

# PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION TEACHING STRATEGIES

compiled by

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Note: Most of the websites feature the 2005 Inauguration of George W. Bush and will most likely be updated closer to the 2009 Inauguration of Barack Obama.

1. <http://www.crayola.com/lesson-plans/detail/costume-for-an-inaugural-ball-lesson-plan/>

- Look at history through the lens of fashion, creating original costumes for inaugural balls throughout history

2. <http://www.c-span.org/classroom/govt/inauguration.asp>

- Article II of the Constitution requires an oath of office for the president. The 20th amendment later set January 20th as Inauguration Day. Other inaugural traditions have evolved, such as the inaugural address, the first speech of the president's term.
- At this website, you'll find Learning About Inaugural Addresses, and Inauguration Worksheet, and lessons about the inaugural addresses of these five presidents: George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, and George W. Bush.

3. [http://edsitement.neh.gov/view\\_lesson\\_plan.asp?ID=246](http://edsitement.neh.gov/view_lesson_plan.asp?ID=246)

- After completing the lessons in this unit, students will be able to:
  - State the Constitutional requirements for inaugurations and the oath of office.
  - Identify important historical events related to Lincoln's first inaugural address.
  - Interpret selected archival materials in the light of the inaugural address and presidential responsibilities.

4. [http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_lesson/lesson/lesson219.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson219.shtml)

- Every four years on January 20, an important event occurs in the United States: A president takes the Oath of Office during an inauguration ceremony. This week, Education World offers ten super activities to help your students learn about and commemorate the inauguration. Included: Activities in which students write

letters to the president, create presidential portraits, complete an inauguration trivia hunt, and much more!

5. [http://www.education-world.com/a\\_lesson/00-2/lp2089.shtml](http://www.education-world.com/a_lesson/00-2/lp2089.shtml)
  - Students graph the presidents' ages at inauguration. Who was the youngest president? The oldest?
6. <http://www.educationworld.com/>
  - This homepage will have inauguration ideas forthcoming.
7. <http://www.eiu.edu/~eiutps/newsletter/inaugurations/index.php>
  - Welcome to the 13th issue of the **Central Illinois Teaching with Primary Sources Newsletter**, a collaborative project between the Teaching with Primary Sources Programs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Eastern Illinois University.
  - With this issue and continuing through February 2009 the theme each month will reflect primary sources from our **Abraham Lincoln Calendar**, you can download and print a copy of the [calendar](#).
8. <http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/specials/index.html>
  - These special pages contain materials designed to complement classroom curriculum. Each page provides a wealth of resources: lesson plans, Times articles, multimedia, archival materials, quizzes, crosswords, related Web sites and more.
9. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/pihome.html>
  - *"I Do Solemnly Swear . . .": Presidential Inaugurations* is a collection of approximately 400 items or 2,000 digital files relating to inaugurations from George Washington's in 1789 to George W. Bush's inauguration of 2001.
10. <http://www.teachervision.fen.com/poetry/lesson-plan/4414.html>
  - Discuss the history of poetry at U.S. presidential inaugurations. Here is some background information.
11. <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/inaugural-quiz/>
  - At noon on January 20, 2001, the inauguration of President George W. Bush took place. Soon thereafter, documents relating to this event will be permanently held by the National Archives and Records Administration.

- Test your knowledge about past Presidential inaugurations in this activity
12. <http://inaugural.senate.gov/index.cfm>
    - Senate webpage with information about the 2009 Inauguration of Barack Obama.
  13. <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/inauguration/>
    - Welcome to the Inauguration 2001 Web site! This site is designed as a resource for you to use around the events in January 2001, but also as a broader resource for study of the executive branch of American government, past presidents, the Constitution, and elections.
  14. <http://elcivics.com/presidential-inauguration>
    - Presidential Inauguration information for ESL students.
  15. <http://historyexplorer.americanhistory.si.edu/search/index.asp?keywords=presidency&perPage=10&typeKeys=8>
    - Smithsonian search page with presidential and inaugural information.
  16. [http://www.whitehousehistory.org/03/subs/03\\_a.html](http://www.whitehousehistory.org/03/subs/03_a.html)
    - A brief White House history of Presidential Inaugurations.
  17. [http://www.whitehousehistory.org/03/subs/03\\_a.html](http://www.whitehousehistory.org/03/subs/03_a.html)
  18. <http://www.presidential-inauguration.com/>
    - The next presidential inauguration for Barack Obama will take place on January 20, 2009. On this website you will find non-partisan information about the 2009 presidential inauguration, galas and other events surrounding that historic day. If you are looking for the official site of the 2009 inauguration, please visit the [Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies](#).
  19. <http://www.ourwhitehouse.org/greatinaugsites.html>
    - Great inauguration websites compiled by a teacher.
  20. <http://www.teachervision.fen.com/us-history/presidents/59344.html>
    - Get your students involved in the issues facing the U.S. President-elect with these activities, articles, and lessons. Have your students imagine a day in the life of the new president, read the inaugural addresses from past presidents, teach your class about the Cabinet, and consider what it means to be President of the United

States. Explore the U.S. Presidency by centering these activities and lessons on Barack Obama.

21. <http://www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/cgi-bin/search.pl?term1=inauguration>
22. <http://222.legacyproject.org/programs/webofdreams.html>
  - Allow students to share their hopes and dreams for Barrack Obama's inauguration. A neat story as well as activity