

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

A P R E S I D E N T ' S V I S I O N

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENT PROMPTS

POSTER PROJECT

Ask students what they would change if they could redesign the poster. Pose questions such as: What portraits of Roosevelt would you choose? What programs or legislation passed during Roosevelt's administration would you represent and why? What paintings, drawings, or primary sources would you choose to reflect the issues?

Divide students into teams and have each develop a new poster on Roosevelt to be included in the *President's Vision* series. Use the class textbook, the *President's Vision* website, and other outside sources to find images and primary sources to create the new poster.

DEBATE

Divide the class into two groups and have opposing sides develop arguments for a debate over the following statement:

“President Roosevelt's vision successfully transformed the nation and addressed the country's most pressing problems.”

One side should research and argue the affirmative. The other side should research and argue the negative. In addition to the primary sources and items on the poster, students should use the class textbook, the *President's Vision* website, and outside resources to prepare their arguments.

CURATING A MUSEUM EXHIBITION

Divide class into groups of four or five students. Have each group prepare a museum exhibition using the primary sources available on the President's Vision poster, in the Humanities Texas Digital Repository, and elsewhere online.

The exhibition should focus on Roosevelt's time in office. It should examine the ways in which his ideas and values influenced the nation's development, using selected quotes from speeches, letters, and other sources, as well as images.

COMPARING AND CONTRASTING WITH OTHER POSTERS IN THE SERIES

Have students compare and contrast the Theodore Roosevelt poster with other posters in the *President's Vision* series. Address these questions either in a class discussion or as an individual or group assignment:

- Which other president's vision do you feel most closely aligns with Roosevelt's? Explain.
- Which other president's vision do you feel is the most different from Roosevelt's? Explain. What factors might account for the difference?

ASSIGNMENT PROMPTS

- Looking back at the images and text on the Roosevelt poster and the additional primary source documents on the *President's Vision* website, write a short essay explaining Roosevelt's presidential vision and how it sought to address the problems the nation faced when he became president.
- Consider Roosevelt's personal history as well as the decades during which he grew up and established his political career. Name at least three personal and/or societal factors that shaped the development of his presidential vision. Explain your answer.

For related educational resources, visit www.presidentsvision.org



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- Using your textbook or other reliable online and print resources, find additional images of Theodore Roosevelt. Compare the images you find with the images featured on the poster. What new information do these images reveal about Roosevelt?
- Identify an issue or an event significant to Roosevelt's presidency that you feel should have been addressed in the poster but is not. Why should this issue or event have been included on a poster about Roosevelt's presidential vision? Use your textbook or other reliable online and print resources to find an image that best represents this particular issue or event. Provide a brief description of the image and explain why you chose this particular image.
- Using your textbook and other reliable online and print resources, identify a different quotation from Roosevelt that you feel best represents his presidential vision. Explain your choice.
- To what extent did Roosevelt's vision move the United States in a new direction? Did this direction extend beyond his terms in office?
- Roosevelt is also known as the "naturalist president" for his efforts to protect wildlife and wilderness. What impact has the preservation of places such as the Grand Canyon had on the lives of U.S. citizens? Explain your answer.

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