“I Spy” Scorecard
2021 Presidential Inauguration

Created by The National Children’s Book and Literacy Alliance

On Wednesday, January 20, 2021, watch the presidential inauguration at home or in your classroom, and see if you can “I SPY” these people and places! Check them off your list one at a time.

Editor’s Note: The NCBLA has always encouraged the adults who live and work with young people to engage their kids in current events by watching and discussing them. This year the FBI is warning everyone about the potential for armed protests in Washington, D.C. and all 50 state capitals in the days leading up to and including Inauguration Day. With the possibility for violence at hand, we recommend that educators and parents proceed cautiously in their decisions about whether to watch the inaugural activities live this year. A possible alternative is to share the inauguration video with young people later in the day with sensitivity as needed. This can be managed by video recording the events or by finding them on news streaming services.

In addition, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has required major changes to inaugural activities. The Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies has announced that the 2021 inauguration will be orchestrated mostly as a virtual event with no large public gatherings. President Biden and Vice President Harris will be sworn in at the West Front of the Capitol as is traditional. Other events will take place across the country and be broadcast on television and online.

This new interpretation of the inaugural activities provides a perfect educational opportunity for young people, teachers, and parents to COMPARE and CONTRAST how inaugural events were organized in the past to how they will be organized this year when our nation is experiencing a public health crisis. We encourage you to use these materials in creative ways to maximize their educational impact with the young people in your lives.

The President and His Family

☐ President Joseph R. Biden is the 46th president of the United States. Biden has dedicated his life to public service. He served as vice president with President Obama for two terms, from 2009-2017. Previously, he served the state of Delaware as senator for 36 years, serving six full terms.

The president was a halfback and wide receiver on his high school football team. His Secret Service codename is “Celtic,” given to him because of his Irish heritage. This was the same code name the Secret Service used for Biden when he was vice president.

☐ First Lady Dr. Jill Biden holds an Ed.D. in Education. As second lady, Dr. Biden worked to bring attention to the sacrifices made by military families, to highlight the importance of community colleges to America’s future, and to raise awareness around areas of particular importance to women, including breast cancer prevention, all while continuing to teach English full-time at Virginia Community College.

Dr. Biden plans to continue her professional career when she moves into the White House, becoming the first First Lady to do so.

☐ President Joe Biden is father to four children, two of whom are deceased. His daughter Naomi died in a car accident with Biden’s first wife in 1972, and his son Joseph "Beau" R. Biden III died in 2015 following a battle with brain cancer. Biden’s two surviving children include his son Robert Hunter Biden from his first marriage and his daughter Ashley Blazer Biden from his marriage to Jill Biden.

Learn more about American presidents, government, and history on the NCBLA’s education website OurWhiteHouse.org.
The President and His Family (continued)

The president and first lady have seven grandchildren. *Left to right:* daughter-in-law Melissa Cohen, son Hunter Biden, grandson Beau Biden, granddaughter Naomi Biden, President Joe Biden, Dr. Jill Biden, granddaughter Maisy Biden, granddaughter Finnegan Biden, grandson Hunter Biden, granddaughter Natalie Biden, daughter Ashley Biden, and son-in-law Dr. Howard Krein.

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The Vice President and Second Gentleman

**Vice President Kamala Harris** is the 49th vice president of the United States. As an attorney and politician, she served California as senator for four years and previously as attorney general. The vice president is married to Douglas Emhoff and is stepmother to his two children from his previous marriage. Her stepchildren Cole and Ella call her “Momala.” Harris is the daughter of two immigrant parents. Her mother was born in India, and her father was born in Jamaica. Her Secret Service code name is “Pioneer,” which she chose because she is the first female vice president, as well as the first woman of color.

**Douglas Emhoff** is an entertainment and media lawyer, who most recently practiced at the multi-national law firm DLA Piper. Emhoff chose to resign his position and put his career on hold to support his wife as she campaigned with Joe Biden. As second gentleman, he plans to teach at Georgetown Law’s Institute for Technology Law and Policy as a distinguished fellow. Emhoff was born in Brooklyn and moved to California with his family when he was in high school. He is the first Jewish spouse of a vice president.

The Outgoing President and First Lady

Former **President Donald J. Trump** served one term as president of the United States. The presidency was his first role in public office. Before being elected, Trump earned a degree in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and worked with his father in real estate, eventually developing properties in New York City and across the world. He also worked as a reality TV personality on *The Apprentice* and authored many books, including the bestseller *The Art of the Deal*. Trump enjoys playing golf.

Former **First Lady Melania Trump** was born in Slovenia and became an American citizen in 2006. She was the second foreign-born first lady of the United States. As her primary initiative as first lady, Mrs. Trump created the BE BEST awareness campaign for young people, which concentrates on well-being, online safety, and opioid abuse. She also redesigned the White House Rose Garden and added a tennis pavilion. Mrs. Trump has one child with husband Donald, a son named Barron Trump.

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The Outgoing Vice President and Second Lady

Former Vice President Michael R. Pence served one term as vice president of the United States. Before being elected as vice president, he served the public in many roles, including as governor of Indiana, for which he served from 2013 to 2017. Pence also served six terms as a member of the United States House of Representatives. Before entering public service, Mr. Pence practiced law and worked as a radio talk show host.

Former Second Lady Karen Pence, like her husband, grew up in Indiana. She taught elementary school for 25 years before becoming First Lady of Indiana. As second lady of the United States, Mrs. Pence advocated for the benefits of art therapy and launched Healing with HeART in 2017. She also worked to support military service members and their families. Mr. and Mrs. Pence are the parents of three children: Michael, Charlotte, and Audrey.

The Supreme Court

John G. Roberts, Jr. is the 17th and current Chief Justice of the United States. He has served in the Supreme Court since 2005, having been nominated by President George W. Bush after the death of Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

The United States Congress

Nancy D’Alesandro Pelosi is the current Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. A member of the Democratic party, she is the U.S. Representative from California’s 12th congressional district, serving since 1987.

Mitchell "Mitch" McConnell, Jr. is the senior United States Senator from Kentucky. A member of the Republican party, he has been the Majority Leader of the Senate since 2015.

Charles E. Schumer is the senior United States Senator from New York and has served in the Senate since 1999. A member of the Democratic party, he has served as Minority Leader since 2019.

Charles E. Grassley is President Pro Tempore of the Senate. A Republican, Grassley has served as a senator from Iowa since 1981. The President Pro Tempore is the second highest-ranking leadership position in the Senate.

Steny H. Hoyer is the U.S. Representative for Maryland’s 5th congressional district. A member of the Democratic party, he became House Majority Leader 2019. He has served in the House of Representatives since 1981.

Kevin D. McCarthy, a member of the Republican party, has served as Minority Leader of the House of Representatives since 2019. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2007 and serves California’s 23rd district.

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Washington, D.C. Landmarks

- **The White House** is both the home and office of the president of the United States and his or her family.

- **The United States Capitol** is where Congress—the Senate and House of Representatives—convene to do their work in the legislative branch of our government.

- **The National Mall** is a national park in downtown Washington, D.C. that stretches from the Capitol building to the Lincoln Memorial.

- **The Washington Monument** is an obelisk on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. built to commemorate the first American president, General George Washington.

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Look for the complete contents of the *Our White House Inauguration Celebration Kit for Kids* on OurWhiteHouse.org, the companion website for the anthology *Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out*, created by the National Children’s Book and Literacy Alliance. An incomparable collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, poetry, and a stunning array of original art, *Our White House* offers a multifaceted look at America’s history through the prism of the White House.

*Our White House* is available in both hardcover and paperback from Candlewick Press. Ask for it at a library or bookstore near you!

Learn more about the NCBLA on our websites thencbla.org and OurWhiteHouse.org and our Facebook page (facebook.com/TheNCBLA).

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