

The WHITE HOUSE



The White House is the home and office of the President of the United States. It is a majestic building in the heart of Washington, D.C. We have a national bird and a national song. I think we should have a national building, too. Here are five reasons why I believe this.

A national symbol inspires. People need to feel good about their country and what it stands for. The White House is a beautiful building that makes Americans feel patriotic.

A national symbol links people to their past. Usually there is a long history behind a national symbol. John Adams was the first president to live in the first White House. That was in 1800, more than 200 years ago!

A national symbol is easily recognized. Maybe it is not as familiar as the American flag or the bald eagle. Still, the White House is in news photos all the time. Most Americans know what it looks like.



A national symbol reminds us of our shared values. The president is the leader of our country and the free world. Americans value their freedom, and they value the fairness of their laws. The White House is a strong symbol of freedom and justice for all.

A national symbol is something we identify with. It's true that the White House is much bigger than most people's homes. But most of the families who have lived there are a lot like other Americans. They cook in the kitchen, their kids play in the yard, and they eat dinner together. And about every four years, a new family moves in!

No one can pass a law to make the White House a symbol of our country. It already is seen as a symbol. But I think we should also vote to make it a national building.

DID YOU KNOW?

A **symbol** needs to look about the same through the years, so that people recognize it easily. The White House has not changed much on the outside, but Presidents have added an indoor pool, a bowling alley, and a movie theater on the inside.