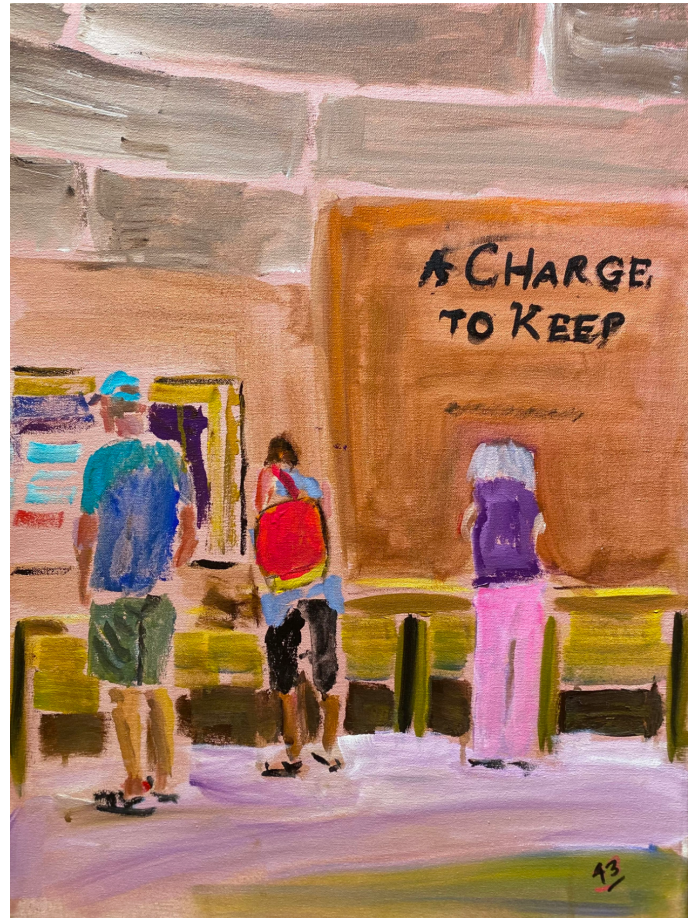

Summary

The George W. Bush Presidential Center on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas is one of sixteen presidential libraries managed by the National Archives and Records Administration of the United States. Presidential libraries are public spaces created for both research and visitor museum experience. Each library holds papers generated during the presidency and are available for public research. The library is privately funded to build and then operated by the federal government.

The Bush museum's permanent collection has exhibits dedicated to the life of the president before, during and after his presidency. The artifacts collected are unique to the president's time in office and include gifts given to the president by other heads of state from all over the world. Rotating temporary exhibits such as President Bush's paintings, are on display for several months at a time.

The George W. Bush Presidential Center also houses the Bush Institute which provides ongoing advocacy in area such as immigration, democracy, education, economic growth, global health and veterans and military family support.

The following activities will guide students through an online exhibit, offer a research experience and provide an opportunity to express themselves with art.



Group Activity

Online Exhibit-Grades 6-8

Materials needed:

- [GWB Presidential Center Slideshow](#)

This activity is designed to work with the online slideshow exhibit from the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas, Texas. The photos were taken during two different visits to the museum with examples from each rotating exhibit. Be sure to watch the short videos on slides 6 and 7. Click through the photos and enjoy visiting a presidential library!

Questions for large group discussion:

1. Work through the slideshow with the students.
2. Ask students to describe something they like about the exhibit.
3. How is viewing an exhibit online different from seeing it at the museum? What are positives and negatives about an online exhibit?
4. Does the exhibit encourage you to want to visit this museum?
5. What is one thing you learned about a Presidential Museum?
6. Fun Fact: Texas has three Presidential Museums; Lyndon Johnson at the University of Texas in Austin, George H.W. Bush at Texas A&M in College Station and the GWB in Dallas.

TEKS (Activity 1 – Exhibit)

FINE ARTS

Middle School 1– 117.202 (c)

- (1) (A–D) Foundations: observation and perception
- (3) (A–D) Historical and cultural response
- (4) (B,D) Critical Evaluation, Museums

Middle School 2 – 117.203 (b)

- (1) (A) Foundations: observation and perception
- (3) (A–C) Historical and Cultural relevance
- (4) (B,D) Critical Evaluation and Response,
Museums

Middle School 3 – 117.204 (b)

- (1) (A–D) Foundations: observation and perception
- (3) (A–D) Historical and Cultural relevance
- (4) (B,D) Critical Evaluation and Response,
Museums

Activity 2: Research

Grades 6-8

Teacher Notes:

The links included are not extensive by design. The purpose of the activity is to *find* information. The links may provide an origin for other resources.

Materials needed:

- Library or internet research access
- *Out of One, Many* and *Portraits of Courage* both by George W. Bush, books of his paintings

1. Find additional resources about President Bush. You can use the art books of his paintings listed above, the links below or any others that your teacher approves.
2. Take notes from each. Gather different information regarding his life in *one* of the following topic areas:
 - a. Building Prairie Chapel ranch – Pres. And Mrs. Bush’s residence in Crawford, TX
 - b. Taking up painting as a post career hobby
 - c. Building the Bush Presidential Library
3. Write three descriptive paragraphs using details and evidence from your research. For example, if you choose Building Prairie Chapel Ranch, paragraph one could be how he chose the land and how big is the ranch, paragraph 2, what kind of house did he build, paragraph 3, what do they use it for.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prairie_Chapel_Ranch

<https://www.bushcenter.org/plan-your-visit/plan-your-visit-building-and-park-grounds>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59Rec8bw010>

TEKS (Activity 2 – Research and Writing)

ELAR

Sixth Grade – 110.22 (b)

- (5) (A,B,D–I) Comprehension skills
- (6) (B-I) Response Skills
- (10) (A,B) Composition, writing process
- (11) (B-D) Composition
- (12) (B,C,D,F) Inquiry and Research

Seventh Grade – 110.23 (b)

- (5) (A,B,D–I) Comprehension skills
- (6) (A-I) Response skills
- (10) (A-D) Composition, writing process
- (11) (B-D) Composition
- (12) (A-F) Inquiry and research

Eighth Grade – 110.24 (b)

- (5) (A-H) Comprehension skills
- (6) (A-J) Response skills
- (10) (A-D) Composition
- (11) (B-D) Composition
- (12) (A-F, H) Inquiry and research

SOCIAL STUDIES

Sixth Grade – 113.18 (c)

- (19) (A,B,D-F) Social Studies skills
- (21) (A-D) Social Studies skills

Seventh Grade – 113.19 (c)

- (15) (A,B) Citizenship
- (17) (A) Citizenship, president
- (20) (A-E) Social Studies skills

Eighth Grade – 113.20 (c)

- (29) (A,B,D,E) Social Studies skills
- (31) A,B) Social Studies skills-government process

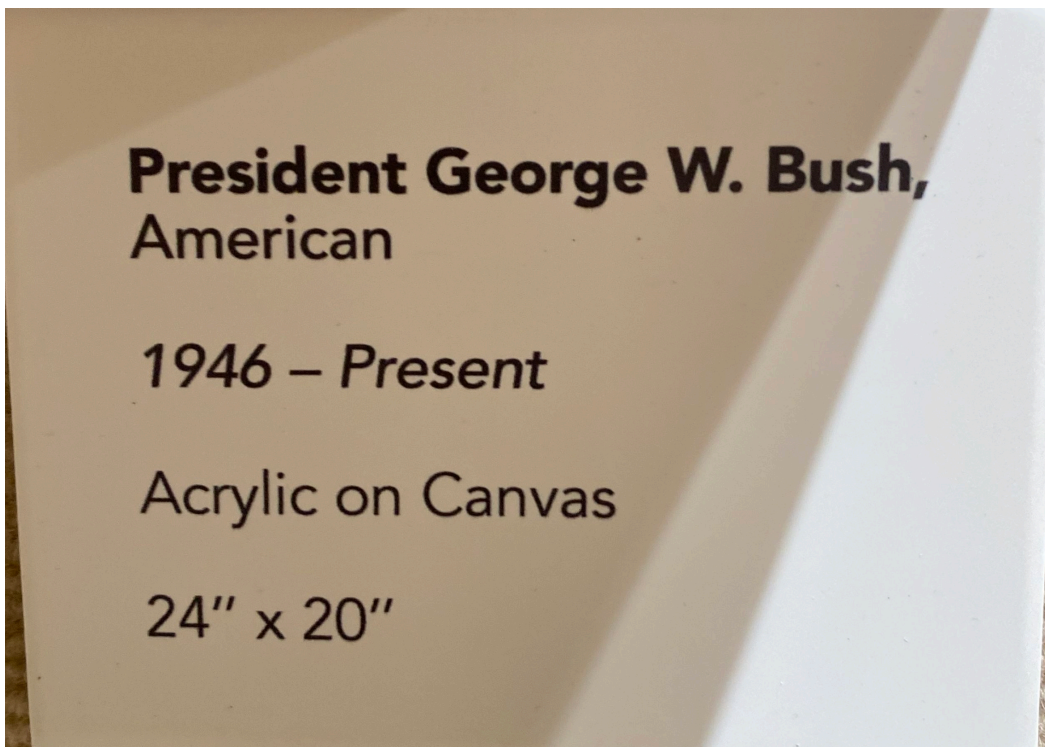
Activity 3

Art Creation

Materials needed

- Drawing pencils/ Paper
- OR
- Painting canvas
 - Watercolor or acrylic paint
 - Artists brushes

President Bush used his interactions as a leader to develop the subjects for his paintings. Ask students to think about a subject they would want to immortalize into an artwork. Have students work independently expressing their subjects in either drawing or painting. Have each student create a label for their work including their name, year of birth and type of media used.



TEKS (Activity 3 – Art Creation)

FINE ARTS

Middle School 1 117.202 (c)

(2) (A-C) Creative Expression

Middle School 2 117.203 (b)

(2) (A-C) Creative Expression

Middle School 3 117.204 (b)

(2) (A-C,E) Creative Expression