

Clues for Eleanor Roosevelt

1. In her youth she often served Thanksgiving dinner to homeless newsboys with her father, visited hospitalized children with her great Aunt Gracie and decorated a Christmas tree for families in one of the poorest neighborhoods in New York City with Uncle Vallie.
2. She understood the meaning of loss because her mother, father, and brother Elliot died before her 10th birthday.
3. Being orphaned she was sent to live with a strict, kind grandmother who on Sunday's expected her to recite bible verses and hymns from memory instead of playing games. Also, she had to wear thick black stockings during long hot summers. If she rolled them down, she was told " ladies do not show their legs so roll them up".
4. At the age of 15 she attended Alenwood, an all- girls school, in London England. Here Marie Souvestre, the Headmistress, challenged her to think critically about religion and human rights. At the school she was so loved by her classmates they often filled her room with violets on Saturday.
5. After three years her grandmother insisted, she leave her beloved Allenwood and return to New York to become a debutante and there she met her future husband Franklin.
6. In 1905, she became the wife of a New York state senator and spent countless hours listening to the voters' concerns and building connections in the community.
7. When her husband, Franklin, contracted polio in 1921 she helped him stay active in public life while raising four boys and a girl.

8. Her husband was elected President in 1933 during the Great Depression. She became his eyes and ears with the citizens of the United States by asking them to write to her and share their troubles, hopes, and fears. Daily she and her assistant Malvina Thompson read hundreds of letters and left some of the important ones for Franklin to read.
9. She was the First Lady from 1933 to 1945 and often traveled the US. One time she rode a mine train 2 miles underground to watch 400 miners dig coal on another she rode in a workmen's cage to the bottom of the Boulder Dam. She regularly visited housing projects, reform schools, and jails to help understand the struggles of the people who lived there.
10. During World War II she travel to the South Pacific visiting military hospitals shaking hands with the wounded offering comfort and thanking them for their service.
11. She grieved the death of her husband Franklin Roosevelt on April 12, 1945 and quietly accompanied his body's return on the Ferdinand Magellan Train from Georgia to lie in state in the East Room of the White House in Washington D.C.
12. President Harry Truman appointed Mrs. Roosevelt to serve as a delegate to the first meeting of the United Nations General Assembly an organization founded to foster peace. Here she led a committee that created the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.