



Design School Lesson Plan

# Presidential Report Card

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## TITLE OF LESSON

Presidential Report Card

## ACHIEVABLES

- Students will create a report card of a former president

## SUGGESTED LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Develop a set of criteria for ranking a president's legacy
- Rank the legacy of a president based upon social, economic, military, and political achievements

## PREPARATION

- Students will each need access to a computer or mobile device with an Internet connection
- Present the [Quick Guide to Canva](#) to onboard your class quickly
- A projector or interactive whiteboard is ideal for the modelling process
- Chart paper
- Read teacher notes.

## SUGGESTED LEARNING FLOW

### Part I: Ranking Presidents

As a warm-up, students will rank the five greatest and five worst presidents in U.S. history. For each president, they will give a rationale for the ranking.

As a class, discuss what makes a president among the "best" or among the "worst." Include how things like political bias might cloud how you view a particular president.

### Part II: Develop Criteria

Using chart paper, students will work in a small group, setting up a report card system for presidents. Their report cards should:

- Include social, economic, military and political achievements.
- Have a numerical system with weighted areas

Students will do a gallery walk taking notes on any missing categories they should add to their report cards. After the gallery walk, students will modify (add, rearrange, take away) aspects of their report card.

### **Part III: Creating the Report Card**

Students will individually use Canva to create a report card for a president. While the group criteria should be universal, students can individually modify the style and visual aesthetic according to personal preference.

#### **Graphic Design Notes (Use [Quick Tips for Great Design](#))**

Before students start designing, run through the Quick Tips for Great Design one-page reference guide. This includes five important tips for creating an effective design.

### **Part IV: Displaying the Report Cards**

Students will share their presidential report cards with classmates. Here are a few options:

1. Gallery Walk: students walk around and offer 2 strengths and 1 area to improve
2. Peer Evaluation: students pair up and offer 2 strengths and 1 area to improve
3. Self-Reflection: students can reflect on what they did well and what could be improved on their presidential report card

#### **HOMEWORK/EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

- Students can publish their report cards online with a paragraph rationale explaining the infographic.
- Students can create additional presidential report cards and turn it into a slideshow explaining the best or worst presidents