James Madison

- President 1809-1817
- Helped write the Constitution in 1789
- War of 1812 (Mr. Madison’s War)
- Wife – Dolly Madison -
  - famous for defending White House in 1814
  - Set a more active precedent for the role of 1st Lady
War of 1812
Causes

- Britain did not respect U.S. even after Revolutionary War
- Britain refused to honor Treaty of Paris 1783 - kept soldiers in North America
- Impressment - Britain took sailors off of U.S. ships to use on their own
- Some in U.S. wanted more land
General Info

- Was fought while James Madison was Pres. (1809-1817)
- Britain was fighting the French (Napoleon) at first but then that war ended
- First big test of new nation, convinced many that U.S. was here to stay
- Very inconclusive war- few decisive victories
The War

- U.S. was unprepared for war- in debt, small Navy, small Army
- U.S. invaded Canada, disaster followed
- Britain formed a naval blockade all along the east coast
- Washington D.C. taken by Brits and White House, Capital, and Treasury all burned
- Only successes were on water
The War- Part 2

- U.S.S Constitution (Old Ironsides) gave U.S. a crucial victory at sea
- British launched an unsuccessful attack on Baltimore (Ft. McHenry)
- Peace Treaty signed in Dec. 1814
- Battle of New Orleans fought by Andrew Jackson after peace treaty
Written by Francis Scott Key during a British artillery attack on Ft. McHenry

He was a prisoner on a British ship and watched the whole attack

Rampart - a defensive wall

Perilous - dangerous

Gallantly - bravely
O Say! can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say! does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
Results

- Treaty that ended the war did not change anything, just stopped the fighting
- Treaty made no mention of impressment
- U.S. had a new sense of Nationalism (pride in one’s people)