



The Mini Page

Issue 04, 2021

Founded by Betty Debnam

Next Week:
Groundhog Day!

History Is Made



photo courtesy U.S. Virgin Islands

On Nov. 3, Americans elected Joseph R. Biden Jr. and Kamala Harris as president and vice president of the United States. Just days ago, they were **inaugurated**, or sworn in, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Vice President Harris is the first woman to serve in that role. This is a historic time in our nation.

This week, let's learn more about our first and second families.

Joe Biden

President Biden is the 46th president of the United States. Before becoming president, he served as vice president with President Barack Obama, from 2009 to 2017.



photo courtesy buildbackbetter.gov

Biden was a senator from Delaware for 36 years before he became vice president. He ran for president twice before becoming the Democratic Party's nominee in 2020.

Family life

Biden was born on Nov. 20, 1942, in Scranton, Pennsylvania. He is the oldest of four children.

In high school, Biden played football and baseball. He also served as class president. He studied history and political science at the University of Delaware and got a law degree from Syracuse University.

Mini Fact:

Kamala Harris is the first woman to serve as vice president of the United States.

In 1966, Biden married Neilia Hunter, and they had three children: Beau, Hunter and Naomi. But in December 1972, Neilia and Naomi were killed in a car accident. Joe Biden had just won his first election to the U.S. Senate. He thought about **resigning**, or quitting, his Senate job to take care of Beau and Hunter, but others encouraged him not to.

Two years later, Biden met Jill Jacobs, a teacher, and they were married in 1977. They have a daughter, Ashley. Beau Biden died in 2015 from brain cancer. Before he died, he served as attorney general for Delaware. He also served in Iraq with the Army National Guard.



Joe and Jill Biden

Election issues

Voters cast their ballots on Nov. 3, or before in mail-in voting, but our country wasn't sure at first who won. That's because several states were too close to call.

Georgia, Nevada, North Carolina and Pennsylvania took longer to count their votes. Finally, on Nov. 7, Biden and Harris were declared to be the winners of the election.

Former President Trump filed a number of lawsuits to **contest**, or argue, the election results, but they were unsuccessful.

Kamala Harris

Before Kamala Harris was elected vice president, she served as a U.S. senator from California. She also was attorney general of California for six years.

Harris is the first African American and Asian American vice president.

Family life

Harris was born in 1964 in Oakland, California. Her mother, an immigrant from



Kamala Harris

India, was a scientist studying treatments for breast cancer. Her father immigrated from British Jamaica and was a professor of economics

at Stanford University. Harris and her younger sister, Maya, grew up in Berkeley, California.

After her parents divorced, Harris moved with her mother to Montreal, Quebec, Canada, where she went to high school.

She studied at Howard University and received her law degree from the University of California. In 2014, Harris married Doug Emhoff, also an attorney, and became a stepmother to his two children.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPBiden
- bit.ly/MPHarris

At the library:

- "Champ and Major: First Dogs" by Joy McCullough

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of our new leaders are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

AFRICAN, AMERICAN, ASIAN, ATTORNEY, BIDEN, CALIFORNIA, CONTEST, DELAWARE, DOUG, ELECTION, HARRIS, IMMIGRANT, INAUGURATED, JILL, JOE, KAMALA, PRESIDENT, RESIGN, VICE, WOMAN.

T N A R G I M M I A L A M A K
W N E L E C T I O N A V N I N
O G V S I R R A H T S X E N A
M I D E L A W A R E I Z D R C
A S D E T A R U G U A N I O I
N E W Z M N L L I J N P B F R
X R A F R I C A N D O U G I E
N E O J T N E D I S E R P L M
A T T O R N E Y V I C E R A A
R S W R T S E T N O C M J C P



Cook's Corner

Sticky Cinnamon Popcorn Balls

You'll need:

- 8 cups popped popcorn (1 microwave package)
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 cups small marshmallows

- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 8 sheets wax paper (10 by 12 inches)



* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

What to do:

1. Pop microwave popcorn according to package directions.
2. Remove unpopped kernels and place popcorn in large glass bowl.
3. In another glass bowl, add butter and marshmallows. Microwave for 2 minutes at 50% power. Stir to combine butter and marshmallows; add cinnamon and blend well.
4. Pour marshmallow mixture on top of popcorn and stir to coat (mixture will be sticky).
5. Place one cup coated popcorn in middle of wax paper sheet. Roll up edges of paper to form a popcorn ball. Store in airtight container. Serves 4.

Mini Jokes



Joey: What did they call Washington's false teeth?
Kami: Presidentures!

Eco Note



Two of eight giraffes who were stuck on an island in Kenya's Great Rift Valley were very carefully moved by barge to a new home, where they will be free to roam. Rising lakes have stranded giraffes and other wildlife on islands, forcing officials to launch relocation efforts. "Moving a giraffe is a delicate process. It took a whole day just to move one giraffe, with the barge taking at least two hours to get to the mainland," said Jackson Komen, a warden for the Kenya Wildlife Service in Baringo.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

For later:

Look for newspaper articles about what the Biden administration is doing.

Teachers: Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



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1. The head of the government and highest officer (9-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

2. To think that something will occur and wait for it to happen (6-letter verb)

□ □ □ □ □ □

3. A plan of action; written or spoken instructions (7-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □

4. Printed reports of events in a city or nation (10-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. The _____ talked to visitors in the White House.
2. Americans _____ changes to be good for most people.
3. A senator talks about a _____ she wants approved.
4. _____ are usually produced every day or weekly.

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ROOTONYM®
by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: President, Expect, Program, Newspapers.

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