

Fenimore Art Museum
The President: Featuring Pete Souza Photographs
Grades 1-4
Guide for Using the Lesson Plan

Overview:

Pete Souza was the official photographer for both Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama during their presidencies. Through his photographs, students get to be the “fly on the wall” while the presidents carry out their official duties.

Fenimore Art Museum currently features the exhibit “Pete Souza: Two Presidents, One Photographer” through December 31, 2020. Souza’s photographs show two presidents during their terms in office. Students will learn about the duties of the President of the United States through the photographs taken by Souza of Presidents Reagan and Obama.

1. Preview the lesson Learning Standards, Objectives, and Targets

Standards:

NYS K-8 Social Studies Framework Standards:

Civic Participation - Students will be able to identify Presidents of the United States, as persons of power, and their leadership responsibilities.

New York State Social Studies Standards

1.4. Historical analysis: describe historic events through the eyes and experiences of those who were there.

3.7: Governments in communities and countries around the world have the authority to make and the power to enforce laws. Students will examine the role of the president and ways in which he can make and enforce the law.

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to correctly identify President Ronald Reagan and President Barack Obama from Pete Souza photographs.
2. Students will be able to explain the purpose of an official President’s photographer.
3. Students will be able to list with an 85% rate of accuracy, the five Constitutional roles of the President of the United States: (1) Chief of State – Ceremonial Head of the United States (2) Chief Legislator - approves laws (3) Chief Executive – enforces laws (4) Chief Diplomat – makes foreign policy and meets with leaders of other countries (5) Commander and Chief of the Armed Forces – Leader of the Military
4. Students will be able to analyze what role that the President is fulfilling by identifying a photograph of the role being carried out.
5. Students will be able to analyze what role that the President is fulfilling by describing an image of the President in two sentences.

Targets:

- Students will be able to identify President Ronald Reagan and President Barack Obama when shown photographs of each man taken by Pete Souza,
- Students will be able to explain the purpose for Souza taking the photographs of Presidents Reagan and Obama.

- Students will be able to list the five Constitutional roles of the President of the United States.
 - Students will be able to evaluate which role the President is fulfilling by identifying a photograph of that role being carried out.
2. Access videos and activity/worksheets and determine which to use in your lesson.

Information and Activity Sheet on The President and the Roles of the President



Pete Souza
Elementary Activity S

Answer Key for the Activity Sheet



Pete Souza
Elementary Activity S

Video #1 – Who is the President



Who is the
President video Gra

Video #1 Transcript



Who is the
President transcript

Video #2 – Role of the President



Role of the
President video Gra

Video #2 Transcript



Role of the
President video tran

If more information or assistance is needed or if interested in CTLE Professional Development Credit from Fenimore Art Museum, please contact the Education Department at schoolprograms@farmersmuseum.org for more information.