

THE SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM  
AT DEALEY PLAZA

## Happy Birthday!

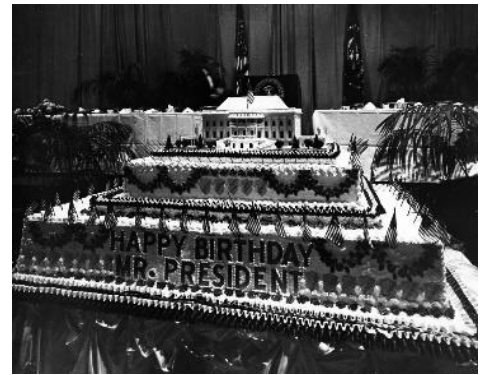
*It is President John F. Kennedy's 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday on May 29, 2020. See how birthdays were celebrated during his lifetime and create your own birthday-themed projects!*

### **Planning a Party**

How do you celebrate your birthday? Do you have a huge party with lots of friends and activities? Is your party small and with a few friends and family? In the 1920s, when John Kennedy was old enough to remember his birthday celebrations, children's birthdays were celebrated with small parties where the birthday child could select their guests. Before this, children's birthday parties were attended by adults who might bring their children.

### **Birthday Cakes**

President Kennedy celebrated his 44th birthday in 1961 with two parties. The first party was a surprise held by White House staff early in the day. The second was a large party held two days before his actual birthday. The giant cake for this party was designed to look like the White House. What would your dream birthday dessert look like? Grab some paper and pencils and create your own birthday dessert design. Why did you choose your design? What does it say about you?



### **Just Desserts**

For his 46<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1963, President Kennedy was served a *Bombe President Sauce Chocolat*. This dessert is a dome-shaped ice cream dessert with layers of chocolate and vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce in between the layers. [Click here](#) for a recipe to try at home. Note: This recipe does call for using a stove. Make sure an adult is present when making this recipe.

Want something simpler? President Kennedy was known for liking chocolate and there are many photos of him eating vanilla ice cream. What combinations can you make with those ingredients?



*Credit: Abbie Rowe. White House Photographs. John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum. Boston.*

### **Birthday Presents and Entertainment**

When President Kennedy was a child, some of the favorite children's toys were teddy bears, toy cars, wagons, tinker toys, and Morse Code learning sets. During the party, kids played games like tag. When President Kennedy was in office, people had lots of fun dancing at parties. One of the most popular dances was The Twist. [Learn how to do The Twist by watching this video and have a dance party.](#) What activities do you like to do on your birthday?