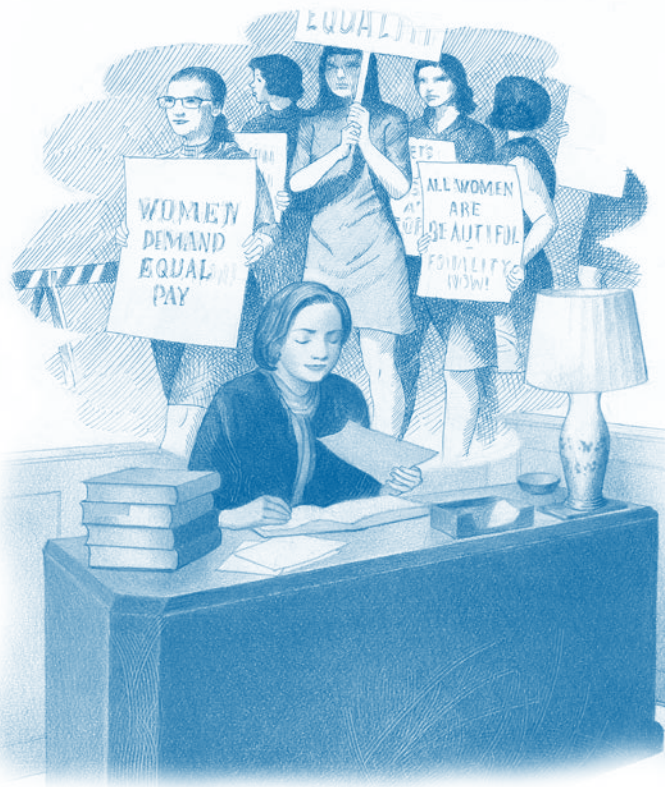


Hillary

Jonah Winter • Illustrated by Raul Colón

Ages: 4–8 years • Grades: Preschool–3

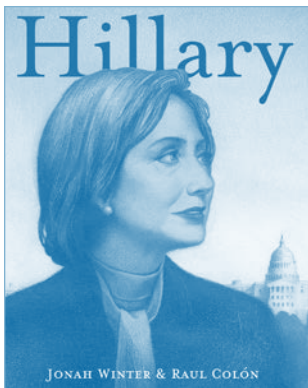
HC: 978-0-553-53388-0 • EL: 978-0-553-53390-3 • GLB: 978-0-553-53389-7



Note For Educators:

Hillary is a timely, complex picture-book biography about an important contemporary figure in U.S. politics and government. The inspiring narrative takes an even-handed approach, showing Hillary Clinton's accomplishments but also times she hasn't met her goals. Regardless of a reader's political views, Hillary Clinton merits study for her roles as an influential First Lady, U.S. senator, U.S. secretary of state (only the third woman to hold the job), and politician with presidential aspirations. This beautifully illustrated biography, which provides many ties to the curriculum and Common Core State Standards, recounts Hillary Clinton's life from her childhood to her second campaign for the presidential nomination. While using rich, descriptive language and imagery, the text also introduces social studies vocabulary related to politics and government. Themes of women's rights, international relations, and leadership add even more layers of meaning for students to explore.

Students will learn about these key topics by reading and discussing the book, and by participating in a variety of suggested extension activities. The discussion questions help students clarify the content and understand the book's main ideas and themes. Share the questions with the whole class or in small groups, having students refer to the text to back up their answers. The questions can also serve as writing prompts for students to reflect on and respond to the biography. The suggested activities encompass language arts, public speaking, civics, history, and geography. Among them are visual exercises such as using a basic graphic organizer to sum up information and creating a timeline of Hillary Clinton's life. Two activities have students delve into women's and presidential history. The exercises align with the Common Core Standards, which require a range of writing, speaking, and listening exercises, as well as use of different media, including multimedia presentations.



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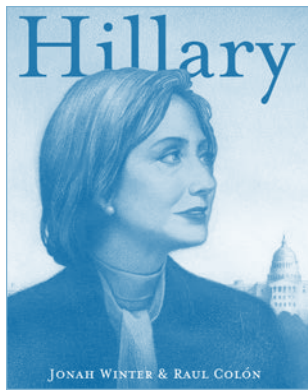


Discussion Questions

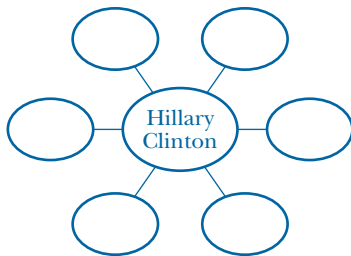
Pre-reading question: What qualities does it take to be a good leader?

1. Why does the book open with Queen Elizabeth, Joan of Arc, and Rosie the Riveter? Who are they, and how does the author believe Hillary Clinton is like them?
2. Describe Hillary as a person, giving examples from the book. What aspects of her personality have helped her reach her goals? What are some words that describe her?
3. Give examples of times when Hillary showed courage. What are some different ways to be brave?
4. Describe some of the jobs and political offices that Hillary has held. How are they related to each other? What skills did they require? How has her work helped other people?
5. Discuss times when Hillary succeeded in her goals and times when she didn't. What did she do after she failed? In what ways can failure be useful and important?
6. Hillary said in a famous speech that “women’s rights are human rights.” What did she mean? What are some of the ways that women and girls are treated unfairly around the world? Why do you think the United States has not yet had a female president?
7. Although people often say “actions speak louder than words,” the author notes that “words can *be* actions.” What does he mean, and what example does he give? Discuss whether you agree or not.
8. Why did Hillary’s staff at the State Department give her a football helmet and jersey with the number 112 on it? Do you think the gift was a good symbol of her work and experiences as secretary of state? Why or why not?
9. Talk about the information you gather from the pictures that isn’t in the book’s text. Choose some pictures to study closely and discuss what emotions they evoke, as well as what information they add.
10. The author uses lively language to tell about Hillary’s life. Make a list of words and phrases that are unfamiliar. Discuss them, and try to figure out what they mean from the context. Then use a dictionary to determine whether your deductions were correct. Here are a few possibilities:
 - scrappy
 - reckoned with
 - taking to the streets
 - stand in his shadow
 - to great heights
 - chief breadwinner
 - bounce back
11. Find places in the text when the narrative voice uses the word “you.” For example, “If you’re going to run for president, you must be strong.” As a reader, how do you respond to this wording? Why do you think the author uses it?
12. On the final page, the author describes Hillary as “unstoppable.” What does he mean? What are his reasons for considering Hillary unstoppable?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standards for Reading Informational Text:
 1.4.1, 1.3.2, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 1.6, 1.4.7



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Web-shaped graphic organizer



Correlates to Common Core
 Anchor Standards for Reading
Informational Text: 1-4.1,
 1-4.2, 1-4.4; **Writing:** 1-4.2,
 1-4.4, 1-4.7, 1-4.8, 4.9; **Speaking
 & Listening:** 1-4.1; 1-4.2; 1-4.3;
 1-4.4; 1-4.5.

Activities

1. **A Web of Ideas** Have students use a web-shaped graphic organizer to sum up information about Hillary Clinton found in the book. They should put her name in the middle and then write words in the outer circles that describe her or her jobs or where she’s traveled. Post the organizers on a bulletin board.
2. **Women at the Top** As a class or in small groups, conduct a simple research project on a female leader other than Hillary in government or another field, in the past or present. Start with books and other print resources, and then use the Internet if it is helpful. Have students write and illustrate individual books or one large class book about the leader(s). Then talk as a class about what makes a good leader and compare the leader(s) researched to Hillary Clinton.
3. **Where in the World?** Make a list of all the places mentioned in the book, including cities, states, countries, and landmarks like the White House. As a class, locate them on maps and talk about how traveling might help a world leader in his or her work.
 For a more advanced version of this activity, have individuals or groups of students research a country that Hillary Clinton visited as secretary of state, using print and online sources. The students should report back to the class with a short multimedia presentation. (For a list of visited countries, see history.state.gov/departmenthistory/travels/secretary/clinton-hillary-rodham)
4. **Meet Mrs. Eaves** A note on the copyright page says, “The text of this book is set in Mrs. Eaves,” which is a font designed by and named for a woman. Use the Internet to do brief research on the font and its designer. In small groups or as a class, choose a line in the book to type and print out in a different font. Compare the fonts carefully, noting similarities and differences. Have students talk about why fonts matter in a picture book and why they think this one was used for *Hillary*.
5. **Speak Up!** Hillary Clinton is known for her speeches, some about improving the world and especially conditions for women. Have students each write a short speech, perhaps even just one sentence, about how they’d like to change the world for the better. Then have them give the speech to the class or a small group. As a class, discuss some of the arenas where public speaking occurs and why it matters.
6. **Presidential Profiles** The United States has had more than forty presidents, starting with George Washington. Assign pairs of students a president to research with the goal of finding a picture of the president and five interesting facts about him. Have them share what they find orally or in a simple slide show.
7. **Two Sides of an Issue** As a senator, Hillary Clinton debated with her fellow senators about important issues. As a class, brainstorm a list of topics for students to debate that are related to school or home issues. Students should form teams of two, prepare their side of the topic, and debate another team in front of the class or a small group. (Find topic and format ideas here: educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson304b.shtml.)
8. **Government Glossary** Create a class glossary with vocabulary introduced in the biography related to politics and government, such as *ambassador*, *senator*, and *primaries*. Talk first about what a glossary is. Then, as a class, go through the book and make a list of words or phrases to include. Talk about what they mean based on the text and students’ prior knowledge. Then have pairs of students look up one of the words in a dictionary and create an entry for the class glossary that includes the word, a definition, and a sentence from the biography that uses the word.
9. **The Time of Her Life** *Hillary*, which is structured chronologically, mentions many different events and accomplishments in Hillary Clinton’s life. Have the class create a timeline on butcher paper on a wall or bulletin board. It should start with the year she was born and end with the present. Have students choose an event or accomplishment and draw a picture of it, adding a label or caption. Students should post the pictures at the appropriate year on the timeline.
10. **Ask Hillary!** Have students imagine they are newspaper or television reporters who will ask Hillary Clinton a question at a press conference. Each student should craft a question that expands on something discussed in the biography. With the whole class together, have each student ask their question and then discuss possible answers as a group. Talk about why it’s important for politicians and government officials to talk to the press.

About the Author

Jonah Winter has written many highly acclaimed bestselling books for children, including *Barack*, a *New York Times* bestseller. His other books include *You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!*, which was named an ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book and a *Booklist* Top of the List; *You Never Heard of Willie Mays?!*, which received four starred reviews and was named a *Bulletin* Blue Ribbon Book; *Here Comes the Garbage Barge!*, a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book; and *Dizzy*, recipient of Best Book of the Year citations from *Booklist*, *School Library Journal*, *The Horn Book*, *The Bulletin*, and *Kirkus Reviews*.

About the Illustrator

Raul Colón is the illustrator of many award-winning picture books, including *Draw!*, a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book; *Annie and Helen* by Deborah Hopkinson; *Child of the Civil Rights Movement* by Paula Young Shelton; and *Tomás and the Library Lady* by Pat Mora. His works have received the Pura Belpré Award, Gold and Silver Medals from the Society of Illustrators, and two Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Awards.

Internet Resources

American Rhetoric: Read or listen to the twenty-minute speech that Hillary Clinton gave in 1995 at the UN Fourth World Conference on Women (americanrhetoric.com/speeches/hillaryclintonbeijingspeech.htm).

Bio.com: Includes a section of videos and articles about famous women in history.

Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government: An interactive guide about all three branches of the federal government from the U.S. Government Publishing Office (bensguide.gpo.gov).

History.com: Short videos and other resources on women's history, including a three-minute video about Rosie the Riveter (history.com/topics/holidays/womens-history-month/videos).

PBS Kids: This nonprofit website has an animated, interactive section on voting in the United States, past and present (pbskids.org/democracy/vote). Another section lets students experience what it's like to be president for a day (pbskids.org/democracy/be-president).

Smithsonian National Museum of American History: The section titled "The American Presidency" is aimed at students, using intriguing facts and some hands-on activities (americanhistory.si.edu/presidency).



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This guide was prepared by Kathleen Odean, chair of the 2002 Newbery Award Committee, who was a youth librarian for seventeen years. She is the author of *Great Books for Girls*, *Great Books for Boys*, and *Great Books about Things Kids Love*, all published by Ballantine. She currently gives workshops on new books and the Common Core State Standards.

