

## Maggie's Civics Corner

### Lesson #23 - Presidents



#### Maggie says ...

*In these difficult times, as our nation and the world pull together, it is more important than ever to understand our role as a citizen.*

**Today's lesson is learning about being a PRESIDENT.** I always like to see dogs in the media. I really liked learning about President Obama's dog Bo. Since presidents are leaders, Bo must be a special dog to be chosen to be a president's pet. I was the First Dog of Pennsylvania when my Dad was Governor. Check out information on all [presidential pets](#).

**Sticky Situation:** Your school has decided to create a Student Council, a group of student leaders who meet regularly to discuss school issues. A student who is new to your class has decided to run for President of your Student Council. Some of your classmates think it is a good idea to have someone with a new point of view become a leader in your school. Others feel that the person who is President of the Student Council should be someone who knows a lot about the school and the people who are in it. What do you think and what could you say to convince others to agree with you?

**Activity:** I am not just interested in the pets our Presidents have had over the years, although some of them have been pretty interesting. I am also interested in other facts about our Presidents. As a dog, every one of my years is counted as 7 years in human life. I often wonder if I get smarter with age, or if I was smarter when I was younger. Think about this: There are three requirements for running for President of the United States, 1.) an individual must be at least 35 years of age, 2.) an individual must be a natural-born U.S. citizen, and 3.) an individual must have been a resident of the U.S. for at least 14 years. Do you think 35 is a good age requirement or should it be higher or lower? Be prepared to support your answer.

**Civics Resources:** Visit the [White House website](#) to learn more about the role of the U.S. President.