

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT



President Franklin Roosevelt in 1933

Franklin Roosevelt was born in 1882 in New York. He was part of a prominent and wealthy family. President Theodore Roosevelt was his cousin.

Franklin Roosevelt attended Harvard College and later became a lawyer. He began his political career in 1904, when he ran for the state senate of New York. He later became Assistant Secretary of the Navy and was candidate for vice president in 1920, an election that he lost.

In 1921, Roosevelt became sick with polio, a disease that left his legs paralyzed. He eventually recovered, but could never walk again without braces and other help. He used a wheelchair most of the time.

His wife, Eleanor, encouraged him not to quit his political career. After his illness, he became governor of New York. In 1932 he was elected president of the U.S. He would

serve 12 years as president, longer than any other person.

Franklin Roosevelt was president at an important time. The country was in a difficult economic time, called the Great Depression. In 1941, during his third term, the U.S. entered World War II.

In 1945 Franklin Roosevelt died while he was still president. He is considered one of the greatest presidents. He helped the country out of the Great Depression and put the U.S. as a leader in the world.



President Roosevelt (center) with Winston Churchill (left) and Joseph Stalin (right) at the Yalta Conference after World War II



What Do You Think?

While there are many pictures of Franklin Roosevelt, there are very few of him in his wheelchair or using his braces and his cane. Why do you think there aren't many of these pictures?



One of the few pictures of President Roosevelt in his wheelchair