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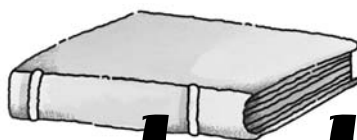


Table of Contents

A Word from the Author	Page 5
The Bush League—West Wing Words You Need to Know!	Page 6
George W. Bush—Oil, Baseball, & Politics	Page 7
The President Prefers Peanut Butter & Jelly!	Page 9
“Check Out” a Few Facts About Our New First Lady—Laura Bush!	Page 11
Twin Teens in the White House!	Page 13
President George W. Bush and His Political Roots	Page 15
Presidential Pets	Page 17
Like Father Like Son (Presidential Fathers and Sons)	Page 19
Dick Cheney Goes Back to Capitol Hill!	Page 21
Who Can Be President?	Page 23
The White House – A Home With History!	Page 25
Oval Office Occupant Oversees Official Orders!	Page 27
The 2000 Presidential Election	Page 29
Electoral College vs. Popular Vote	
(Why Doesn’t the Person with the Most Votes Win?!?!)	Page 31
Supreme Court Ruling Determines Winner of 2000 Election	Page 33
The Date to Inaugurate Is January 20!	Page 35
President Bush’s Cabinet Line-Up	Page 37
The Secret Service – Protecting the President & His Family	Page 39
Safety & Security – Top Priorities When Presidents Travel	Page 41
Camp David – A Great Place to Relax!	Page 43
Just Call Him...The Commander-In-Chief!	Page 45
Other Resources	Page 46
Answers to Activities	Page 46
Author’s Biography	Page 47
Index	Page 48





A Word From The Author



For more than 200 years, Americans have had something to get excited about—a new president! From George Washington to George W. Bush, we wonder and wait—and often work very hard—to see who will be the leader of the United States.

The 2000 presidential election will go down in the history books as one of America's most dramatic political events. The election began simply, then proceeded in a rather ordinary way. In fact, some people might even say it was a pretty boring election—that is, until election day itself!

If you recall, it was not clear who won on election night. Was it George W. Bush ... or Al Gore? Before the polls even closed across the nation, the television news anchors announced that Gore had won. Oops! NOT! And then like a great political soap opera, we had to wait, and wait, and wait to see who really won. You'll read more about that in this book.

The important thing is that no matter who won, once the American people had spoken, they began to join together to make the new president-elect and his family welcome. After all, a new job and a new home and a new school are always major changes for a family.

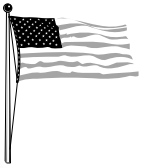
Let's meet your new presidential family!

Hoping you're looking forward to becoming a voter—your vote counts!

Carole Marsh

P.S.—Once you learn about the Bushes, keep up with them through the newspaper, television, and Internet! See the page on Additional Resources.





“Check Out” A Few Facts About Our New First Lady—



Ever wanted to be a teacher or a librarian? First Lady Laura Bush did, and with her passion for education and literacy, they were perfect career choices!

Laura Welch Bush is a native Texan, born in Midland—a small Texas town in a vast desert. Mrs. Bush decided to become a teacher when she was in the second grade. As a little girl growing up in Midland, she practiced being a teacher using her dolls as students. She would line them all up for the day’s lessons. Years later, her twin daughters, Barbara and Jenna, lined their dolls up and taught them, too! The Bush family jokes that they have the best-educated dolls in America!

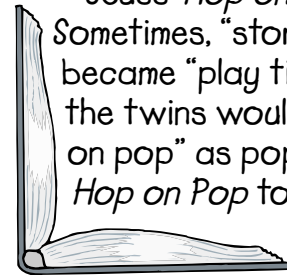
Mrs. Bush received her Bachelor degree in Education from Southern Methodist University, and went to the University of Texas for her Master’s Degree in Library Science. She taught second, third, and fourth grades, and served as librarian in Dallas, Houston, and Austin public schools. Reading was fun because Mrs. Bush made characters in children’s books members of her class. Wouldn’t it be great to sit next to Curious George, Winnie the Pooh, or Huckleberry Finn? Her classroom even had a special corner for a web that belonged to Charlotte, the spider!

While Mr. Bush was governor of Texas, he and Mrs. Bush led state efforts to improve teacher training and reading programs. Reading is entertaining, interesting, and important! President and Mrs. Bush are committed to making sure each child in America learns to read at grade level by third grade. How are you doing?

Story Time

President and Mrs. Bush always read to their little girls. One of President Bush’s favorite books was Dr. Seuss’ *Hop on Pop*.

Sometimes, “story time” became “play time” as the twins would “hop on pop” as pop read *Hop on Pop* to them!



EMPTY NESTERS ♦

BARBARA AND JENNA HAVE HEADED OFF TO COLLEGE AND PRESIDENT AND MRS. BUSH ARE ADJUSTING TO THEIR DAUGHTERS BEING GONE. SOMETIMES PARENTS GET OUT OF THE HOUSE BECAUSE IT’S SO LONELY AFTER THE KIDS LEAVE. MRS. BUSH SAID, “EVERYONE DEALS WITH IT IN DIFFERENT WAYS. BUT I TOLD GEORGE I THOUGHT RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT WAS A LITTLE EXTREME!”

Twins Barbara and Jenna are both named after their grandmothers!

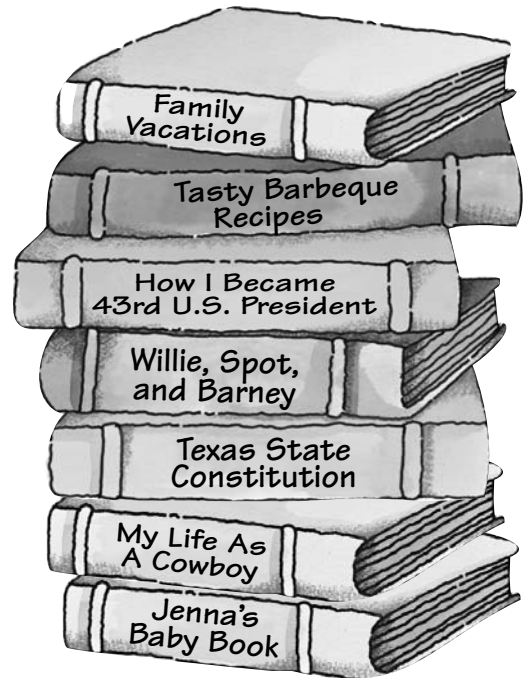




Help the First Lady in the Library Activity

At their White House home in Washington, D.C., the First Lady set up a Bush family library. Help Mrs. Bush reshelve these books by putting them in order. On the blank lines, write the book titles in alphabetical order (we've listed the first one for you.)

Barbara's Baby Book



The Dewey Decimal numbers for the books in the Bush family library need to be organized. Write them in numerical order on the library card: 350.6 / 331.25 / 704.9 / 342 / 155.42 / 155.44 / 390 / 392 / 324.973 / 306.85 / 641.5 / 636



LIBRARY CARD

Dewey Decimal Numbers

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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