

# BIGFOOT ADVENTURES

**Bigfoot Goes to  
the White House**



Can you find  
the hidden items  
along the way?

written by **E. Norm Usfoot**



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## *Bigfoot Goes to the White House*

by E. Norm Usfoot

illustrated by Becky Sapone

❁ Kaleidoscope

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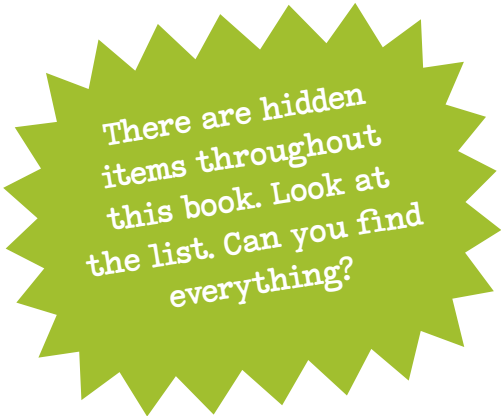
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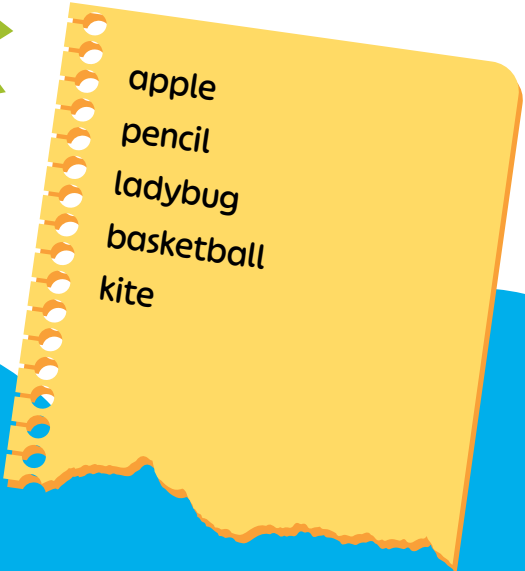
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There are hidden  
items throughout  
this book. Look at  
the list. Can you find  
everything?



apple  
pencil  
ladybug  
basketball  
kite



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# Chapter 1

## *Protect the Forest*

Everyone knows Bigfoot lives in the forest. I need all those trees to stay mysterious! The law that protects my forest was signed by a president. I wonder where the president lives?

I have always wanted to see where the magic happens. It looks like Bigfoot is going to Washington!

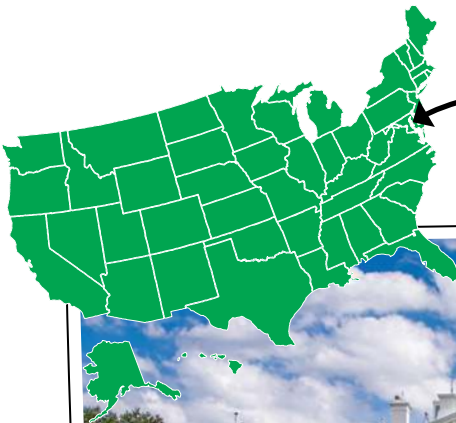


I can't go as me though. Humans should not see me up close and personal. They would not know how to react! I would not want to overshadow the president. I would be followed by fans. They would have to close the White House all day. Maybe all week!

I know. I'll make myself a disguise.

### **FAST FACT**

Around 10,000 people visit the White House every day.



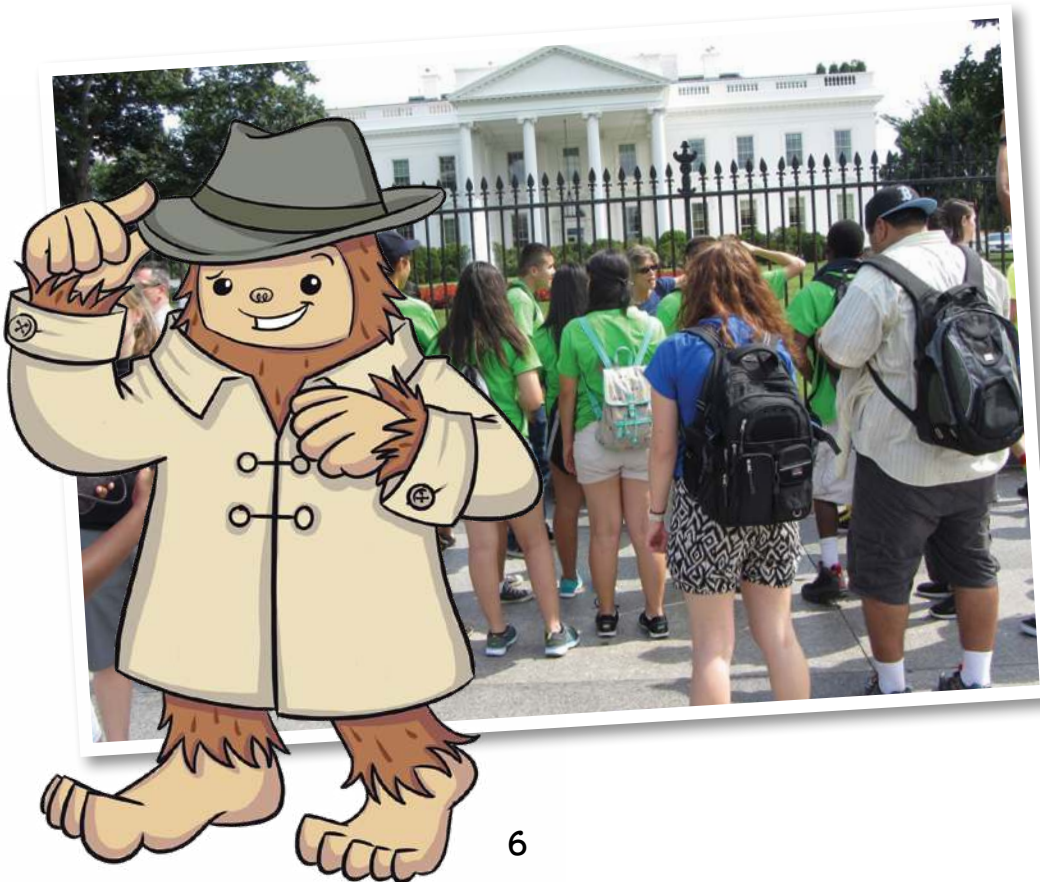
**WASHINGTON, DC**



Washington, DC, is a busy place. My costume will have to be extra good. Let's dig through the park ranger's lost and found.



Rain boots? These will never fit my big feet. A swimsuit? Hmm, not for me. But what's this? A big jacket and a wide-brimmed hat to match! How do they look? No one will ever guess that it is me, Bigfoot.



## FAST FACT

The address for the White House is 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC, 20500. You can send a letter. Someone might even write back!



I've got the outfit. Now it's time to hitch a ride! This bus will take me where I need to go. Hello, fellow tourists. Are you excited to see the White House? Me too! This hat? Thank you! I like yours too. I'm sorry, could you scootch over a little? I take up a lot of space.







Whew. That bus ride was long! But here we are. The White House! Everyone is getting off the bus. It feels nice to stretch my legs.

But something is happening. There is a security stop. This sign says, “Everyone must show photo ID.” Uh-oh. Wait. I have an ID. Where could it be . . .



Is it in this pocket?  
No. Maybe in my bag?  
Let me see . . .

**AHA!**

Here it is! My  
National Parks pass. It  
has my picture on it and  
everything. Here you  
go, Ms. Security Guard.  
One ID for me, B. Foot.



## Travel Tips

White House security is tight. There are several checkpoints. It can take 30 minutes to an hour to get through. (And sorry, Bigfoot, a National Parks pass doesn't count as photo ID!) Also, make sure to take a bathroom break before you go. The White House doesn't have public restrooms.



Yes, the photo is blurry. I don't know why. But this should get me in, right? I'll just tinyfoot-tiptoe in right past you. Then all these nice people behind me can get checked. Don't want to hold up the line!



Phew. That was close. Security here is no joke!



### **FAST FACT**

Almost all photos of Bigfoot are blurry. Some think Bigfoot has some sort of energy that causes it! Even though there are no clear photos, people say they have found Bigfoot footprints, hair, and even poop.

## Say Cheese!

In 1849, James K. Polk got his picture taken. He was the first president to be photographed in office. Before cameras existed, presidents had their portraits painted. Every president, from George Washington to Donald Trump, has had an official portrait done.



JAMES K. POLK

Oh no, another stop. I need to have my picture taken? Okay, I'll stand behind this line. Smile? Done!



# CHEESE!

That's a nice photo! You think it's blurry? That's odd. Huh. Sure, I'll take another one. Still blurry? I don't know what to tell you. No, it's not because you are a bad photographer. I promise. Can I go in now? Thanks!



## Chapter 2

### FAST FACT

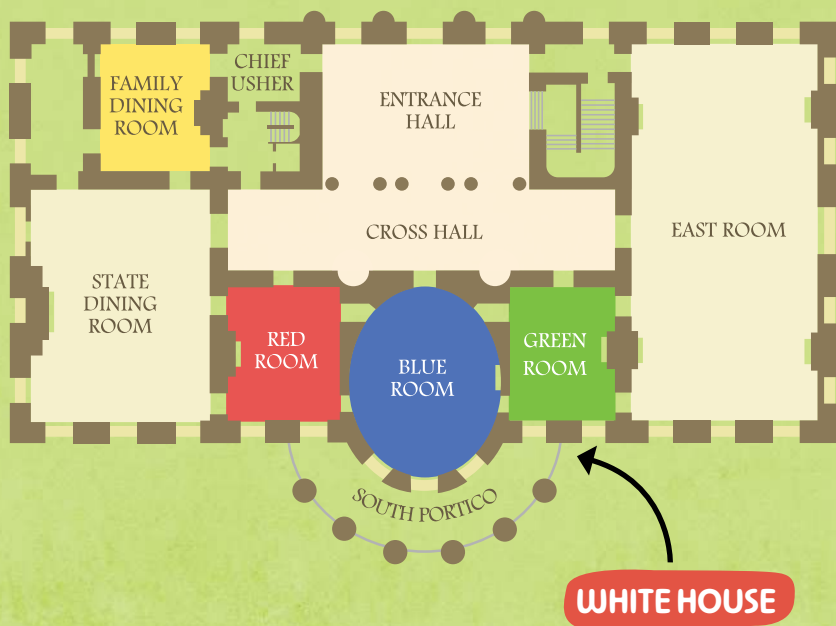
White House tours usually take around 45 minutes. Some people are in and out in as little as 15!

## Tour Time!

Now to walk through this metal detector.

No problem there. Finally! It's time to start the tour. I can't wait.

It's a self-guided tour. That means there are no park rangers or anyone to show me around. I can look at whatever I want in any order I want.





## FAST FACT

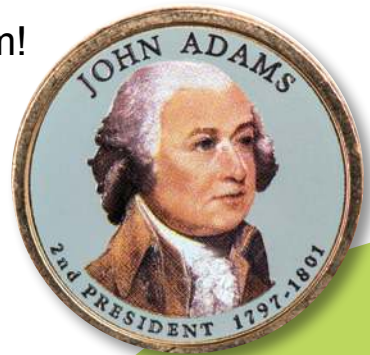
Colonnades are rows of columns. They support a roof. The Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials have them too.



JEFFERSON MEMORIAL

First, we walk through the East Colonnade. That's a funny word! There are tall windows on the left. There are arches on the right. Ooh, TV screens. They show pictures of the White House's history.

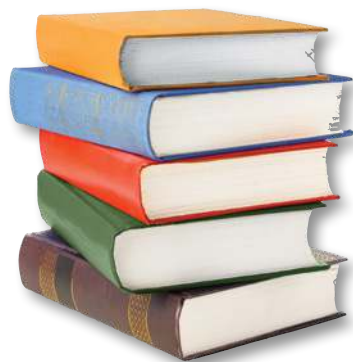
Work on the White House started in 1792. It's way older than I am! Every president since John Adams has lived here. He was the second president.



The East Garden Room is at the other end of the hallway. Look, a dollhouse! But where are the dolls? Oh, it's a 3D model of the White House. This sign says the White House grounds are 18 acres. That's it? I don't think I could live in such a small space. But there are plenty of gardens. There are special trees everywhere. One may be even older than the White House.



I love libraries. They are like forests made of books! I can just picture spending a rainy day here. Would you read with me? What is your favorite kind of story? Maybe we could read stories about the White House. Presidents Barack Obama, Jimmy Carter, and Theodore Roosevelt wrote books for kids.



## James Hoban

James Hoban was born in Ireland. He designed the White House. He also worked on other famous buildings in Washington, DC. The US Capitol Building and the Treasury and War Department building are two. Hoban cared about other immigrants. He started schools for children. He also helped workers get food, housing, and health care.



The White House Library has more than 2,700 books in it. I brought a new addition with me. Let's make sure no one is looking. Okay. The coast is clear. There. Now future presidents will have their very own copy of *The Bigfoot Field Guide*, written by me.

Sorry. I only have one. It's an original.





Let's go here next. This is the China Room. It looks like a place for a fancy afternoon tea. I wonder if someone has any snacks.



There are breakable dishes everywhere. Yikes. This is a bad place for my big feet to be! I'll just sneak my way out.

**SNEAKY SNEAK.**

Don't worry, plates. You are safe!

## Presidential Expansions

There are 132 rooms in the White House. Over the years, new spaces have been added. There are many gardens. Tennis and basketball courts have been built and expanded. There is a movie theater and a game room. The president's guests can bowl and swim.





What's that? I look sad? Oh. You see . . . I was hoping to meet someone. Who? Well, this is awkward. It's not really a person. Well, it was a person. His name is Abe.

Okay, you got me. It's former President Abraham Lincoln. His ghost, anyway. He's been hanging around here since 1903.



**BOO!**

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**



Old Abe says past presidents and their first ladies like to stop by. Yep, I'm not the only mystery visitor here. The White House has ghost visitors too. Is that too spooky? I'm sorry. They're nice ghosts. I wish you could meet them. But it looks like they're out for the day. I should have let them know I was coming.

## FAST FACT

*Views of North America* was first printed in 1834. The scenes were created by a French artist. They show places that impressed him.

Have you ever been in an oval-shaped room? The White House has four! The Oval Office is the most famous. We aren't allowed to go there. But the Diplomatic Reception Room is much more interesting to me. Its wallpaper is called *Views of North America*. There are prints showing early American life. Look, this shows Niagara Falls. I want to visit there someday too.



This scene is of a forest. There are tiny people. I wonder who they are?

**WHOOOOOOPS!**

I bumped a bust of Teddy Roosevelt! It keeps spinning and spinning. No, no, don't fall! If I can get there in time, I can . . .

**PHEW!**

I saved it. Breaking things in the White House would be bad. Especially a bust of one of my heroes.

## Save the Trees

Several presidents focused on caring for forests. Abraham Lincoln set aside protected wilderness land. Theodore Roosevelt created the Forest Service. Jimmy Carter passed the Endangered American Wilderness Act. He also kept more than 100 million acres of Alaskan wilderness safe.



**TEDDY ROOSEVELT**

## Chapter 3

# *Upstairs at the White House*

There are too many breakable things down here. Maybe things will be sturdier upstairs.

These are the fanciest stairs I've ever seen. I want to hop up them.

*Hop. Hop. Hop.*

I don't even have to be sneaky here.  
No one is paying any attention to me.  
The White House is too interesting!

### Bring a Map

The White House has six floors. Eight staircases get people where they need to go. There are also 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, and 3 elevators. And there are 35 bathrooms!







The staircase led us to the East Room. It is huuuuge. I could host a family reunion here. I'd serve Bigfootlongs. Those are footlong hot dogs on an acorn bun. Sorry. I got hungry there for a second.

Events like weddings and important meetings are held in this room. I wonder if they serve sandwiches.

### **FAST FACT**

Abigail and John Adams were the first to live in the White House. The East Room was not finished yet. Abigail used the empty room to hang laundry.

Around the corner is the Green Room. It used to be a dining room. They definitely would have had hot dogs on the menu. The walls are green, just like my forest. The White House is full of colors! We will see the Red and Blue rooms on the tour. But there is also the Yellow Oval Room and the Rose Room.



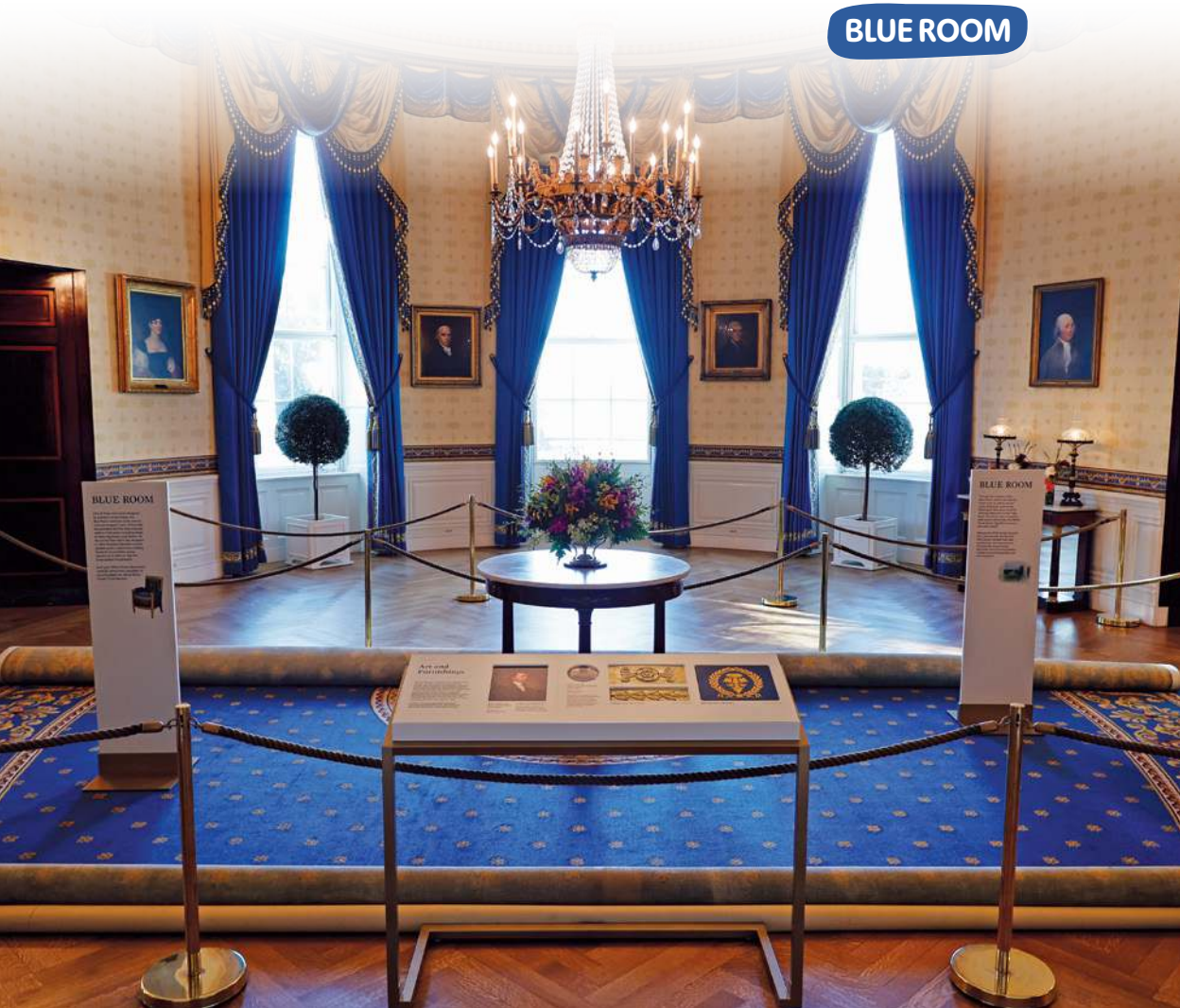
### **FAST FACT**

Today, the Rose Room is called the Queens' Bedroom. It is used by visiting guests.

Look, another oval room! What a nice scent! The Blue Room always has flowers in it. It looks like a place where important people meet. I could be important. I would even wear a tie. "Welcome to the White House, Mr. Foot," they would say. "Thank you for coming."



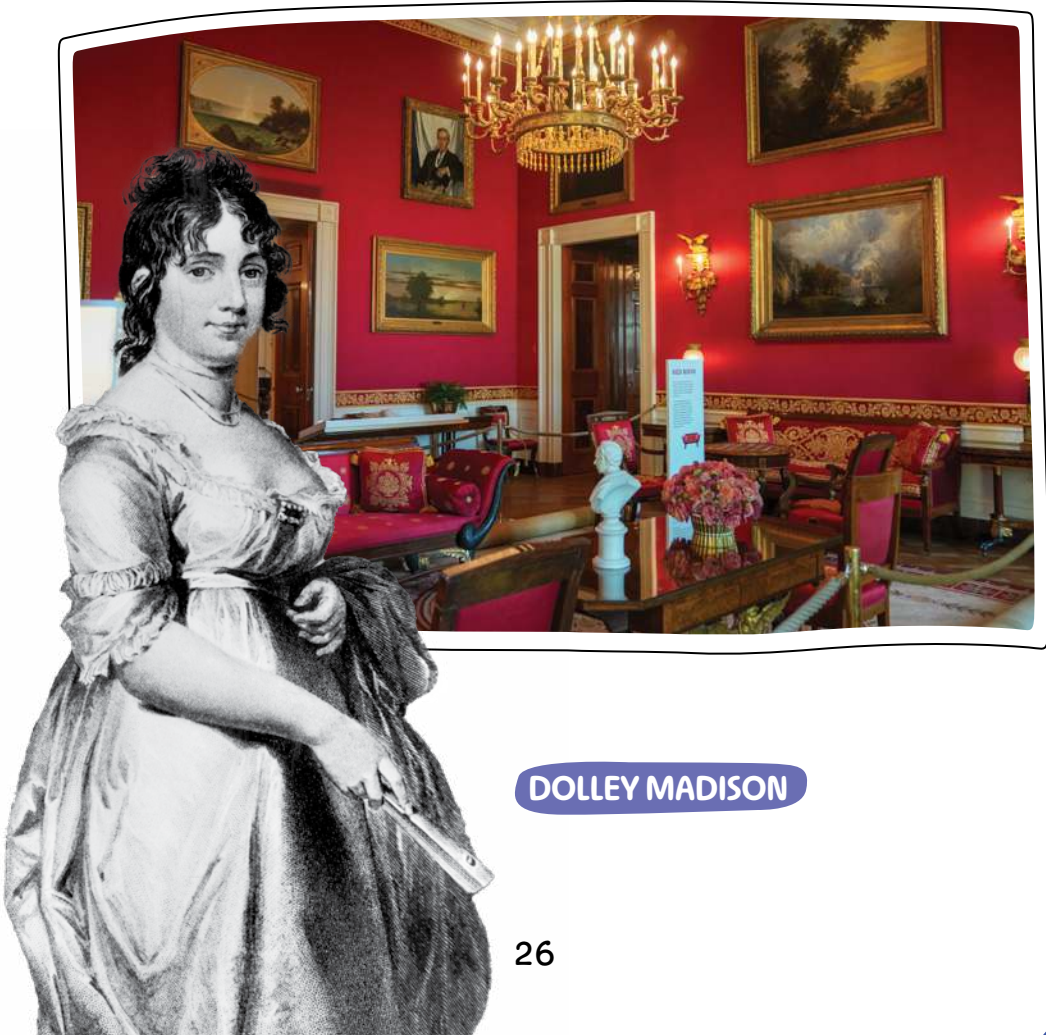
## BLUE ROOM





The Red Room is next door. Let's head there next. The walls are red. The borders are gold. They almost match my fur! Can I sit on this red couch? It looks squishy. I can't? I get it. First ladies talk to guests here. Maybe I'll snag an invite someday. They know where to find me. Well, kind of. Until then . . .

### RED ROOM



DOLLEY MADISON



### **FAST FACT**

There are 21 chandeliers in the White House. Two of them are in Cross Hall.

We are almost to the exit. Cross Hall runs in front of the rooms we just visited. The red carpet makes me feel like a movie star! And look at the chandeliers! Do you think I could get one installed in my forest? That would make me less mysterious . . . but it would be pretty!





That was so fun! Thank you for coming with me. What? You want to stop for a photo? Well, okay . . .



**CHEESE!**

It's blurry? That's weird. How about I take the picture for you? There! You're welcome. Happy to help. Me? I don't need any photos. I will keep this visit in my head. I have a good memory!





Goodbye, Washington, DC! Goodbye, White House! I hope I can come back again someday. There is so much to see and do and learn. The White House is almost as mysterious as I am. I will need to get a new outfit for next time. Maybe I will even wear a tie. I should also bring a sandwich . . .

## Glossary

**bust:** a sculpture of a person's head, shoulders, and chest

**chandelier:** a decorative hanging light

**checkpoint:** a place where travelers are stopped for inspection

**colonnade:** a row of columns that support a roof

**diplomatic:** skilled in dealing with other people in a fair manner

**first lady:** the wife or female partner of the president; the male partner of a president is called the first gentleman

**immigrant:** a person who moves from one country to another



## Think

- Imagine you are moving into the White House. What is the first thing you would do?
- Washington, DC, is full of history. Where else would you visit?
- America has changed a lot since it was founded in 1776. Can you find old pictures of your state, or even your city or town? Do you recognize where the pictures were taken? Does that place look different today?

## Create and Share

There are 132 rooms in the White House. Each has its own history. Create a pamphlet inviting people to check it out. What should they know about it?



## E. Norm Usfoot



Bigfoot is mysterious. But he's always up for exploring things that are even more mysterious than he is! (And what's more mysterious than the White House?) Sir Usfoot is constantly packed and ready to tag along on adventures.

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# BIGFOOT ADVENTURES

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How does a Bigfoot tour the White House?  
Very sneakily! Come along with Bigfoot as he  
visits the State Dining Room and Oval Office, and  
pokes around for Abraham Lincoln's ghost.

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