

Presidential Best Friends

Directions: Use the book *First Pets: Presidential Best Friends* to answer the following questions.

1. Which president received a donkey as a gift from the king of Spain? _____
2. Which president kept Grizzly Bears on the White House lawn? _____
3. With what did Dolley Madison escape from the White House during the War of 1812?

4. Which president housed an alligator on the White House lawn? _____
5. How many pets did Thomas Jefferson have? _____
6. Why does the president traditionally pardon a turkey at Thanksgiving? _____
7. Which presidents became known as the best horseman of all the presidents? _____
Which horse did he ride? _____
8. Which president was the first to have fish as pets? _____
9. How many pets did Theodore Roosevelt have? _____
10. In what ways did Wilson's sheep contribute to the war effort during WWI? _____

11. How did President Coolidge get many of his pets? _____
12. Which president's dog starred in both a movie and a book? _____
13. Why did Gerald Ford make a special rubber stamp of his dog, Liberty's, paw? _____

14. Which White House dog "wrote" a book showing a dog's-eye view of life in the White House? _____
15. Which is the only pet to live in the White House under two presidents? _____

Bonus Activity

Create a graph that shows all the presidents that had cats (11), dogs (27), fish (1), horses (12), birds (15), snakes (1).

Use your graph to answer the following questions.

- o What type of pet has been most popular with presidents? _____
- o What type of pet has been the least popular? _____
- o How many presidents had horses as pets? _____
- o How many presidents had birds as pets? _____
- o How many more presidents had dogs than cats? _____
- o How many more presidents had dogs than birds and cats combined? _____

This activity is based on *First Pets: Presidential Best Friends* by Nell Fuqua.
Find more activities at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/fairs>

