## Pick a President

**Audience:** 7th Grade (Social Studies)

| Materials: | Students will require computers to research, create cartoons, and write at. |
| Key Concepts: | • United States Presidents  
• Quotes by United States Presidents  
• Key events involving United States Presidents  
• Technology integration  
• Writing |
| Lesson Objectives: | In this lesson, students will be assigned a United States President by their teacher to create a short cartoon about. Using ToonDoo© at ToonDoo.com, students will create a short cartoon including events, a description, and quotes by their assigned President. After the students finish their cartoons, they will write a short paper describing their cartoon and its importance. The students will be assessed on the quality of their papers and cartoons’ content and composition. |
| Introduction: | The President of the United States, he is sometimes referred to as the leader of the “Free World”. These important figures make decisions for one of the most powerful countries in the world and through that have shaped the history of the nation and the world. Students around the nation learn about the Presidents each year but some find the lessons unintuitive and boring. This lesson is aimed to be informative, student-driven, and most importantly, entertaining. |
| Activity 1/3: | For the first part of the lesson, students may either chose a President or have a President chosen by the teacher. Notice that no more than one student to a President. Once the students have their “Pick a |
President”, have the students move to a computer lab or another facility with computer access to begin researching. Try to make sure students gather research from viable resource sites (.org,.edu,.gov). The teacher could also use this as an opportunity to inform students about reliable internet resources.

**Activity 2/3:**
Next, introduce the students to [toonDoo.com](http://toonDoo.com) and show them the basic controls. **Notice, it is imperative for the teacher to familiarize with ToonDoo’s controls prior to this lesson.** After students are familiarized with ToonDoo’s controls, have the students register and begin creating a short cartoon. The length of the cartoon is at the discretion of the teacher.

**Activity 3/3:**
Finally, after the students finish formulating a cartoon that integrates information, events, and quotes pertaining to their President, have the students begin writing a narrative. The narrative should include a description of the process behind the project, why the project is important, and some comments about the students’ “Pick a President”.

**Evaluation:**
The students will be assessed on effort displayed by the following: clearly conveyed cartoon of their President, all parts of narrative created, quotes, events, and information incorporated into cartoon, and cited research sources.

An ideal project should contain the following: a well-constructed cartoon with a clear characterization of their President, events, information, and quotes about their President are incorporated within the cartoon, narrative containing all parts free of grammatical and spelling errors, and at least 2-3 cited research sources.
| State Standards: | The following Indiana State Education Standards are reached:  
| | • USH 1-6 are achieved by students’ presentations to the class which include key quotes, events, and information about the Presidents during their respective time periods. |
| Resources: | ToonDoo-ToonDoo.com  
| | Indiana Department of Education Standards |