**Origins of the Republican and Democratic Political Parties KEY**

Directions: Use the “Origins of the Republican and Democratic Political Parties” slides to answer the questions in the graphic organizer below. Write the answers in your own words. Then, draw a quick picture to help you remember your learning.

| **Question** | **Answer** | **Quick Draw** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| What are political parties? | *Group of people who come together to get things done because they agree on most issues.* |  |
| When and why did political parties (or factions) start to form? | *Despite warnings from the Founders, parties started in Washington's cabinet as divisions over many issues arose.* |  |
| Why did the Democratic Party form? | *Around 1828, the “Era of Good Feelings” (one party) was over and as people began dividing again, they realized they needed to unite behind one candidate to win elections.* |  |
| What year was the Democratic Party established?  Who was the first president elected from the Democratic Party?  Who did the Democratic Party represent? | *Established in 1828*  *Jackson*  *Common man* |  |
| Why did the Republican Party form? | *Whig Party began to divide over the issue of slavery. Republican- did not want slavery to expand.* |  |
| What year was the Republican Party established?  Who was the first president elected from the Republican Party?  Who did the Republican Party represent? | *Established in 1854*  *Abraham Lincoln*  *Mainly northern states* |  |
| Which animal symbols did cartoonist Thomas Nast popularize for each party? | *Elephant and Donkey as party symbols* |  |
| How have the parties changed since they originated? | *Both parties have changed platforms and who supports them/votes for them has changed* |  |

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