

United States Flag: Stars and Stripes

<p><u>Ohio Standards Connections:</u></p> <p>Government Standard</p> <p>Benchmark B: Recognize and explain the importance of symbols and landmarks of the United States.</p> <p>Kindergarten Role of Government GLI 2: Recognize symbols of the United States that represent its democracy and values including: a. the national flag b. the Pledge of Allegiance</p> <p>Grade One Role of Government GLI 3: Recognize symbols of the United States that represent its democracy and values including: a. The bald eagle b. The White House c. The Statue of Liberty d. The national anthem</p> <p>Grade Two Role of Government GLI 3: Explain the importance of landmarks in the United States and the ideals that they represent including: a. The Washington Monument b. The Jefferson memorial c. The Lincoln Memorial</p>	<p><u>Lesson Summary</u></p> <p>The purpose of this lesson is to study the symbolism and history of the United States flag by using guided questions.</p> <p><u>Commentary:</u></p> <p>Students will have the opportunity to think about what they know and to engage in a thoughtful discussion regarding the flag. On election day they will be informed voters on which symbol on the flag they think is most important, the stars or the stripes?</p> <p><u>Pre-Assessment:</u></p> <p>Classroom discussion. Hands on activities KWL –What do I know, What do I want to learn</p> <p><u>Scoring Guidelines</u></p> <p>Teachers assess student responses by providing appropriate feedback.</p> <p><u>Post-Assessment:</u></p> <p>KWL – What I learned about the United States flag</p> <p>Students will participate in the Kids Voting Central Ohio online election.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Which symbol on the flag is most important to them, the stars or the stripes?2. Students will either draw a picture or write a paragraph explaining their choice. <p><u>Scoring Guidelines</u></p> <p>Public Schools of North Carolina State Board of Education Writing Rubrics K-2 http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/languagearts/elementary/k2literacy</p>
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Instructional Procedures:

Students will be seated around teacher prepared for a discussion.

Give each student an American flag or a picture of an American flag. <http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/more/flags/usflag.pdf>

Teachers will ask guided questions to help students think about flags. These might include:

What do you have in your hand?

What does it represent?

What do you see on the flag?

How many stripes are there? Why?

How many stars? Why?

What are the colors of our flag? Why do you think these colors were selected?

Where do you see flags flown?

Is there a time when you think of the flag even when you cannot see it?

Are there any songs that you can think of that make you think of the flag?

We are going to listen to a song called *Stars and Stripes Forever* that was recorded on a Thomas Edison recorder in 1913. Listen and tell me if you have ever heard the song before and what the song is saying. Can you think of any other songs that are about our flag? (*Grand Old Flag, The Star Spangled Banner*)

Assignment:

Now that we have learned about the American flag which symbol means the most to you, the stars or the stripes?

Kindergarten - Draw the symbol.

First grade- Draw the symbol and explain why.

Second grade - Draw the symbol and explain why.

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Differentiated Instructional Support

This lesson lends itself to all learning styles it includes multimedia.

Extension

Are there flags that do not represent a country? What are they? (examples: School Flags, Team Flags, Organization Flags) Create your own personal flag.

Interdisciplinary Connections

Reading/language arts: Students write about the flag, read books about the US flag and flags in general

Social Studies: Recognizing flags of other countries and organizations

Math: Counting stars and stripes and looking for patterns in flags. How many flags are in the school building?

Science: What makes a flag wave as it does?

Art: Design a flag.

Music: Listening to and composing songs about flags

Physical Education: Marching to patriotic songs

Materials and Resources:

For teachers Books on flags, computer for listening to Sousa, access to the Internet

For students Drawing paper, crayons or markers, pencil

Key Vocabulary

Flag	Sousa	Stars	Stripes	Symbols
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Technology Connections

The lesson is located at <http://www.cyberbee.com/election/flag.html>

Research Connections

Understanding by Design by Wiggins and McTighe

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The Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching
<http://www.celt.iastate.edu/>

General Tips

Did Betsy Ross make the first flag? There are two different viewpoints about this subject. Teachers will want to present both sides of the issue.