should provide learning opportunities for each young person to develop as:

1. An individual
2. A contributor to society; and
3. A contributor to the economy and the environment

Work in this unit 'In the White House' provides opportunities for pupils to :

As an individual

- Be aware of their creative potential (personal understanding)
- Respect and cooperate with others (mutual understanding)
- Be reliable and committed to tasks (moral character)

As a contributor to society

- Recognise the interdependence of people (citizenship)
- Negotiate and compromise (citizenship)
- Use democratic means to influence change (Citizenship)
- Recognise the richness and diversity of cultural influences in contemporary society (cultural understanding)

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Challenging and engaging
- Relevant and enjoyable
- Linked to other curriculum areas
- Media rich
- Skills integrated
- Active and hands on
- Varied to suit learning styles
- On-going reflection



IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Links between Ireland and the American presidency are well-known but it is only relatively recently that awareness has grown that many of these presidents were from Ulster-Scots or Scots-Irish heritage. It is generally accepted that some 17 presidents have Ulster ancestry although some have more direct links than others.

The first president linked to Ulster is Andrew Jackson (1829-1837). His family had left Boney before outside Carrickfergus only 18 months before he was born. Jackson's wife, Rachel, also had family links with Ulster. James Knox Polk (1845-1849) was the great-grandson of Robert Bruce Polk from Lifford, Co. Donegal. James Buchanan's (1857-1861) parents emigrated from Deroran near Omagh, while Andrew Johnson's (1865-1869) grandfather was from Mounthill outside Larne in County Antrim.

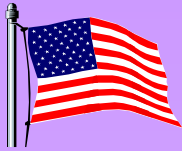
Ulysses Simpson Grant's (1869-1877) Ulster link came through his mother. She was descended from the Simpson family of Dergenagh between Dungannon and Ballygawley in County Tyrone. Chester Alan Arthur (1881-1885) was another president linked to County Antrim. You can visit his ancestral home at Dreen near Cullybackey which his father left to move first to Canada and then to America. County Antrim is also linked to Grover Cleveland (1885-1889 & 1893-1897). His maternal grandfather, Abner Neal emigrated from there in the late 18th century.

Benjamin Harrison (1889-1893) was related to Ulster emigrants James Irwin and William McDowell, while William McKinley (1897-1901) was the great-grandson of James who left Conagher near Ballymoney around 1743. Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909) is believed to have Ulster ancestors on his mother's side from Larne, County Antrim. Certainly he was aware of the Scots-Irish and wrote of their exploits in opening up the American frontier.

Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921) was very proud of his Ulster-Scots heritage. He was the grandson of James Wilson from Dergelt near Strabane who had emigrated in 1807. Harry Truman (1945-1953) was the grandson on his mother's side of Scots-Irish emigrant, Solomon Young. Richard Nixon (1969-1974) had links to Ulster on both sides of his family tree. His roots lie in County Antrim where the Millhouses came from Carrickfergus and Ballymoney.

Jimmy Carter (1977-1981), another President proud of his Ulster-Scots roots, is related to Scots-Irish settler, Andrew Cowan from County Antrim, on his mother's side of the family. George Bush (Sen) and George W. Bush have an ancestor, William Gault, who came from Ulster, probably County Antrim.

President Clinton who is closely associated with Ireland, having been personally involved in the Peace Process, claims to be a relative of Lucas Cassidy from County Fermanagh.



MISSING NAMES

1	1789 - 1797	GEORGE WASHINGTON
2	1797 - 1801	JOHN A DAMS
3	1801 - 1809	THOMAS JEFFERSON
4	1809 - 1817	JAMES M ADISON
5	1817 - 1825	JAMES MONROE
6	1825 - 1829	JOHN QUINCY ADAMS
7	1829 - 1837	ANDREW JACKSON
8	1837 - 1841	MARTIN VAN BUREN
9	1841	WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON
10	1841 - 1845	JOHN TYLER
11	1845 - 1849	JAMES KNOX POLK
12	1849 - 1850	ZACHARY TAYLOR
13	1850 - 1853	MILLARD FILLMORE
14	1853 - 1857	FRANKLIN PIERCE
15	1857 - 1861	JAMES BUCHANAN
16	1861 - 1865	ABRAHAM LINCOLN
17	1865 - 1869	ANDREW JOHNSON
18	1869 - 1877	ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT
19	1877 - 1881	RUTHERFORD HAYES
20	1881	JAMES GARFIELD
21	1881 - 1885	CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR
22	1885 - 1889	GROVER CLEVELAND
23	1883 - 1901	BENJAMIN HARRISON
24	1893 - 1897	GROVER C LEEVELAND
25	1897 - 1901	WILLIAM McKINLEY
26	1901 - 1909	THEODORE ROOSEVELT
27	1909 - 1913	WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
28	1913 - 1921	WOODROW WILSON
29	1921 - 1923	WARREN HASTINGS
30	1923 - 1929	CALVIN COOLIDGE
31	1929 - 1933	HERBERT HOOVER
32	1933 - 1945	FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
33	1945 - 1953	HARRY S TRUMAN
34	1953 - 1961	DWIGHT D EISENHOWER
35	1961 - 1963	JOHN F KENNEDY
36	1963 - 1969	LYNDON B JOHNSON
37	1969 - 1974	RICHARD NIXON
38	1974 - 1977	GERALD FORD
39	1977 - 1981	JIMMY CARTER
40	1981—1989	RONALD REAGAN
41	1989 - 1993	GEORGE BUSH
42	1993 - 2001	WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
43	2001 -	GEORGE W BUSH

PRESIDENTIAL WORD SEARCH

PRESIDENTIAL WORD SEARCH



A	g	k	s	k	s	r	o	o	s	e	v	e	l	t	t	g	j	n
B	e	c	h	v	w	e	l	e	v	e	l	a	n	d	r	c	k	s
C	o	s	w	i	l	s	o	n	b	h	n	k	j	c	u	w	m	v
D	r	q	o	e	l	i	n	t	o	n	u	r	t	n	m	l	l	u
E	g	n	j	o	h	n	s	o	n	h	p	x	r	i	a	b	h	j
F	e	b	u	c	h	a	n	a	n	p	o	l	k	x	n	u	i	m
G	h	y	r	k	e	a	r	t	e	r	z	a	v	o	u	s	q	s
H	b	s	t	d	j	r	d	e	s	j	d	n	c	n	h	h	v	e
I	u	a	p	i	i	n	h	c	t	d	s	a	a	r	t	h	u	r
J	s	o	f	z	l	w	v	v	e	f	i	c	j	y	i	k	m	t
K	h	q	e	p	p	q	i	b	r	c	z	b	g	g	r	a	n	t
L	w	k	r	v	h	j	a	c	k	s	o	n	z	o	l	n	z	r
M	w	a	k	a	m	v	k	h	a	r	r	i	s	o	n	c	g	z
N	g	g	l	z	u	g	u	e	x	k	h	d	y	o	d	u	r	n
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

JACKSON

GRANT

ROOSEVELT

CARTER

POLK

ARTHUR

WILSON

GEORGE BUSH

BUCHANAN

CLEVELAND

TRUMAN

CLINTON

JOHNSON

HARRISON

NIXON

BUSH

The 'missing' president is William McKinley

AMERICAN POLITICS

It is not possible to provide answers to some of the questions as these will obviously change over time. However here is a list of the Scots-Irish presidents and their party affiliation:



REPUBLICAN

ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT
CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR
BENJAMIN HARRISON
WILLIAM McKINLEY
THEODORE ROOSEVELT
RICHARD NIXON
GEORGE BUSH SENIOR
GEORGE W. BUSH



DEMOCRAT

ANDREW JACKSON
JAMES KNOX POLK
JAMES BUCHANAN
ANDREW JOHNSON
GROVER CLEVELAND
WOODROW WILSON
HARRY TRUMAN
JAMES EARL CARTER Jnr
BILL CLINTON

"LET'S LOOK AT HOME" ANSWERS

1. Obviously it is not possible to guess which characters the pupils will select for this answer.
2. The Rev. John Cleland built the first dwelling in 1830.
3. It is a corruption of Storm Mount. It was a very exposed site where it could be very windy
4. The architect was called Thomas Turner.
5. Snarling stone gryphons guard the castle.
6. The firm was Workman and Clark Ltd.
7. The first Prime Minister was Sir James Craig.
8. This is a research question where the pupils have a choice and it is therefore not possible to give a definitive answer.



PRESIDENTIAL TRUMP - A CARD GAME

ANDREW JACKSON

- Date of birth 15th March 1767
- Date of death 8th June 1845
- Birthplace Waxhaw Settlement, the Carolinas
- Where in Ulster their roots are Boneybefore, Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim
- When they became President 1824
- How long they served as President 8 years
- Date of death 8th June 1845

JAMES KNOW POLK

- Date of birth 2nd November 1795
- Date of death 15 June 1849
- Birthplace Mecklenburg County, North Carolina
- Where in Ulster their roots are Lifford, Co. Donegal
- When they became President 1845
- How long they served as President 4 years

JAMES BUCHANAN

- Date of birth 23rd April 1791
- Date of death 1st June 1868
- Birthplace Cove Gap, Pennsylvania
- Where in Ulster their roots are Omagh, Co. Tyrone
- When they became President 1857
- How long they served as President 4 years

ANDREW JOHNSON

- Date of birth 29th December 1808
- Date of death 31st July 1875
- Birthplace Raleigh, North Carolina
- Where in Ulster their roots are Mounthill, Larne, Co. Antrim
- When they became President 1865
- How long they served as President 4 years

ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT

- Date of Birth 27 April 1822
- Date of death 23 July 1885
- Birthplace Point Pleasant, Ohio
- Where in Ulster their roots are Co. Tyrone
- When they became President 1869
- How long they served as President 8 years

CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR

- Date of birth 5th October 1829
- Date of death 18th November 1886
- Birthplace Fairfield, Vermont
- Where in Ulster their roots are Cullybackey, C. Antrim
- When they became President 1881
- How long they served as President 4 years

GROVER CLEVELAND

- Date of birth 18th March 1837
- Date of death 24th June 1908
- Birthplace Caldwell, New Jersey
- Where in Ulster their roots are Co. Antrim
- When they became President 1885 & 1893
- How long they served as President 8 years

BENJAMIN HARRISON

- Date of birth 20th August 1833
- Date of death 13th March 1901
- Birthplace North Bend, Cincinnati, Ohio
- Where in Ulster their roots are Uncertain
- When they became President 1889
- How long they served as President 4 years

WILLIAM McKINLEY

- Date of birth 29th January 1843
- Date of death 6th September 1901 (assassinated)
- Birthplace Niles, Ohio
- Where in Ulster their roots are Ballymoney, Co. Antrim
- When they became President 1897
- How long they served as President 4 years

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

- Date of birth 2th October 1858
- Date of death 6th January 1919
- Birthplace New York City
- Where in Ulster their roots are Larne, Co. Antrim
- When they became President 1901
- How long they served as President 8 years

WOODROW WILSON

- Date of birth 28th December 1856
- Date of death 3rd February 1924
- Birthplace Staunton, Virginia
- Where in Ulster their roots are Strabane, Co. Tyrone
- When they became President 1913
- How long they served as President 8 years

HARRY TRUMAN

- Date of birth 8th May 1884
- Date of death 26th December 1972
- Birthplace Lamar, Missouri
- Where in Ulster their roots are Uncertain
- When they became President 1945
- How long they served as President 8 years

RICHARD NIXON

- Date of birth 9th January 1913
- Date of death 22nd April 1994
- Birthplace Yorba Linda, California
- Where in Ulster their roots are Carrickfergus & Ballymoney
- When they became President 1969
- How long they served as President 8 years (resigned)

JIMMY CARTER

- Date of birth 1st October 1924
- Date of death -
- Birthplace Plains, Georgia
- Where in Ulster their roots are Co. Antrim
- When they became President 1977
- How long they served as President 4 years

GEORGE BUSH SENIOR

- Date of birth 12th June 1924
- Date of death -
- Birthplace Milton, Massachusetts
- Where in Ulster their roots are Co. Antrim (probably)
- When they became President 1989
- How long they served as President 4 years

BILL CLINTON

- Date of birth 19th August 1946
- Date of death -
- Birthplace Hope, Arkansas
- Where in Ulster their roots are Co. Fermanagh
- When they became President 1993
- How long they served as President 8 years

GEORGE W. BUSH

- Date of birth 6th July 1946
- Date of death -
- Birthplace New Haven, Connecticut
- Where in Ulster their roots are Co. Antrim (probably)
- When they became President 2001
- How long they served as President 8 years



PRESIDENTIAL BINGO

Here are some sample questions for each of the 17 presidents:

ANDREW JACKSON

Whose family came from Boneybefore, Carrickfergus?

Who was president from 1829-1837?

Whose wife was named Rachel Donelson?

Which president is associated with the Waxhaws region of the Carolinas?

Which president served in the army and commanded the US forces at the Battle of New Orleans?

JAMES KNOW POLK

Who was president from 1845-1849?

Which president was born near Charlotte in North Carolina?

Which president's great-grandfather emigrated from Lifford, County Donegal?

Which president died in 1849?

Which president was born in Mecklenburg County, N. Carolina?

JAMES BUCHANAN

Which president was born in Cove Gap?

Which president was born on 23rd April 1791?

Which president died on 1st June 1868?

Who became president in 1857?

Which president said: "My Ulster blood is my most precious heritage?"

ANDREW JOHNSON

Which president had ancestors from Mounthill near Larne?

Which president was born on 29th December 1808?

Which president was born in Raleigh, N. Carolina?

Which president took over after Abraham Lincoln was assassinated?

Which president never attended any school but was taught to write by his wife?

ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT

Which president was born in Mount Pleasant, Ohio?

Which president commanded the Union Army in the American Civil War?

Which president was born on 27th April 1822?

Which president's ancestors came from Derganagh in Co. Tyrone?

Which president died on 23rd July 1885?

CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR

Which president was born in Fairfield, Vermont?

Whose ancestral home is at Dreen, Cullybackey?

Which president was born on 5th October 1829?

Which president's family emigrated from Ulster not to America but Canada?

Who entered the White House when President James Garfield was assassinated?

GROVER CLEVELAND

- Which president was born in Caldwell, New Jersey?
- Which president served in the White House for 2 terms but not consecutively?
- Which president was born on 18th March 1837?
- Which president died on 24th June 1908?
- Who was both the 22nd and 24th President of the United States?

BENJAMIN HARRISON

- Which president was born in North Bend, Ohio?
- Which president was born on 20th August 1833?
- Which president died on 13th March 1901?
- Which president was the grandson of another president?
- Who became president in 1889?

WILLIAM McKINLEY

- Which president was born in Niles, Ohio?
- Which Scots-Irish president was assassinated?
- Who became president in 1897?
- Which president was born on 29th January 1843?
- Which president died on 6th September 1901?

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

- Which president was born in New York City?
- Which president was born on 27th October 1858?
- Which president died on 6th January 1919?
- Who became president in 1901?
- Who was the 26th President of the United States?

WOODROW WILSON

- Which president was born in Staunton, Virginia?
- Which president had ancestors from Dergelt near Strabane?
- Which president was born on 28th December 1856?
- Which president died on 3rd February 1924?
- Who was a lecturer at Princeton University before becoming president?

HARRY TRUMAN

- Which president died on Boxing Day 1972?
- Which president was born in Lamar, Missouri?
- Who became president in 1945?
- Who became president when President Franklin D. Roosevelt died suddenly in office?
- Which president was born on 8th May 1884?

RICHARD NIXON

- Who was born at Yorba Linda, California?
- Which president resigned to be replaced by Gerald Ford?
- Which president was born on 9th January 1913?
- Which president died on 22nd April 1994?
- Which president had Millhouse relatives from Carrickfergus and Ballymoney?

JIMMY CARTER

- Which president has the middle name 'Earl'?
- Which president was born in Plains, Georgia?
- Which president was born on 1st October 1924
- Which president was a peanut farmer?
- Who became president in 1977?

GEORGE BUSH (SENIOR)

- Who was the 41st president?
- Which president was born in Milton, Massachusetts?
- Which president was born on 12th June 1924?
- Which president was the youngest pilot in the US Navy during the Second World War?
- Which president was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross?

BILL CLINTON

- Which president was born in Hope, Arkansas?
- Which president was born on 19th August 1946?
- Who became president in 1993?
- Who became president after serving as Governor of Arkansas for 12 years?
- Which president's real surname is Blythe?

GEORGE W. BUSH

- Who had lived in the White House before he became president?
- Who was born on 6th July 1946?
- Which president was born in New Haven, Connecticut?
- Which president has the middle name 'Walker'?
- Which president worked in the oil industry before entering politics?

CCEA
CRITERIA GRID
FOR MARKING
JACKSON
NEWSPAPER
TASK

CCEA
CRITERIA GRID
FOR MARKING
DEAR MR
PRESIDENT
LETTER

CCEA
CRITERIA GRID
FOR MARKING
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE
PRESENTATION

As an alternative way of introducing pupils to the 17 presidents with Ulster-Scots ancestry, this paired or group matching task can replace Missing Names and the Did You Know information sheet.

ANDREW

JACKSON

JAMES

KNOX

POLK

JAMES

BUCHANAN

ANDREW

JOHNSON

ULYSSES

SIMPSON

GRANT

CHESTER

ALAN

ARTHUR

GROVER

CLEVELAND

BENJAMIN

HARRISON

WILLIAM

McKINLEY

THEODORE

ROOSEVELT

WOODROW

WILSON

HARRY

TRUMAN

RICHARD

NIXON

JAMES

EARL

CARTER

JUNIOR

GEORGE

BUSH

SENIOR

GEORGE

WALKER

BUSH