

# EISENHOWER BIRTHPLACE

— STATE HISTORIC SITE —

*Denison, Texas*

## Post-Visit Guide

Grade 5

### Overview: From Five-Star General to Mr. President

In this lesson, students will apply their knowledge of his Dwight D. Eisenhower's leadership style to his presidency. They will also reflect on their own leadership qualities.

### Social Studies TEKS

19) Citizenship. The student understands the importance of effective leadership in a constitutional republic. The student is expected to:

- (B) identify past and present leaders in the national government, including the president and various members of Congress, and their political parties; and
- (C) identify and compare leadership qualities of national leaders, past and present.

(24) Social studies skills. The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of valid sources, including electronic technology. The student is expected to:

- (A) differentiate between, locate, and use valid primary and secondary sources such as computer software; interviews; biographies; oral, print, and visual material; documents; and artifacts to acquire information about the United States;
- (B) analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions;
- (C) organize and interpret information in outlines, reports, databases, and visuals, including graphs, charts, timelines, and maps.

### Materials

- Historical images for display/distribution
- Activity resources
- "I Like Ike" 1952 campaign video <https://youtu.be/9fCboQKkwQA>

### Vocabulary

- **compromise:** the act of settling a dispute by each party giving up some of its demands
- **cooperate:** to work with others to get something done

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## Activity: Eisenhower Birthplace Visit

5 minutes

Ask students to reflect on their visit to the Eisenhower Birthplace by completing all columns of their **KWL chart**. Have students share their experiences including any new questions raised by the visit.

## Activity: Eisenhower Then and Now

20 minutes

**Context:** After the end of World War II, Eisenhower served as the President of Columbia University and the first leader of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). He was urged as early as 1948 to run for president. In 1952, Eisenhower declared himself a Republican candidate for presidency. “I Like Ike” was his campaign slogan. He was elected as the 34<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S. by a landslide, carrying 41 of 48 states, including Texas. Eisenhower was the first Texas-born president to be elected in U.S. history. His leadership abilities to cooperate and compromise allowed him to secure victories in a Democrat-dominated Congress for six of the eight years of his presidency.

Important achievements of his presidency include the:

- establishment and construction of the nation’s interstate highway system
- desegregation of the Army
- upholding of the Supreme Court’s ruling to desegregate schools
- creation of NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)

View the “I Like Ike” **campaign video**. Tell students that this was the first campaign advertisement to appear on television. Ask these questions for whole-class discussion. Answers will vary.

- How was this campaign video like political ads you see today? How was it different?
- How might the ability to cooperate and compromise help a politician do his/her job? Could those abilities also be considered weaknesses? How and why?
- What do you think Dwight D. Eisenhower’s major contributions to U.S. and world history are? Why?

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## **Activity: A New Leader: Me!**

*20 minutes*

Ask students to recall Eisenhower's leadership qualities. Tell them that they will be thinking about what qualities they have that make them leaders. Distribute the **leadership activity resource**. Preview the leadership qualities list of words for any students may not know. Share responses when complete.

## **ELA Extension Activity: I'm Running!**

### **ELA TEKS**

(19) Writing/Persuasive Texts. Students write persuasive texts to influence the attitudes or actions of a specific audience on specific issues. Students are expected to write persuasive essays for appropriate audiences that establish a position and include sound reasoning, detailed and relevant evidence, and consideration of alternatives.

(27) Listening and Speaking/Listening. Students use comprehension skills to listen attentively to others in formal and informal settings. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity.

(28) Listening and Speaking/Speaking. Students speak clearly and to the point, using the conventions of language. Students continue to apply earlier standards with greater complexity. Students are expected to give organized presentations employing eye contact, speaking rate, volume, enunciation, natural gestures, and conventions of language to communicate ideas effectively.

Have students craft their own campaign speeches, highlighting their own leadership qualities and providing evidence for their qualifications to be a good class leader and president. Host a race for class president. Each student must present his/her campaign speech to their classmates.

For an additional challenge, students may create their own campaign slogans, like the very successful "I Like Ike!" Host a competition for the best campaign button or bumper sticker designs.

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## Resource Image: President Eisenhower 1957

Trikosko, M. S., photographer. (1957) "President Dwight D. Eisenhower standing at a table at the White House, during a news conference at the White House, Washington, D.C." Washington D.C, 1957. October 9. [Photograph] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2012646646/>.



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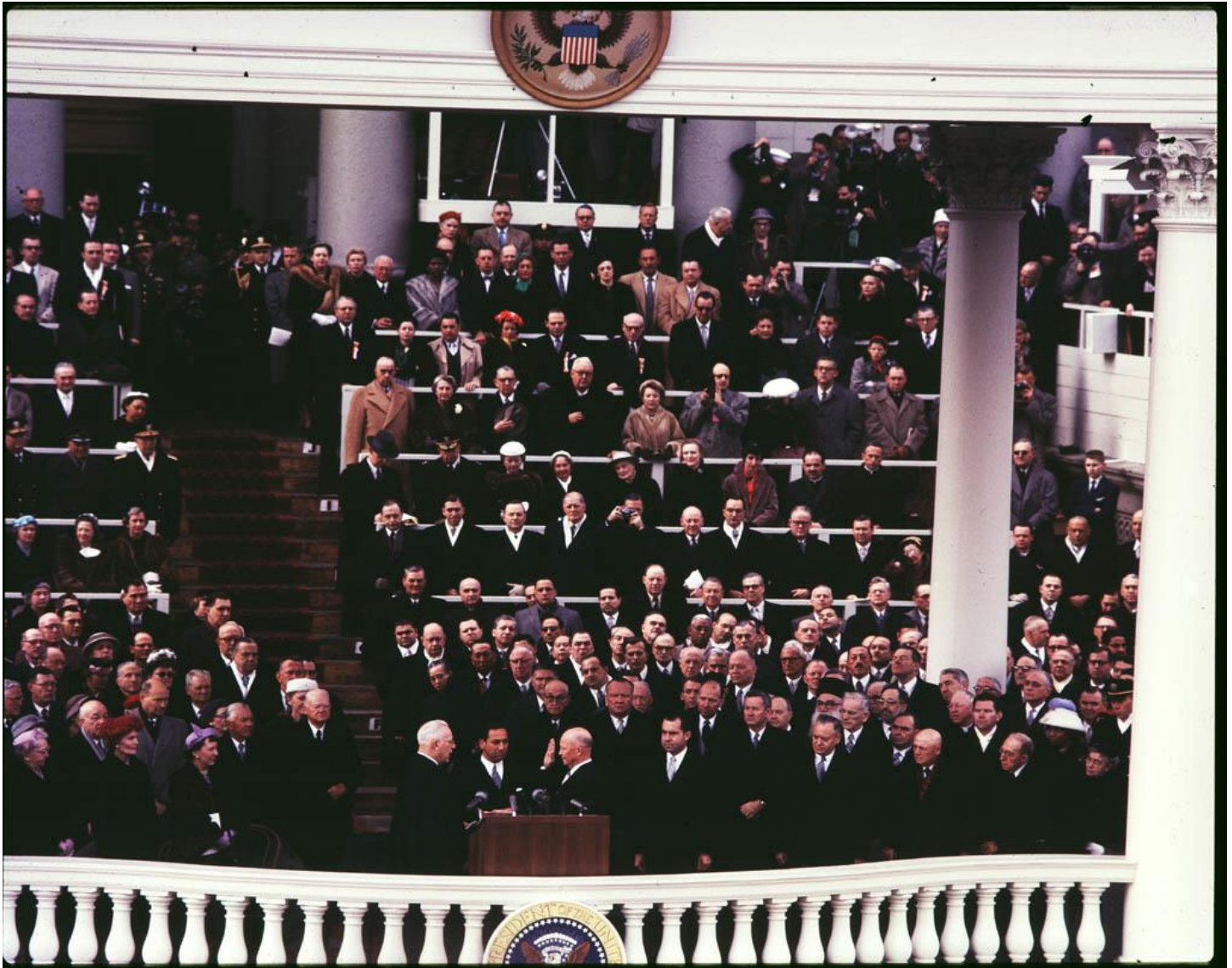
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## Resource Image: President Eisenhower's Oath of Office 1957

“Chief Justice Earl Warren administering the oath of office to Dwight D. Eisenhower on the east portico of the U.S. Capitol, January 21, 1957.” Washington D.C, 1957. [Photograph] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/00650986/>



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## Resource Image: Ike Waves to Parade Crowds 1957

“Ike Waves to Parade Crowds.” Washington D.C., 1957. [Photograph] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2008681011/>



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## Resource Image: Eisenhower and Johnson 1955

O'Halloran, T. J., photographer. "President Dwight D. Eisenhower standing with Lyndon B. Johnson center, John Foster Dulles right and other guests, during a bipartisan luncheon at the White House, Washington, D.C." Washington D.C, 1955.  
[Photograph] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2012646620/>.



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## A New Leader: Me!

You have the potential to be a national and world leader, just like Dwight D. Eisenhower was!

Think about your leadership qualities. **Circle** those qualities from the list below. You may circle as many qualities as you think you have.

organized    dependable    creative    caring    persuasive    positive    hard working  
smart    curious    motivated    confident    ambitious    friendly    cooperative  
determined    responsible    energetic    honest    respectful    tolerant    realistic

Now and add a ★ by the **four best qualities** you circled that you think would make you an excellent leader.

**How would you use those four qualities as a leader? Write your answers.**

Because I'm \_\_\_\_\_, I could use this leadership quality to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Because I'm \_\_\_\_\_, I could use this leadership quality to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Because I'm \_\_\_\_\_, I could use this leadership quality to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Because I'm \_\_\_\_\_, I could use this leadership quality to \_\_\_\_\_  
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