

Lesson Plan: The Private Home

Objective: Students will examine the role of the White House as a private home, discuss how First Families try to conduct their private lives in the White House, and explain which area or room of the White House they would like to spend the most time in.

Time Frame:

For traditional 45-minute classes:

- 1 class period

For 90-minute block classes:

- ½ class period

Materials:

1. Computer with internet access
2. LCD projector and screen
3. Students' completed [Public versus Private Space graphic organizer](#)
4. A copy of C-SPAN's White House Week program, Interviews with President and Mrs. Bush [NOTE: If teachers are unable to record this program, it can be streamed on C-SPAN's Video Library website, <http://www.c-spanvideo.org/>]

Procedure:

1. Based on the information showcased in C-SPAN's documentary, discuss with students the areas of the White House reserved for the First Family and how these areas are used.
2. Have students discuss the information they noted in their [Public versus Private Space graphic organizer](#).
3. Play and discuss the following clips featured on C-SPAN's White House Week to get more examples of how the White House is used as a home:
 - ["Jefferson Answers the White House Door"](#)
 - ["Lincoln's Family Living Quarters"](#)
 - ["LBJ in the Bathroom"](#)
 - ["Winston Churchill's Visits"](#)
 - ["FDR Poker and Mrs. Nesbitt"](#)
 - ["Walking with the Clintons"](#)
 - ["The Clintons After the '94 Elections"](#)
 - ["Visits by Former First Families"](#)

Closure:

1. Ask students explain (orally or written) if they visited the White House, which area or room would they like to spend the most time in. Use ["Walking with the Clintons"](#) clip as an example.
2. Preview next day's lesson.