

Teacher's Guide for COBBLESTONE

March 2011: The Importance of Being Eleanor

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Goal: to recognize the significant impact Eleanor Roosevelt had on gaining rights for people worldwide.

*Always have a parent or adult you trust help you research websites.

"Meet Mrs. Roosevelt" by Andrew Matthews (Pages 2-3)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture and title. What type gathering do you predict this might be? Read and see if you are correct.

Vocabulary: ranks, awkward, effective, sought-after, genuine, generous, empathetic, relentless, syndicated, commentator, charities, lecturer, extensive, transportation, boost, insisted, escort, activism, conservative, investigation, compiled, bureau's, advisor, and accomplishment.

Comprehension Check:

1. Name one way Eleanor Roosevelt changed as she grew into an adult.
2. Do you think Eleanor's parents had any idea she would be sought-after as a public speaker? Why or why not?
3. How did Eleanor Roosevelt spend most of her earnings from writing and speaking in public?
4. What was Eleanor Roosevelt's favorite way to travel from 1930-1940? What effect did this have on the country?
5. When Eleanor Roosevelt refused a guarded escort, what did the Secret Service do to keep her safe?
6. What did J. Edgar Hoover think about Eleanor's activism? What did he do because of his opinions?
7. What is unique about Eleanor Roosevelt's connection with presidents?
8. Of what work was Eleanor Roosevelt proudest?

Art Activity:

- Choose one interesting statement about Eleanor Roosevelt. Illustrate that fact.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend you are given the opportunity to interview Eleanor Roosevelt. What is one question you would ask her?
2. Pretend you are J. Edgar Hoover and you are disturbed by Eleanor Roosevelt's activism. Write three statements you would like to make, but won't speak out of respect for her.
3. Read the list of adjectives that often described Eleanor Roosevelt. Which would you select and why?

Research:

- J. Edgar Hoover
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- Eleanor Roosevelt Reel

"Little Nell" by Virginia Evarts Wadsworth (Pages 4-6)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, picture captions, and the title. What can you tell about Eleanor's attitude toward society?

Vocabulary: luxuries, prominent, opportunities, social status, recalled, disappointment, strikingly, aware, contrast, affectionate, charming, independently, alcoholism, considered, unfit, appointed, guardians, tragedy, occurred, longed, except, irregular, gloomy, strict disciplinarian, posture, complete silence, photographed, dreaded, debutante, demanded, position, befit, supposedly, appreciation, elegant mansion, companions, officially, ultimately, suitable, debutante, agony, uncertainties, organization, gymnastic, tenements, commitment, rewarding, and satisfying.

Comprehension Check:

1. How did Eleanor Roosevelt feel about her childhood? Why?
2. Eleanor states that she believed her mother was disappointed in her. Why?
3. In what ways did Eleanor try to please her mother?
4. Describe Eleanor's relationship with her father.
5. What happened to Eleanor's father when she was six?
6. What other tragedies occurred in Eleanor's childhood?
7. Where did Eleanor live after her mother's death?
8. Describe Eleanor's life with Grandmother Hall. Name two of Eleanor's pleasures.
9. In what way did Eleanor try to please Grandmother Hall?
10. What do you think Eleanor meant when she spoke of Allenswood Academy and said, "This was the first time in my life that my fears left me?"
11. How did Eleanor feel about being a debutante? Why?
12. What did Eleanor choose to do over going to high-society parties?
13. What did Eleanor volunteer to do with the Junior League organization?
14. How did Eleanor's work with the Junior League influence her?

Art Activity:

- Design a picture frame decorated with words that Eleanor's father used to describe his daughter. Draw Eleanor's facial expression when spending time with him.
- Illustrate Eleanor's description of her father: "the center of my world."

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Eleanor's mother. What would you like to tell Eleanor's father about the way he spoiled Eleanor?
2. Pretend to be Eleanor's father. What would you say to Eleanor's mother about spoiling Eleanor?

Research:

- Junior League
- Elliott Roosevelt
- Allenswood Academy

"A New World" by Virginia Evarts Wadsworth (Page 7)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture, caption, and title. Describe the "new world." Why do you think the author chose this title?

Vocabulary: self-assured, emphasized, literature, affection, intelligence, routine, participated, headmistress, philosopher, innovator, insisted, independence, applied, championed, unpopular, companion, expected, reservations, and self-confidence.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why was Eleanor happy at Allenswood?
2. What skills had Grandmother Hall taught that were expected at Allenswood?
3. Why did Eleanor make this statement: "That day was one of the proudest moments of my life?" What had she accomplished?
4. Describe the headmistresses' approach to education.
5. Describe some of Eleanor's duties as a traveling companion with the headmistress.
6. What influence did the headmistress of Allenswood have on Eleanor?

Art Activity:

- Make a collage of words and pictures to describe Mademoiselle Marie Souvestre's approach to education. Discuss your collage.
- Make a collage of Eleanor's time at Allenswood. Include activities there and on travels with the headmistress. Discuss your collage.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Eleanor. Write a letter home to Grandmother Hall about your time at Allenswood.
2. Pretend to be Eleanor. Make a list of activities or events that you would not tell Grandmother Hall about Allenswood. Why?

"All in the Family" by Pam Deyell Gingold (Pages 8-10)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, captions, and the title. What facts do you learn about the family from this information?

Vocabulary: engaged, surrounded, portrait, devastated, awkward, fashionable, frilly, embarrassed, debutante, immigrant, fascinating, plight, exposed, domineering, accommodate, furnished, installed, residences, infancy, nannies, boarding schools, complicated, tended, uncomfortable, frustrated, inappropriate, dominant, assumed, entertained, officials, obligations, recently, threatened, emerged, ordeal, determined, paralyzed, productive, and partnerships.

Comprehension Check:

1. How did Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt meet?
2. Why did Eleanor stand out at the couple's first meeting?
3. How did Franklin Roosevelt describe Eleanor in his diary?
4. Why did Franklin Roosevelt find Eleanor fascinating?
5. What made the marriage ceremony extra special?
6. What did Franklin's mother do for the couple while they were away on their honeymoon?
7. Describe the next home the Roosevelts lived in. What made it unique?
8. Describe how the children were raised.
9. How did Eleanor react when her mother-in-law spoiled the children or took charge of things?
10. Describe some of the duties Eleanor had as the wife of a public figure.
11. Who was Lucy Mercer?
12. What changes would have happened if the Roosevelt couple had divorced?
13. How did the Roosevelts handle it when Franklin got polio?
14. What did Franklin's mother want him to do when he found out he had polio? What did he do?
15. How did the author describe the marriage of Franklin and Eleanor?

Art Activity:

- Create a symbol or image to represent Eleanor or a particular time in her life.
- Illustrate what Eleanor might have been thinking while attending a society party.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Eleanor. Make a list of reasons to send a child to boarding school. Refer to page 7 for reasons Eleanor enjoyed Allenswood.

2. Write two or more thoughts Franklin might have had when his mother threatened to cut off his money. (see Page 10)

"Extending the Family" by Pam Deyell Gingold (Page 10)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture and the title. How do you think the family was extended?

Vocabulary: extended, companion, responsibilities, official functions, and commitments

Comprehension Check:

1. Name three services Marguerite LeHand provided.
2. Read the title. How do you think the Roosevelts felt about Missy LeHand? Why?
3. Name one duty Missy LeHand took on when Eleanor was away.

Research:

- Marguerite LeHand
- Louis McHenry Howe

"The Man Behind the Roosevelts" by Catherine Plude (Pages 11-13)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, captions, and title. Who was behind the Roosevelts?

Vocabulary: gaunt, lecturer, notable, effective, trousers, reality, appointed, nominee, stricken, unprecedented, associated, residing, knowledgeable, initially, tolerate, resent, offended, untidy, autobiography, indifferent, neglected, impression, extraordinary, persuaded, campaigners, strategies, intelligence, personality, paralyzed, optimistic, enlisted, encouraged, recuperated, stimulating, accompanied, criticism, admonish, eventually, immediate, mentor, pensions, unemployed, lobbied, protested, administration, rioting, violence, disband, temporary, reception, critical, sympathetic, influence, wield, mourned, tremendous, practical, and influential.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why does the author think that Louis McHenry Howe should be called "the man behind the Roosevelts" ?
2. What caused Eleanor Roosevelt change her opinion of Howe?
3. Why did Franklin Roosevelt select Howe as his personal assistant?
4. Why does Eleanor Roosevelt say Howe had a "fine mind?"
5. During the early days of the whistle-stop campaign, Eleanor Roosevelt did not enjoy her duties. Why? What was done about it?
6. What almost ended Franklin Roosevelt's political career?
7. Who remained optimistic about Franklin's political career? What did he recommend to keep the Roosevelt name before the public while Franklin took care of his health?
8. Tell about Eleanor Roosevelt's experiences in public speaking.
9. What new role did Eleanor Roosevelt take on when she became First Lady?
10. Howe recommendation that Eleanor Roosevelt speak with the veterans. Why was that a better approach than that of the previous administration?
11. What does the author mean when she says, "Howe not only had given her a tremendous amount of practical advice, but he also had encouraged her to find the courage and self-confidence to become an influential person in her own right?"
12. Does Howe see his political dream for Franklin Roosevelt come true? Why or why not?

Art Activity:

- Illustrate what Eleanor Roosevelt lost in the election of 1920 and what she gained.
- Illustrate the veterans' camp in Washington, DC in 1933.
- Illustrate the mood of the veteran's camp before and after Eleanor's talk with them.

- Illustrate the quote on the right side of the page by Eleanor Roosevelt

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Eleanor Roosevelt. Write a thank you note to Howe.
2. Pretend to be Eleanor Roosevelt. Write a statement to share at a memorial statement for Howe.
3. Pretend to be Franklin Roosevelt. Write a note to Eleanor telling how impressed you are with her political achievements.

Research

- Louis McHenry Howe
- 1920—Women Vote

“Finding Her Way” by Andrew Matthews (Pages 14-15)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, captions, and the title. What can you tell about Eleanor’s involvement with women’s groups?

Vocabulary: translator, international, involvement, introduced, congressional, obligation, misfortunes, canteen, organizations, platform, league, informed, influencing, campaigned, reform-minded, injustices, equality, opportunity, sweatshops, broadcaster, reputation, publicity, politically, unpopular, dismissive, delegates, testified, legislative, activists, mobilized, and bureau.

Comprehension Check:

1. The author says “Eleanor Roosevelt believed that she had an obligation and a responsibility to give back.” What does he mean?
2. Why do you think Sara Delano Roosevelt did not approve of Eleanor’s work?
3. What type positions did Eleanor Roosevelt hold in organizations she joined? What were some of her duties?
4. What does the author mean when he says “she (Eleanor) also met and developed firm friendships and networks with other smart, reform-minded women?”
5. Name two social injustices that existed in the United States in the 1920s.
6. What is meant by “fair wages and labor standards?”
7. What does the author mean when he says, “She took on the men?”
8. What was usually the outcome when Eleanor Roosevelt defended politically unpopular decisions? Why?
9. What does the author mean when he says that Eleanor “had earned a name for herself as one of the most powerful and respected women in national politics?”
10. In what way did Eleanor help other women?

Art Activity:

- Illustrate Eleanor leading the way for other women.
- Create campaign signs promoting causes for women and children in the 1920s.

Writing Activity:

1. Read the title of Eleanor’s first published article. Write what you predict it is about.
2. Eleanor’s mother-in-law frowned on volunteering outside the home. Write a statement she might have made to Eleanor concerning this.
3. Pretend to be Eleanor. Write a note to Franklin reminding him of your schedule for the day.

Research

- Child labor laws

“Appealing Profession” by Maureen Wolfgarth (Pages 16-17)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, captions, and the title. What do you guess is Eleanor's profession? What clues led you to think so?

Vocabulary: tenement, fashionable, applied, philosophy, requiring, firsthand, inferior, consent, appealing, fondly, comprehension, independent, participate, officials, government, experience, police lineups, connection, encouraged, investigate, conference, admitted, association, commencement, graduating, worshipped, inspiring, evident, accomplishments, and inaction.

Comprehension Check:

1. What did Eleanor and two girlfriends decide to do together?
2. What influence did Eleanor bring to her classroom?
3. Tell about Eleanor's history exams.
4. What does the author mean when she says, "Eleanor wanted the girls to experience things firsthand?"
5. What connection was Eleanor trying to make by taking her current events class on field trips?
6. Explain the "project method."
7. Why did Eleanor say that she taught?
8. How did Eleanor manage to teach in one part of New York and raise a family in another?
9. What could graduates of Todhunter look forward to doing with Eleanor?
10. How did Marion Dickerman say Eleanor felt about teaching?

Art Activity:

- Illustrate Eleanor's feelings for teaching.
- Illustrate the time period when Eleanor traveled regularly between Albany and New York.

Writing Activity:

1. List three things you would be inspired to do after hearing the advice Eleanor gave to the graduating class.
2. Write in your own words what this quote by Eleanor Roosevelt means: "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

"Eleanor Everywhere" by Jayne D. Pettit and Joan Ennis (Pages 18-20)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, caption, and the title. Why do you think the author chose this title? What was the nation's reaction? Why?

Vocabulary: shocked, insisted, firsthand, conditions, labored, appoint, photographed, administration, commanders, performing, wounded, personality, improvements, despair, nontraditional, transformed, politically, mired, economic, pledged, meanwhile, volunteering, access, informed, injustices, difficulties, investigative, ambassador, sharecroppers, underground, responsibility, ensure, discriminatory, antilynching, supported, campaigns, apprenticeships, specifically, conservation, recommendations, qualified, advancement, association, segregation, encouraged, government, unofficially, particularly, established, unemployed, qualified, appealed, consuls, concentration, struggled, international, principles, democratic, initially, minorities, additionally, grumbled, criticisms, urged, representative, requests, suggestions, addressed, military, advocate, opposed, boosters, stamina, gathered, longtime, activist, determined, prevent, repetition, stupidity, and admired.

Comprehension Check:

1. What influence did Eleanor Roosevelt have on the role of the First Lady? Explain.
2. Explain Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs.
3. What do the authors mean when they say "Eleanor became Franklin's eyes and ears?"
4. What was Eleanor's position on segregation? What did she believe should be the government's position?
5. What is "FDR's Black Cabinet?" How did this group benefit the presidency?

6. What is the primary reason Eleanor was in favor of the New Deal?
7. Who was left out of New Deal programs until Eleanor got involved? What did she do to change things?
8. How did Eleanor help Jews during Hitler's reign?
9. During World War II, what did Eleanor remind people of regarding the war?
10. What was the public's initial opinion of Eleanor's wartime travels?
11. What does it mean to be called a "do-gooder?"
12. What did Eleanor do with the requests from military personnel?
13. Give one example that shows Eleanor did not require special attention when traveling.
14. Tell about Eleanor's nickname after many travels.
15. Tell about Eleanor's popularity ranking according to a women's magazine poll.
16. What do the authors mean by this: "Eleanor truly was a bright light in a dark world?"
17. Explain Eleanor's statement about teamwork. (See sidebar on page 20)

Art Activity:

- Illustrate the concept of an "investigative ambassador."
- Illustrate Eleanor on her travels using an interesting fact such as eating from a mess kit.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be a wounded soldier who was visited by Eleanor in the hospital. Write a letter home about it.
2. Pretend to a person riding into the coal mine with Eleanor Roosevelt. Write what words you would say if someone asked you about the photograph of the two of you. (Page 18)

Research:

- New Deal programs
- National Youth Administration (NYA)
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

"Putting Youth First" by Virginia Calkins (Page 21)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture, caption, and the title. Who do you predict these boys are? Why do you think so? Read and see if you are correct.

Vocabulary: firsthand, politically, ranged, awareness, racial injustice, undereducated, established, grant money, exchange, on-the-job training, abolished, remained, particularly, concerned, organizations, abused, abandoned, spite, reorganize, directors, and favorites.

Comprehension Check:

1. What does the author mean when she says, "Children and young people held a special place in Eleanor Roosevelt's heart?"
2. What did Eleanor Roosevelt encourage young people to do?
3. Name two issues young people were facing at this time.
4. What did Franklin Roosevelt do when Eleanor asked him to address the problems of youth?
5. What program did Eleanor help reorganize for youth?
6. Tell about Eleanor's commitment to Wiltwyck.

Art Activity:

- Create signs about issues young people were facing in the 1930-40s.
- Create posters advertising a picnic for the Wiltwyck boys on the grounds of the Roosevelt's Hyde Park estate.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be one of the Wiltwyck boys. Write a letter to a friend telling about the picnic at the Roosevelt home.
2. Pretend to be Eleanor Roosevelt. Write three reasons why someone should donate to the Wiltwyck School for Boys.

Research:

- American Youth Congress
- National Youth Administration (NYA)
- Wiltwyck School for Boys
- Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling

“Did You Know?” illustrated by Chris Ware (Pages 22-23)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures and captions. Which of these do you know something about? Which ones are not familiar?

Vocabulary: related, ancestor, maternal, Declaration of Independence, paralyzed, polio, realized, assume, physically, involved, role, referred, accepted, insisted, fare, convention, behalf, attempted, controversial, presidency, and rallied.

Comprehension Check:

1. What do Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt have in common?
2. Which one of the Roosevelts had a famous ancestor?
3. Name a way Eleanor became more physically active after Franklin was paralyzed by polio.
4. What do Amelia Earhart and Eleanor Roosevelt have in common?
5. What did the Roosevelts serve the King and Queen of England?
6. What was the crowd’s reaction to Eleanor’s speech on behalf of Franklin?

Art Activity:

- Create an advertisement for the safety of flying using the information stated here.
- Create an advertisement for hot dogs using the information stated here.
- Pretend to attend the national convention mentioned here. Create a sign to display.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be a bird flying near the airplane Eleanor is flying. Write a comment you might make.
2. Pretend to be one of the children shown in the pool. Write a comment you might make.
3. Pretend to be Eleanor at the national convention. What would be your comment to the cheering crowds if someone said, “Eleanor Everywhere?”

Research:

- Amelia Earhart
- Ladies swimsuit fashions in the 1920s.

“My Voice Will Not Be Silent” by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Pages 24-26)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, picture captions, and the title. What are three ways that Eleanor’s words were brought to the people?

Vocabulary: frequently, resign, membership, supporter, guild, opposition, opinions, predecessors, despite, intelligence, tradition, refused, presidency, recognized, promoting, broadcasts, lectures, estimated, minorities, various, correspondence, appropriate, referred, agencies, conveyed, genuine, suffering, particularly, complex, composed, specialized, publications, companion, humanitarian, provided, insights, columns, describing, platform, consciences, misery, avenge, numerous, autobiographical, morality, etiquette, and authored.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why did Eleanor worry about fitting in as First Lady?
2. In what way did Eleanor become famous as a first lady?
3. How did Eleanor promote her messages?
4. How did Eleanor handle letters from Americans who wrote her? About how many letters did she receive?
5. Tell about the syndicated newspaper column, "My Day."
6. How did Eleanor feel about unions?
7. Why did Eleanor resign from the Daughters of the American Revolution?
8. How did the content in "My Day" change over time?
9. When did Eleanor have more freedom to speak her mind? Why?
10. What does the author mean by "social justice?"

Art Activity:

- Create a drawing that shows some of Eleanor's many interests.
- Create a logo for "My Day." Discuss what you created and its meaning.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be an American who needed work during the Great Depression. Write a letter to Eleanor Roosevelt.
2. Pretend to be a follower of "My Day." Write a question for Eleanor.

Research:

- Children's books by Eleanor Roosevelt
- *This Is My Story* (1937) by Eleanor Roosevelt
- *It's Up to the Women* (1933) by Eleanor Roosevelt

"ER vs. the DAR" by Elise K. Kirk (Page 26)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture, picture caption, and the title. What does the title mean? What does ER stand for?

Vocabulary: described, tuned, supported, refused, discriminatory, convinced, resign, protest, disagreement, attitude, opportunity, enlightened, organization, consists, trace, lineage, and participant.

Comprehension Check:

1. How special was Marion Anderson's voice?
2. Tell how the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) discriminated against Marion Anderson.
3. What reaction did Eleanor have to this discrimination?
4. Why do you think Eleanor shared her decision to resign from the DAR in her "My Day" column?

Art Activity:

- Illustrate ER vs. the DAR
- Create posters for Marion Anderson's performance

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be a leader of the DAR when Eleanor Roosevelt resigned her membership. Write your first comment when hearing the news.
2. Write one reason why it took courage for Eleanor to publish her resignation to the DAR.

Research:

- Marian Anderson
- Daughters of the American Revolution

"Women Only" by Judy Thayer (Page 27)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture, picture caption, and the title. Tell who the women are in the picture.

Vocabulary: exclusive, inaugurated, corps, employ, legislative, occasionally, avoid, convince, prominent, unique, access, opportunity, traditional, assignments, journalists, previously, considered, territory, gap, existed, and shrink.

Comprehension Check:

1. What gesture of hospitality did Eleanor Roosevelt use to open the first women-only press conference?
2. How frequently did Eleanor hold press conferences? For how many years?
3. What benefits did Eleanor hope for by holding women-only press conferences?
4. What news did Eleanor share?
5. Who spoke to the reporters other than Eleanor?
6. How did access to the first lady help women reporters in their careers?
7. If Eleanor's focus had been fashion, style, and family, how do you think this would have affected the reporters' careers?

Art Activity:

- Create a poster and a slogan about Eleanor's women-only press. Include a large box of candies.
- Illustrate women journalist moving into the territory of male reporters.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be a woman reporter who got to cover a political issue due to participating in Eleanor's press conferences. Write a note of thanks to Eleanor.
2. Make a list of statements the women-only press might have made about Eleanor when speaking privately to each other.

"Loyal Friends" by Andrew Matthews (Pages 28-31)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, picture captions, subtopics, and the title. What was one very important part of Eleanor's life? What are some details that prove this?

Vocabulary: cherished, surrounded, mentor, relied, supportive, relationships, organization, established, involvement, politically informed, financially independent, recognized, periodically, professionally productive, committed, anxiety, responsibilities, widening, friction, dissolved, devoted, prevention, activists, confidante, campaign, objectively, impact, suspected, pro-communist leanings, antiwar sentiments, involvement, companions, and accompanied.

Comprehension Check:

1. What did Eleanor do so she could spend more time with her friends from the League of Women Voters?
2. Tell how Marion Dickerman, Nancy Cook, and Eleanor Roosevelt spent time together.
3. What did Eleanor worry about when Franklin was elected president?
4. Did Franklin's presidency affect Eleanor's friendship with Marion and Nancy? If so, in what way?
5. The author says, "Eleanor did not like being followed by the press." Why did she tolerate Lorena Hickok?
6. Tell what career decision Lorena Hickok made in 1933. Why?
7. Describe Lorena Hickok's influence on Eleanor Roosevelt.
8. Tell how Eleanor helped Joseph P. Lash when he was being questioned by the House Un-American Activities Committee.
9. What beliefs did Joseph P. Lash and Eleanor share?

10. In what ways was Earl Miller a good friend as well as a bodyguard?
11. Tell how Dr. David Gurewitsch's relationship with Eleanor changed over time.

Art Activity:

- Illustrate three or more ways friends influenced or encouraged Eleanor. Place the friend's name with the illustration. Illustrate one or more ways that a friend has influenced you.
- Illustrate this concept: a widening circle of new friends causes friction.

Writing Activity:

1. List one or more things Lorena Hickok might have said about Eleanor.
2. Pretend that Eleanor and her friends Esther Lape and Elizabeth Read are spending time together. Predict whether Eleanor would suggest discussing politics or reading poetry. Write what she would say and why.

Research:

- Joseph P. Lash—author of *Eleanor and Franklin*
- Pulitzer Prize
- *Women of Courage* by Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok.

"On Her Own" by Russell Roberts (Pages 32-34)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, picture captions, and the title. Why do you think the author chose this title? What does it mean?

Vocabulary: delegation, democratic society, declined, insisting, dignitaries, international, appointed, delegate, admiration, commission, considered, define, deny, succeeded, adopted, advised, vital, establishing, resigned, enabled, lectured, frequently, communists, extended, adjusting, theories, equality, instrumental, desegregation, scheduled, authorities, guarantee, constantly, maintained, celebrations, relationships, influence, ambassador, transformed, and existence.

Comprehension Check:

1. After Franklin Roosevelt died, Eleanor told a reporter, "The story is over." Was this an accurate or inaccurate prediction of her position's importance? Why?
2. What was a fear Eleanor had about leaving the White House?
3. To what position did President Harry S. Truman appoint Eleanor?
4. What did Eleanor believe about the UN?
5. What were Eleanor's duties as chair of the Commission on Human Rights?
6. In what ways did Harry Truman show respect for Eleanor?
7. Why did Eleanor resign from the UN?
8. Name some of Eleanor's accomplishments after leaving the UN.
9. What position did Eleanor hold when John F. Kennedy was president?
10. Tell about Eleanor's involvement with desegregation.
11. Where did Eleanor feel most at home? Where else did she stay?
12. What were the last days of Eleanor's life like?

Art Activity:

- Illustrate Eleanor as a believer in the equality of women as citizens.
- Illustrate Eleanor as the "First Lady of the World."

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be a Japanese woman. Write 2 or more questions to ask Eleanor about democratic society.

2. Pretend to be Eleanor Roosevelt. Write a response to Harry Truman when asked to be vice president.
3. List two or more ways Eleanor changed lives.

"The Past is Present—A Home at Last" by Karen J. Kamenetsky (Pages 35-37)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, picture captions, and the title. Which of these locations is where Eleanor felt most at home?

Vocabulary: restored, exhibits, historic, administered, entertaining, retreat, permanent, residence, activism, employ, industries, currently, throughout, converted, furnish, according, decorate, ranged, enclosed, denied, motivated, dedicated, section, glimpse, christening, devoted, display, fanciest, vibrant, personality, empty, occupant, surrounded, and indicates.

Comprehension Check:

1. Which place at the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site tells the most about Eleanor Roosevelt?
2. Why did Franklin Roosevelt build Stone Cottage?
3. Which house is the "Big House?"
4. Tell about Val-Kill Industries.
5. What is unique about the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site?
6. Where are Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt buried?
7. Name some of Eleanor's things on display in Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum.
8. Tell about Eleanor's sleeping arrangement in Val-Kill.
9. Tell how commercial development was prevented at Val-Kill.

Art Activity:

- Illustrate summer picnics at Val-Kill.
- Illustrate the burial spot for Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt

Writing Activity:

1. List two or more reasons for including Springwood in the National Park Service.
2. Write one or more questions you would ask a park ranger on the tour of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Historic Site.
3. Write one or more questions you would ask a park ranger on the tour of the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site (Val-Kill)
4. Pretend to be Eleanor and tell what you like to do when you have peace and quiet.

Research:

- Val-Kill Industries
- Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site
- Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

"Going Global--Strong Women" by Marcia Amidon Lusted and illustrated by Bryan Langdo (Pages 40-41)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures, names of the women, and the title. What do the women have in common?

Vocabulary: remarkable, international fame, assassinated, rally, recipients, priorities, discrimination, minimize, pro-democracy, influence, overwhelming, assume, house arrest, released, enthusiastic,

prompting, inspiration, supporters, nonviolent, prime minister, conservative, nicknamed, decline, determined, reverse, unemployment, rescued, and economy.

Comprehension Check:

1. How did Benazir Bhutto's election break records?
2. What happened to Benazir Bhutto prior to the elections of 2008?
3. How was Benazir Bhutto recognized after her death?
4. Margaret Thatcher was the only British woman to serve as both prime minister and leader of the Conservative party in Great Britain. Why was she called "Iron Lady?"
5. Tell about the amount of time Margaret Thatcher served as prime minister.
6. What was Thatcher determined to do for Great Britain?
7. Why has Suu Kyi spent most of the past 20 years under house arrest?
8. What do supporters of pro-democracy in Burma consider Suu Kyi?
9. What award has Suu Kyi been given? Why?

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be a pro-democracy supporter. Write a message of hope for Suu Kyi.
2. Pretend to be a supporter of Margaret Thatcher. Create a poster to hold up at a rally.
3. Pretend to be Benazir Bhutto and preparing to speak at a political rally. What are two or more things you would want the people to hear in your speech?

"Dr. D's Mystery Hero" by Dennis Denenberg and illustrated by Cheryl Lewis Wolf (Page 45)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture and the title. What can you tell about the child?

Vocabulary: devoted, convinced, segregated, valued, inner circle, prevent, imagine, yearned, inspired, and testament.

Comprehension Check:

1. Who were the mystery hero's close friends?
2. Who benefited from the mystery hero's close friendship?
3. Why was it unusual for the mystery hero to attend school?
4. Tell about the work of the mystery hero.

Art Activity:

- Illustrate a fact about the mystery hero.
- Create a poster that advertises the opening of the mystery hero's school.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be the mystery hero at a meal with the president and his wife. List two questions you'd like to ask.
2. Pretend to be the mystery hero. Write two or more reasons why you want to open a school.

"Creature Feature—Dog Sitter" (Back cover)

Pre-reading: Look at the picture and the title. Who is the dog sitter?

Vocabulary: extending, resided, various, relocated, requested, situation, and temporarily.

Comprehension Check:

1. What was one habit of the Roosevelts?
2. What service did the adult children sometimes receive at the White House?
3. Where did Eleanor write about pet sitting?
4. What do you think providing this service says about Eleanor?

Art Activity:

- Create a humorous poster about the First Lady as a Dog Sitter.
- Illustrate the quote that was included in the "My Day" newspaper column.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be one of Eleanor's adult children. You have just read her column in the newspaper about her keeping your dog. Write at least one thing you would say in response.
2. The Roosevelts are sometimes described as having a large family. What made their family larger than it actually was? Write about that.