

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Early life (Area 3a)

Significant topics to cover

- 1 - Mother - childhood
2. Teachers - schooling, piano
3. Farming - his mother and sister

Artifacts to be highlighted

Piano
Glasses
School books
Letters to Bess

People to be highlighted

Mother
Piano teacher
School teachers
Bess
Mary Jane

Historical context and anecdotes

Wearing glasses and reading instead of sports
Learning the piano
Farming
Reuniting with Bess - Cake plate story (Noland cousins)
What Bess did with her letters

Addressing the theme and questions

How did his teachers (school and piano), his mother and Bess influence his early life?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: WWI

Significant topics to cover

Truman didn't want to marry Bess before he left for France

Artifacts to be highlighted

Letters home

People to be highlighted

Bess

Mother

Mary Jane

Historical context and anecdotes

Wrote to family worried about the flu affecting them and relayed his war stories back to them

His excitement when he received letters and what that meant to him

Morale support from women at home

Addressing the theme and questions

How did the support of his mother, Mary Jane and Bess help him during WWI?

What did his mother, sister and Bess do during the war?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: County judge to VP

Significant topics to cover

Marriage to Bess

Birth of Margaret

Margaret's childhood

Artifacts to be highlighted

Wedding material

Margaret's toys

Letters to family

People to be highlighted

Bess

Margaret

Historical context and anecdotes

Marriage

Margaret childhood stories - health

Happiest 10 years in Washington as Senator

Loneliness when they are not there

Addressing the theme and questions

Did Bess influence Truman's early political career? How did she support him?

How did becoming a father affect Truman?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Post war World

Significant topics to cover

Presidential decisions

Artifacts to be highlighted

Letters to Bess in significant moments

People to be highlighted

Bess

Margaret

Historical context and anecdotes

Highlight topics Harry wrote to Bess about (Stalin)

Acknowledge that Bess' letters from this period don't exist

Addressing the theme and questions

Did Bess influence Truman's presidential decisions?

We don't have much evidence either way but Truman certainly asked for input

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Israel

Significant topics to cover

Recognition of Israel

Artifacts to be highlighted

Letters to Eleanor Roosevelt

Israel artifacts

People to be highlighted

Eleanor Roosevelt

Historical context and anecdotes

Letters to and from Eleanor Roosevelt

Addressing the theme and questions

Did Eleanor Roosevelt influence Truman's thinking on this decision?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: 1948 Election

Significant topics to cover

Family supporting him on the election campaign

Artifacts to be highlighted

Election photos

People to be highlighted

India Edwards

Bess

Margaret

Historical context and anecdotes

Introducing the family from the campaign train

India Edwards role

Addressing the theme and questions

How did his family help on the campaign trail?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Korean War

Significant topics to cover

Artifacts to be highlighted

Typewriter belonging to Vernice Anderson

Ernie Wagner material - WAF uniform, purse, duffel bag

People to be highlighted

Vernice Anderson

Ernie Wagner

Historical context and anecdotes

Women's Armed Services Integration Act in 1948

Firing of MacArthur

Korean War

Wake Island - Role of Vernice Anderson taking notes

Addressing the theme and questions

While the role of women was limited, the Women's Armed Services Integration Act in 1948 was a significant step forward

Vernice Anderson's role became crucial in the MacArthur Wake Island meeting

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Independence and Mural

Significant topics to cover

Family

Artifacts to be highlighted

Mural

Family photos and videos on the walls

People to be highlighted

Bess

Margaret

Teachers

Mother

Historical context and anecdotes

History of Independence

Addressing the theme and questions

How did his female family members influence his early life?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Trumans in Washington

Significant topics to cover

Family

Artifacts to be highlighted

White House renovation

People to be highlighted

Bess

Margaret

Historical context and anecdotes

Time in Washington as a family

The Three Musketeers

Addressing the theme and questions

Why was this his happiest time?

How much time did the family spend in Washington?

What role did they play in the White House renovation?

Theme: How did women influence Truman's life and presidency?

Gallery: Oval Office

Significant topics to cover

Family

Frances Perkins

Artifacts to be highlighted

List of cabinet members and advisors (lack of women)

People to be highlighted

Bess

Margaret

Frances Perkins

Historical context and anecdotes

Lack of women in powerful positions

Addressing the theme and questions

Did Bess influence Truman's presidential decisions?

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Gallery: Gravesites

Significant topics to cover

Family

Artifacts to be highlighted

Gravesites

People to be highlighted

Bess

Margaret

Historical context and anecdotes

Gravesites of Harry and Bess and Margaret's marker

Burial and cremation

Addressing the theme and questions

On what side of Truman is Bess buried?

Optional stop

Working office