

AMERICAN HEROES

Theodore Roosevelt



President Theodore Roosevelt set aside forests and parks to protect land, plants, and animals.

“Spring would not be spring without bird songs...”

—Theodore Roosevelt

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Teddy

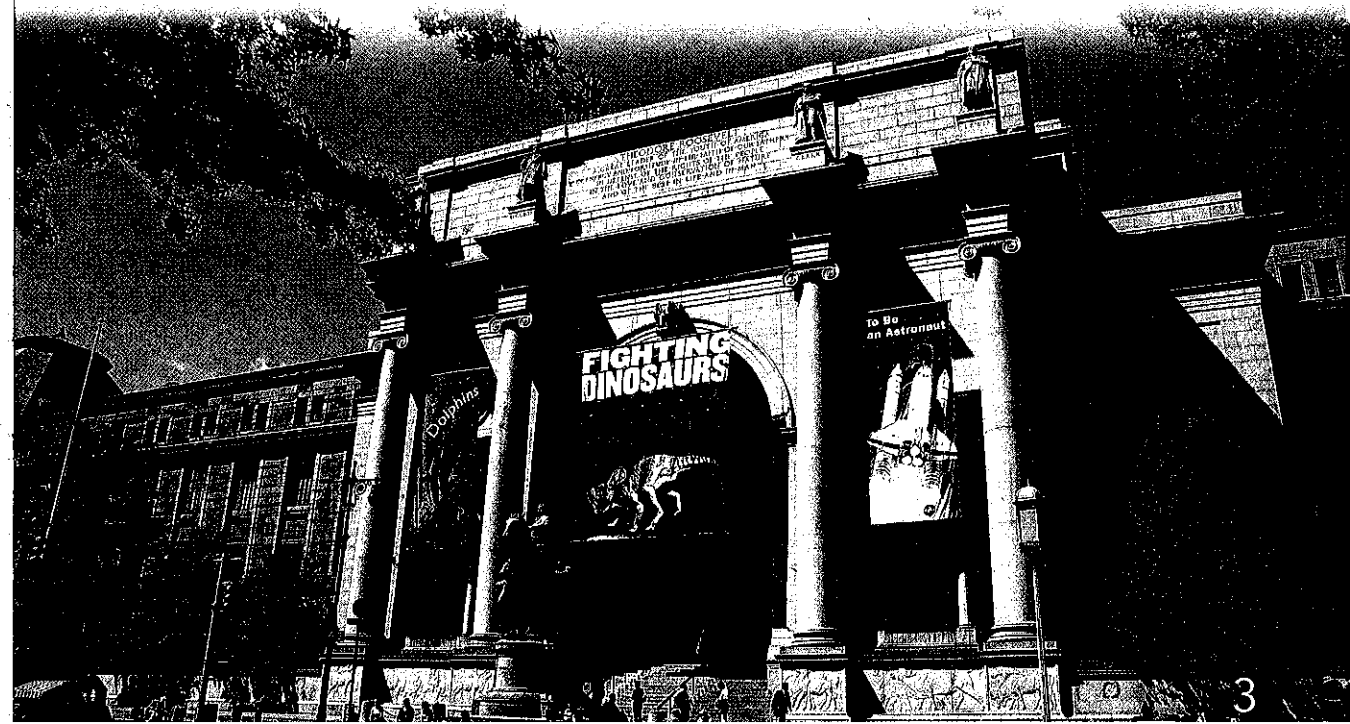
In 1858, a boy was born in New York City. His name was Teddy Roosevelt. Teddy loved animals and plants.



◀ Teddy was four years old when this picture was taken.

Teddy's father also loved plants and animals. He liked them so much that he started a museum about them. A museum is a place where people look at things to learn about them. Teddy wanted to start a museum too.

Teddy's father helped another man start the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.



Teddy collected bird nests for his museum. When someone collects things, they add them to a group. Teddy drew pictures of plants and animals for the museum, too.



▲ Teddy painted and drew these pictures. He filled many books with drawings.

Teddy wanted his museum to grow, like his father's. In one year, he collected over two hundred things! Teddy's cousins helped him collect things. He named his museum the Roosevelt Museum of Natural History.

Teddy Roosevelt (far left) is about 15 years old in this picture with his brother, sister, and cousins.



New Places

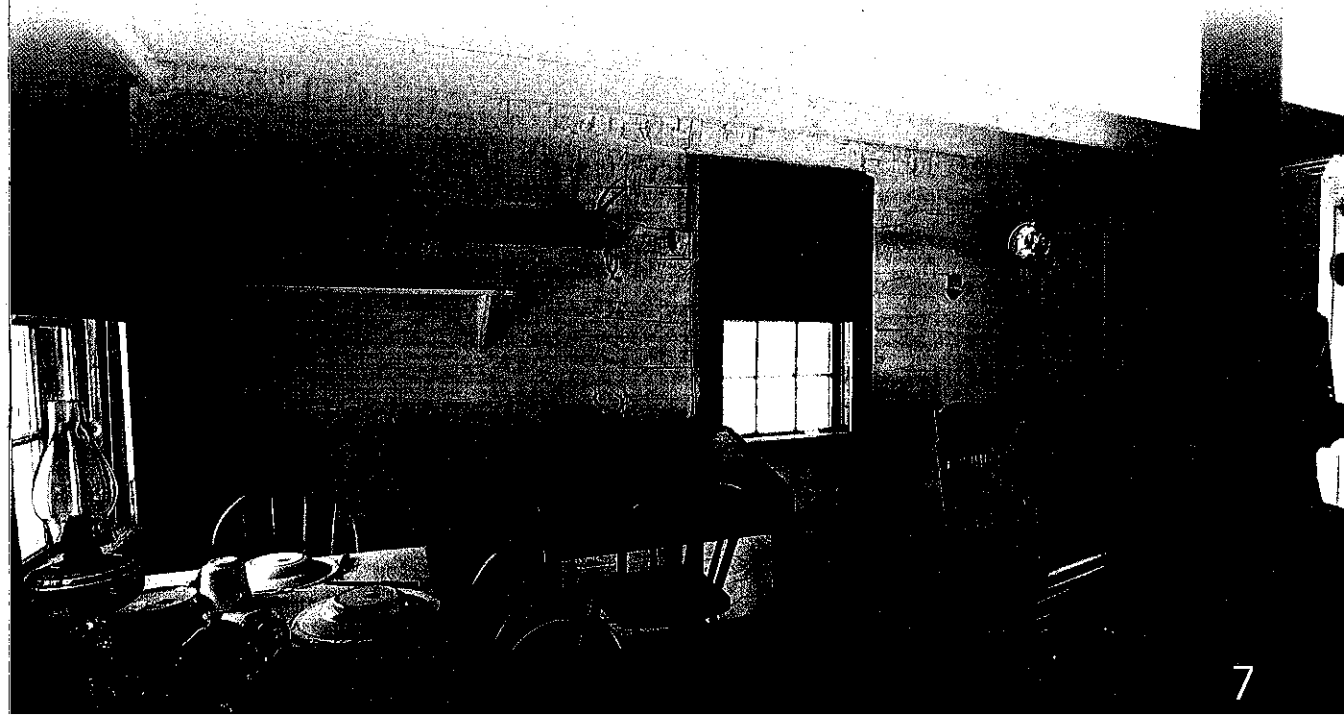
When Teddy was twelve, his family took a trip. They went to the mountains. Teddy saw plants and animals that he had only read about in books.

Teddy and his family visited the Adirondack Mountains in New York state.



When Roosevelt was a young man, he moved to North Dakota. He wrote notes about the plants and animals in North Dakota. He wanted to know more about **bison**. Bison are also called buffalo.

People can still visit Roosevelt's cabin in North Dakota.



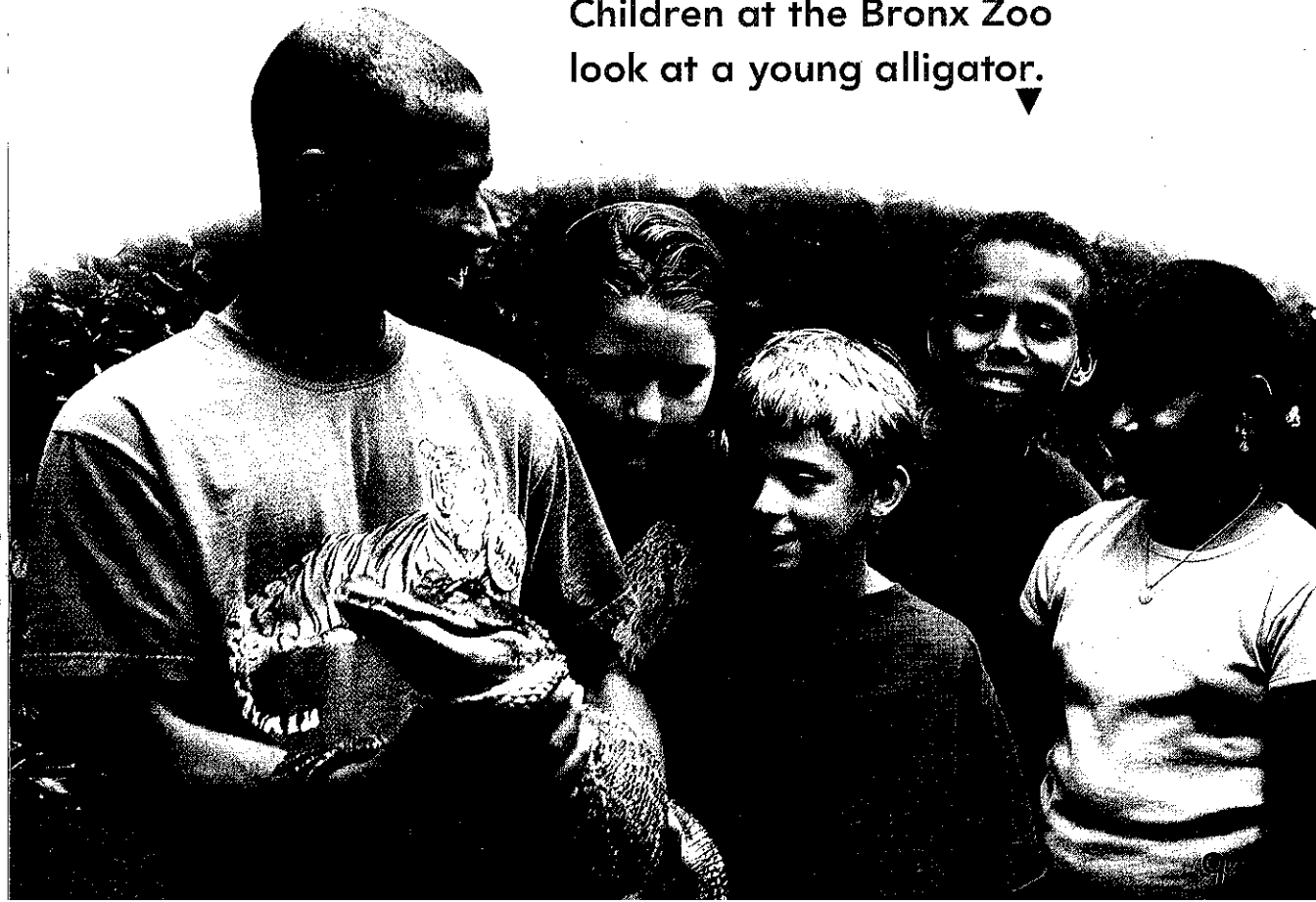
Roosevelt saw that many animals were not safe in the West. This made him sad. He and another man started a club to **protect** animals and the land they lived on.

Roosevelt's club was named the Boone and Crockett Club. The club helps protect animals like the bison shown here.



The club grew. People in the club worked for **conservation**. They helped save the lives of animals and plants in North Dakota, in the West, and the rest of the country. They started the Bronx Zoo, the first zoo in New York City.

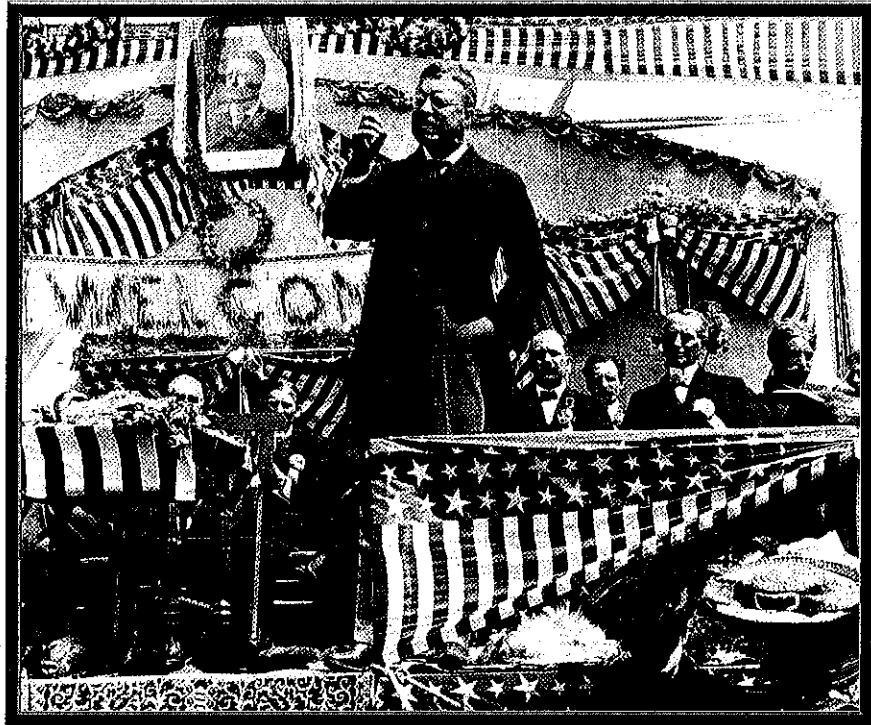
Children at the Bronx Zoo look at a young alligator.



President Roosevelt

Roosevelt was president of his club. He was a leader because he got things done. People liked that. New Yorkers chose him to lead their state. Three years later, he became President of the United States.

President Roosevelt talks to people in Wyoming about conservation.



President Roosevelt always cared about nature. He and his children had many pets in the White House. The White House is where the President lives. The Roosevelts had five bears, a raccoon, two cats, five dogs, five guinea pigs, a snake, a pony, lizards, rabbits, parrots, and roosters.

► Roosevelt's children loved animals. Here, his son has one of the family's parrots.



Saving the Land

President Roosevelt started more than 50 bird refuges. A **refuge** is a place that keeps animals and their homes safe. He also started the National Forest Service.

This bird refuge is in New Mexico. ▼



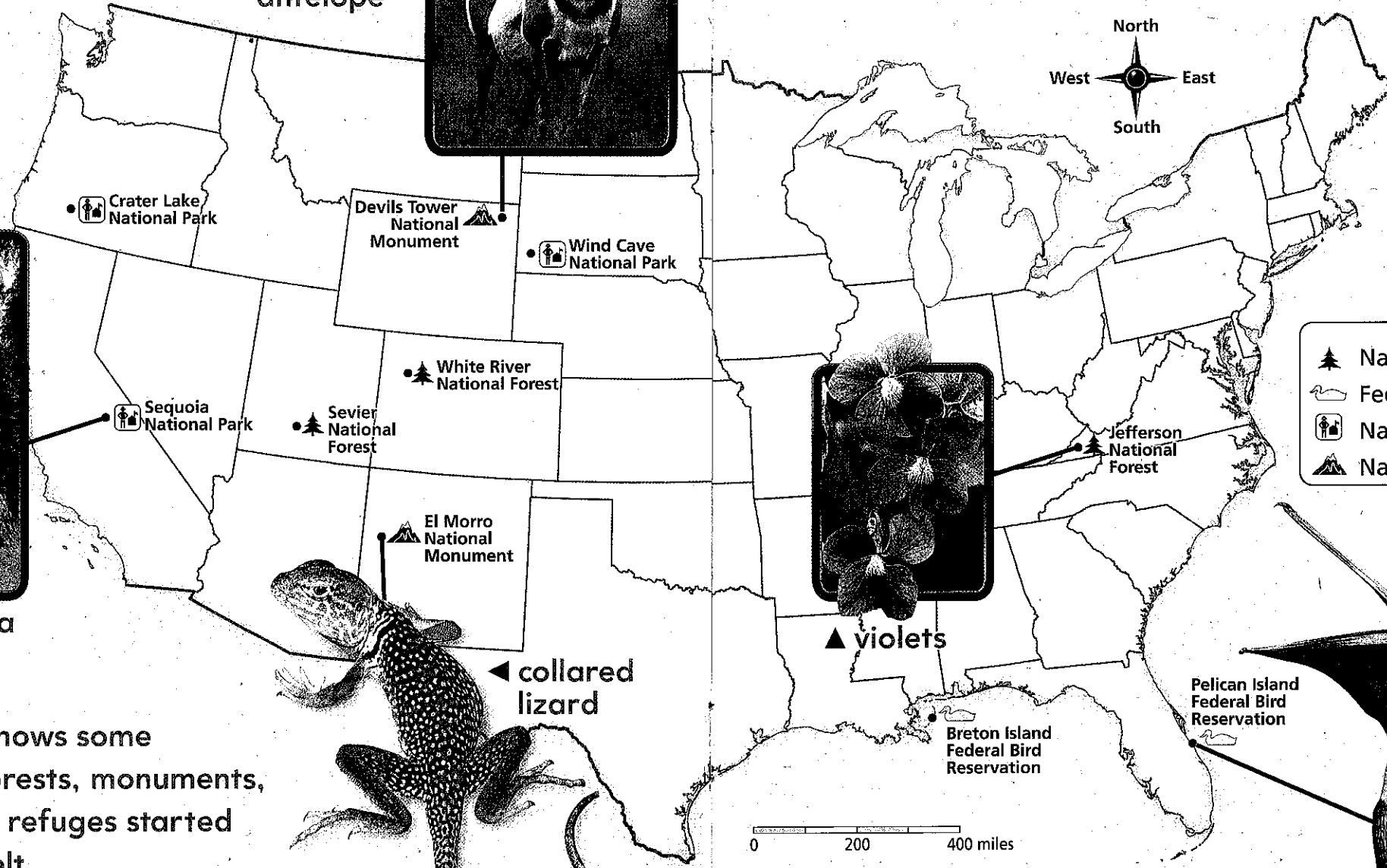
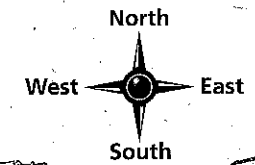
Roosevelt always wanted to conserve land. He wanted to keep some land wild, with no homes or business. He started five **national parks** while he was President. People can visit national parks to hike, camp, and learn about nature.

National Parks Created by Roosevelt

National Park	Where Located
Crater Lake	Oregon
Wind Cave	South Dakota
Sullys Hill	North Dakota
Platt	Oklahoma
Mesa Verde	Colorado

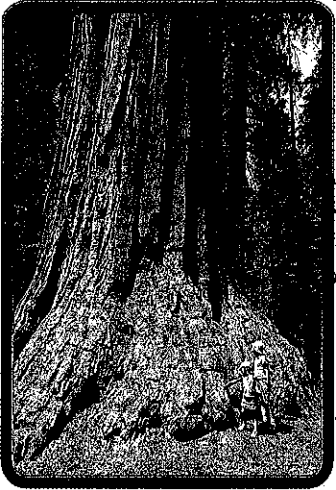
LAND SAVED BY ROOSEVELT

▶ pronghorn antelope



Map Key

- National Forests
- Federal Bird Reservations
- National Parks
- National Monuments

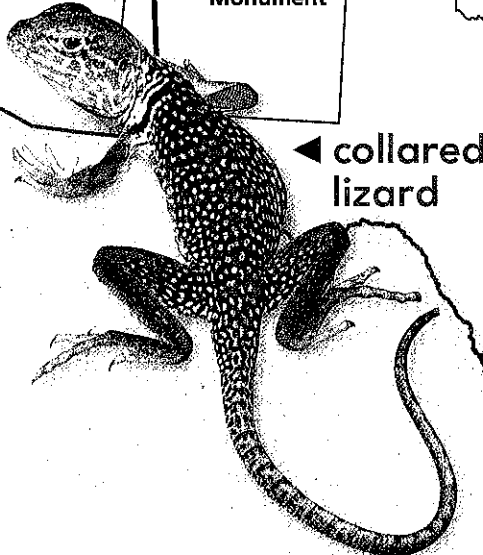


▲ giant sequoia

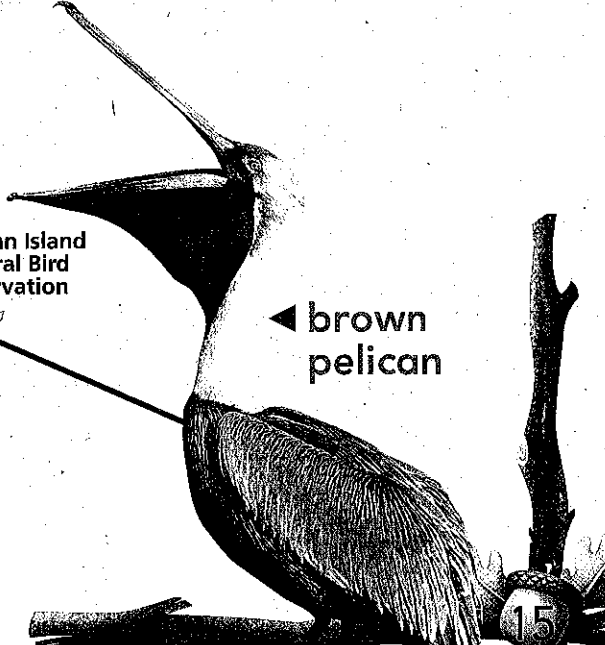


▲ violets

◀ collared lizard



◀ brown pelican



This map shows some national forests, monuments, parks, and refuges started by Roosevelt.

0 200 400 miles

Remembering Roosevelt

Roosevelt is remembered in many ways throughout the country. His face is carved into Mount Rushmore in South Dakota. The faces of other Presidents are also carved into Mount Rushmore.

George Washington

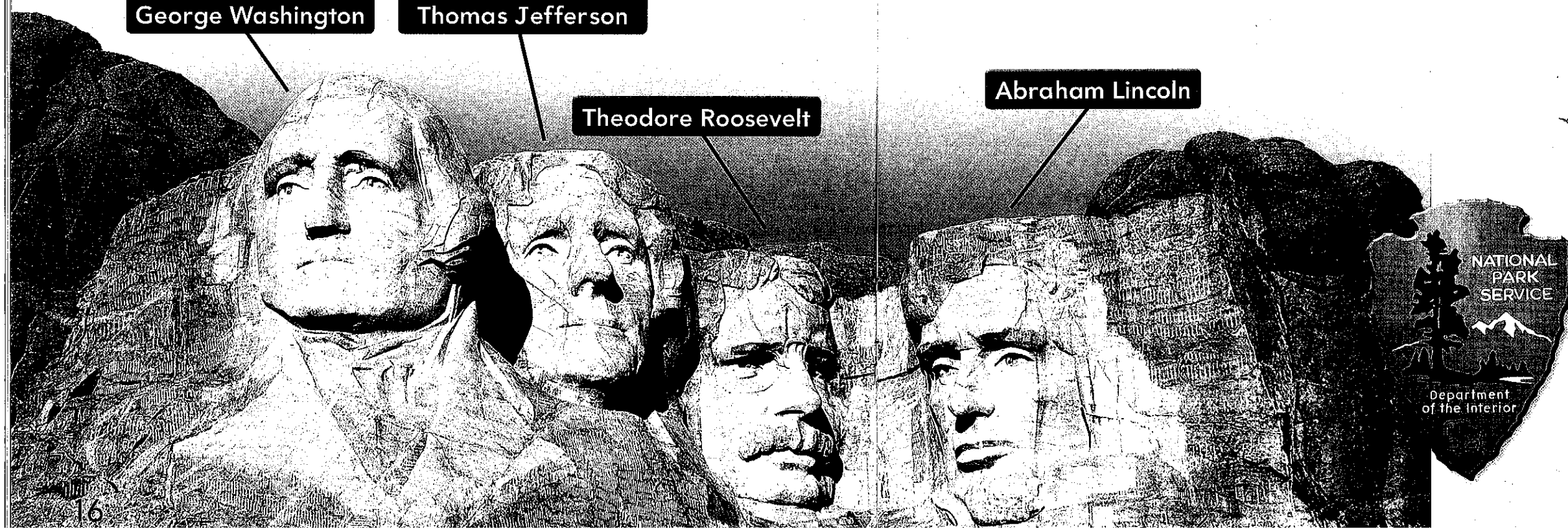
Thomas Jefferson

Theodore Roosevelt

Abraham Lincoln

Theodore Roosevelt worked hard for plants and animals. The Theodore Roosevelt National Park is in North Dakota. People who visit the park can learn about the land and animals there.

Mount Rushmore is part of the National Park Service.



Going Places

In 1901, not many people had cars. They cost a lot of money. Most people thought they were not safe. Theodore Roosevelt wasn't scared! Roosevelt was the first President to own a car.

What are some ways that people travel today that they could not in 1901?

In 1902, President Roosevelt rode in this car. The inside of the car was purple!



Having Fun

Many people think the first teddy bear was made in the early 1900s. That was when the owners of a New York City toy company made a stuffed bear. They named it after President Roosevelt to honor his love of animals. Today, the teddy bear is one of the world's most popular toys.

What are some popular toys that children play with today?

► This is one of the first teddy bears made in the United States.



Respect for the environment

means taking care of places where plants and animals live. Roosevelt learned about plants and animals so he could protect them.

Conservation is protecting the environment. President Roosevelt started parks and refuges to help keep places safe.

What are some ways you can show respect for the environment?

- Roosevelt took trips to learn about animals in different parts of the world.



GLOSSARY

bison Bison, also called buffalo, are large grazing animals. (p. 7)

conservation Conservation means keeping the environment from being changed by people. (p. 9)

national park A national park is land protected by the government. (p. 13)

protect To protect something is to keep it safe. (p. 8)

refuge A refuge is a place where animals can live safely. (p. 12)

respect for the environment Respect for the environment means care for land, air, water, and living things. (p. 20)