U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

President William Jefferson Clinton
Birthplace Home National Historic Site

President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home

Junior Ranger Activity Guide

JUNIOR RANGER
EXPLORE · LEARN · PROTECT

Welcome to President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site

In this house on Hervey Street, a young boy named Billy Blythe lived with his mother and grandparents. They taught him lessons about the importance of education, family, and being kind to others. He grew up to become William Jefferson Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States. The National Park Service protects and preserves President Clinton's home and tells the story of his early life here in Hope.

How to Become a Junior Ranger

Do you want to be a Junior Ranger at President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site? Do you have what it takes? Here's the secret: anyone between the ages of 9-12 can become a Junior Ranger. It's easy and fun! Just take a tour of the Birthplace Home, talk to a park ranger, and complete two of the three other activities in this booklet to receive your Junior Ranger badge and certificate.

A young Billy Blythe (Clinton) poses in a photographer's studio in Hope. Clinton Family photo, courtesy of the William J. Clinton Foundation.

Tour President Clinton's Birthplace Home

Take a tour of the home where the future president spent the first four years of his life. See his childhood bedroom where he looked out of his windows and watched the trains go by. Walk down the stairs where he hid on Christmas morning to look at the presents under the tree.

What are your memories of home?

Top: Young Billy Blythe's childhood bedroom.
Bottom: Billy Blythe at Christmas in the family living room.
Top photo by Cindy Momchilov, Cameral Work, Inc. - Bottom photo courtesy of the William J. Clinton Foundation.

Tours leave every 30 minutes. Talk to a ranger to schedule yours.

Tour Completed on _____ at __:___
(Date) (Time)

Interview a Ranger

Park rangers (whose gray and green uniforms and Stetson hats make them easy to find), volunteers, and other National Park Service employees have many different jobs at the park. They take care of the buildings, answer questions at the visitor center, patrol the park, and give guided tours of the birthplace home. Here are a few questions to get you started. Add two questions of your own and write down the answers.

1. What is your name and job title?

2. List three things that you do as part of your job.

3. What do you enjoy most about working here?

4. _____
   (Write your own question here.)

5. _____
   (Write your own question here.)

The Junior Ranger Promise

As a President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home NHS Junior Ranger I, _____, promise to:

1. Treat all other people with respect.
2. Work hard and do my best in school.
3. Learn more about the history and contributions of people all over the world, starting with my own family and community.
4. Tell others about my experiences in National Parks.

Matching

Many people in Arkansas helped shape a young Bill Clinton's views of the world and taught him lessons that helped him to become president. As you walk through the exhibits in the visitor center, look for the answers to match these people and events with their roles in President Clinton's life.

A. Hopalong Cassidy
B. Boys Nation
C. Roger Clinton
D. Playing the saxophone
E. Virginia Cassidy Blythe Clinton
F. Edith Grisham Cassidy
G. Buddy Grisham
H. 1993
I. Eldridge Cassidy

_____ Went to New Orleans to finish school while young Bill stayed with his grandparents.

_____ Owned a grocery store on Berry Street and taught his grandson about social and racial justice.

_____ Taught a young Bill Clinton to read and inspired him to dedicate his life to helping others.

_____ Activity the future President loved in high school.

_____ President Clinton named his dog after this person because his dog seemed intelligent and good-natured, too.

_____ Born in Hot Springs, this person inspired Billy Blythe to legally change his name to Clinton.

_____ As a child, young Bill Clinton liked to dress like this cowboy hero.

_____ The year Bill Clinton first took the oath as President of the United States of America.

_____ Where a teenage Bill Clinton met John F. Kennedy in 1963.

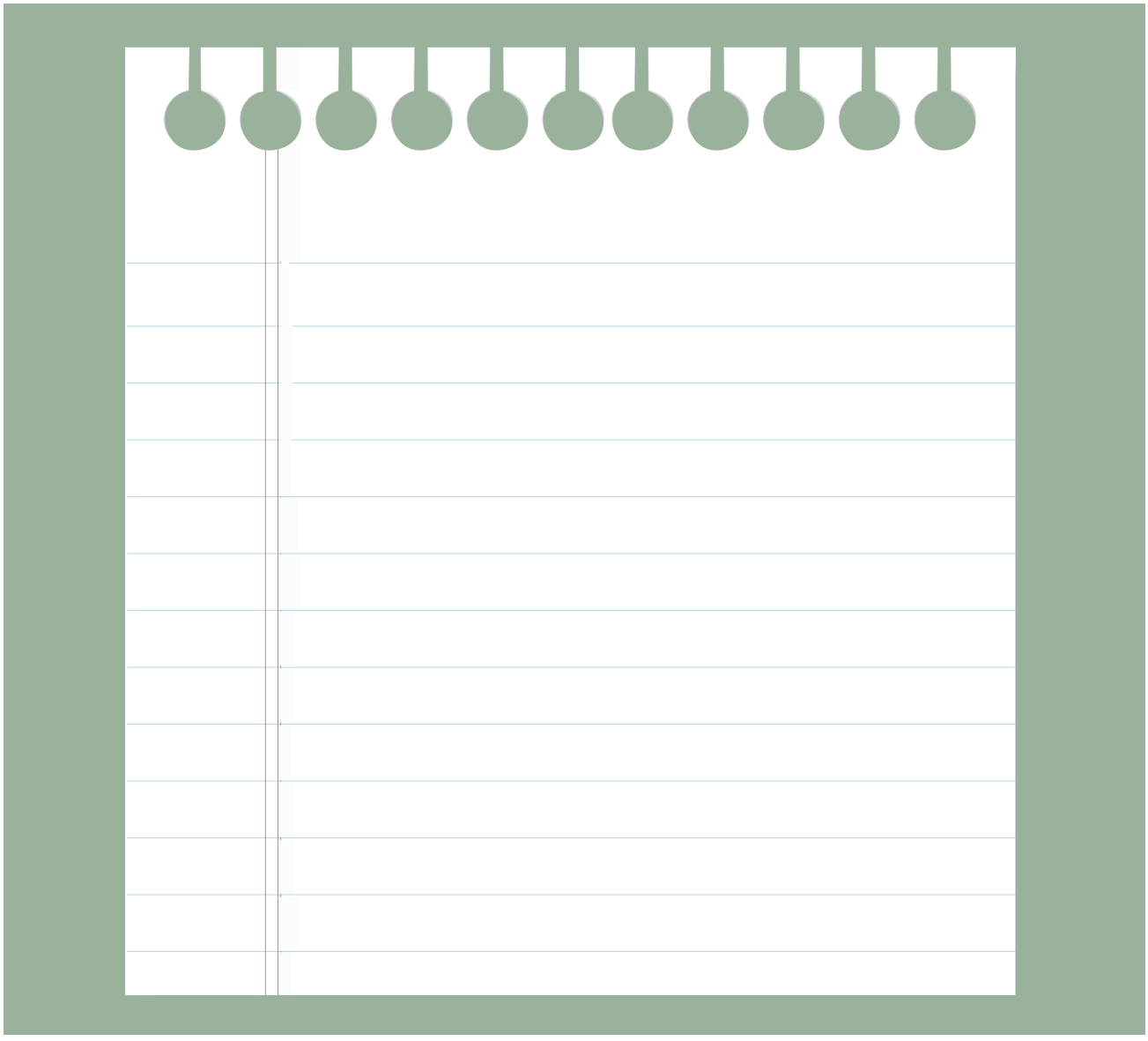
Journal Entry

Do *you* want to be president?

When President Clinton was very young, his grandmother wrote a letter saying:

"We're getting Billy a little roll top desk for Christmas. He's going to grow up to be president and he'll need a desk."

Big dreams can start very young. President Clinton thought that education and health care were very important issues. What do you think is important? If you were president, what changes would you like to make to the country?



Word Search

Find the following words that relate to President Clinton's childhood.

Determination
Arkansas
Birthplace
Blythe
Cassidy

Clinton
Governor
Hope
Justice
President

Buddy
Hopalong
Student
Commitment
Watermelon

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

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