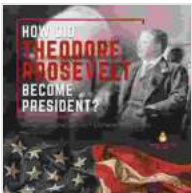


# How Did Theodore Roosevelt Become President?

Theodore Roosevelt Jr. was born in New York City on October 27, 1858, into a wealthy family. From a young age, he was an avid reader and learner, fascinated by history, nature, and exploration. Roosevelt's frail health as a child did not deter him from pursuing an active lifestyle. He overcame his asthma and physical limitations through rigorous exercise and outdoor adventures.



## How Did Theodore Roosevelt Become President? | Roosevelt Biography Grade 6 | Children's Biographies

by Frank Yoshida

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 36983 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 72 pages



Roosevelt's passion for public service emerged early on. After graduating from Harvard University in 1880, he entered politics and was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1882. As a Republican assemblyman, he gained a reputation as a reformer, advocating for civil service reform and fighting against political corruption.

In 1889, President Benjamin Harrison appointed Roosevelt as a civil service commissioner. In this role, he played a crucial part in reforming the

federal civil service system, introducing merit-based appointments and ending patronage. Roosevelt's determination and integrity earned him national recognition.

Roosevelt's political career continued to rise. In 1895, he was appointed as New York City's Police Commissioner. As head of the police force, he implemented reforms to improve efficiency and reduce corruption. His efforts to clean up the city's administration resonated with many citizens.

In 1897, President William McKinley appointed Roosevelt as Assistant Secretary of the Navy. When the Spanish-American War broke out in 1898, Roosevelt resigned his post and formed a volunteer regiment, the "Rough Riders." The Rough Riders gained fame for their charge up San Juan Hill in Cuba, which propelled Roosevelt into the national spotlight.

Roosevelt's popularity and military credentials made him a formidable candidate for vice president in the 1900 election. He reluctantly accepted the nomination, but to his surprise, McKinley's assassination in 1901 thrust him into the presidency at age 42.

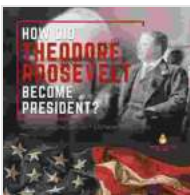
## **Roosevelt's Presidency**

Theodore Roosevelt's presidency was marked by his energetic approach, progressive reforms, and conservation efforts.

- **Conservation:** Roosevelt was a passionate advocate for conservation. He established national parks, national forests, and wildlife refuges to protect the nation's natural resources. His foresight and commitment to the environment laid the foundation for modern conservation policies.

- **Trust Busting:** Roosevelt took on powerful trusts and monopolies, believing that they stifled competition and hindered economic growth. He initiated antitrust lawsuits to break up large corporations, promoting fair competition and protecting consumers.
- **Foreign Policy:** Roosevelt pursued an assertive foreign policy, expanding American influence and protecting its interests. His "Big Stick Diplomacy" involved using military might as a bargaining tool, while also promoting international peace and arbitration.
- **Progressive Reforms:** Roosevelt championed progressive reforms aimed at improving the lives of ordinary Americans. He supported labor unions, regulated industry, and promoted consumer protection laws. His progressive agenda earned him the nickname "the Trust Buster."

Roosevelt's dynamic leadership and charisma made him a beloved president. He inspired the nation with his optimism, idealism, and belief in American exceptionalism. Roosevelt's legacy as one of the most influential presidents in American history continues to inspire generations.



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