



## Mini Page Heroes: Jimmy Carter



photo by Lauren Gerson

### Mini Quote:

"I do what I do because I think it is the right thing to do."

— Jimmy Carter

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter brought two world leaders to Camp David, the presidential vacation home: Anwar Sadat (sah-DOT), the president of Egypt, and Menachem Begin (BAY-gin), the prime minister of Israel.

The two Middle Eastern countries had been at war for more than 30 years. Many people, including children, had been killed in battle and by acts of terrorism. But Carter believed that if he could get Sadat and Begin to talk face-to-face, they could begin to work out their problems.

### Touching their hearts

The Israeli leader had requested autographed pictures of the three men together. He wanted them for his grandchildren. President Carter had his secretary find out the names of the kids, and he personalized each photo.



Anwar Sadat, Jimmy Carter and Menachem Begin, at Camp David in 1978.

When Begin was handed the pictures, he thanked the president. Then he looked at the autographs and read his grandchildren's names.

The tough old leader's eyes filled with tears. The sight of those names led him to talk about the special people in his life and about the terrible effects of war on children.

After that, the tone of the talks turned around, and a settlement was reached. In 2002, President Carter was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace.

### A simple beginning

James Earl Carter Jr. was born on Oct. 1, 1924, in Plains, Georgia. His dad owned a general store and bought some farmland in Archery, where as a teenager Jimmy was given his own acre to grow peanuts.

Carter was a good student and was accepted into the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1943. He married Rosalynn Smith in 1946, and they lived in many different states while he served on Navy submarines.

After his discharge from the Navy, Carter and his family worked to expand their peanut-growing business.

### Political life

Carter served as a Georgia state senator and as governor from 1971 to '75, and in 1976 he was elected president.

Although he faced many challenges, as president Carter worked for human rights all around the world, for energy conservation, for educational programs and for environmental protection.

The Carter Center in Atlanta continues the former president's work with teams of people who observe elections all over the world and try to resolve conflicts.

### Giving back

President Carter lost his re-election campaign in 1980. Sometimes, ex-presidents don't quite know what to do next, but not Jimmy Carter. He has been one of our busiest former chief executives. And he has become one of the most respected and recognized Americans in the world through his devotion to peacemaking missions around the globe.

Carter has worked for peace, human rights and democracy in Bosnia, Panama, Nicaragua, Haiti, Nigeria, Ethiopia, North and South Korea and, of course, in the Middle East.

Carter, now 92, and his wife still volunteer one week each year for Habitat for Humanity.



President Bill Clinton awarded Rosalynn and Jimmy Carter the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999.

### Resources



This issue of Mini Page Heroes is based on a chapter from "50 American Heroes Every Kid Should Meet" by Dennis Denenberg and Lorraine Roscoe. To order the book, go to [heroes4us.com](http://heroes4us.com) and click on "50 American Heroes Book" and "Order a Book."

#### On the web:

• [bit.ly/MPcarter](http://bit.ly/MPcarter)

#### At the library:

- "Kid Presidents: True Tales of Childhood From America's Presidents" by David Stabler
- "Jimmy Carter, Thirty-Ninth President, 1977-1981" by Mike Venezia

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### Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of President Jimmy Carter are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



BEGIN, CAMP, CARTER,	F A H N R E S M R A F P M A C
DAVID, EGYPT, FARM,	O H H O O T L E A R S I K W W
GEORGIA, GOVERNOR,	E U A B S R S N I A L P A U Y
HABITAT, HUMANITY,	Z M B E A E O G O V E R N O R
ISRAEL, NAVY, NOBEL,	I A I L L T J T P Y G E S P U
PEACE, PEANUT, PLAINS,	R N T V Y R I G A Q Y V A N D
PRIZE, ROSALYNN,	P I A K N A P E A N U T D I I
SADAT, SENATOR,	M T T B N C J E C A E P A G V
SETTLEMENT, WAR.	Q Y Y A I G R O E G R S T E A
	I S E T T L E M E N T W P B D

### Cook's Corner

#### Bravo for Bulgur

##### You'll need:

- 1 cup bulgur
- 3/4 cup boiling water
- 3/4 cup boiling chicken broth
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 1/4 cup chopped pistachios

##### Dressing:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper



\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

##### What to do:

1. Combine bulgur with boiling water and broth. Let bulgur stand for 40 minutes until all the liquid is absorbed. Stir in raisins.
2. In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, lemon juice and spices. Add to bulgur mixture and chill for 1 hour.
3. Stir in pistachios and serve at room temperature. Makes 4 to 6 side servings.

### Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of presidents.



edahre \_\_\_\_\_

shrtiyio \_\_\_\_\_

thiew uhoes \_\_\_\_\_

otcraeoep \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: leader, history, White House, cooperate.

### Mini Jokes



**Ruth:** What rock group has four guys who can't sing?

**Rhianna:** Mount Rushmore!

### Eco Note



Scientists at Washington State University Vancouver say western populations of monarch butterflies are at an increasing risk of extinction. The exact causes of the decline are unknown, but researchers fear habitat destruction and pesticide use across the West, where the monarchs breed, are the likely culprits.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

### Thank You



The Mini Page thanks Dennis Denenberg, former teacher, principal, superintendent and university professor, and Lorraine Roscoe, a champion of heroes of every kind, for help with this issue.

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