

Social Studies: Important Symbols in the United States

Date: October 6, 2021

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Explain: (concepts, procedures, vocabulary, etc.)

-Display the first slide-

Our first symbol today that we're going to talk about is the Flag! I know you've all seen one before because we have one in our classroom!

I want you to turn and talk with someone next to you in a quiet voice and tell them what you know about the American Flag.

- Give them between 30-45 seconds to talk with each other.

Okay first graders, now I want you to turn your attention back up to me and the board!

The United States flag is also sometimes referred to as the American flag! The flag has 13 red and white stripes on it!

Can you guys count the stripes with me?

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.

Those thirteen stripes represent the first thirteen states. When the United States was first created, there was only 13 states!

Now we have 50!

That's why there is 50 stars on this flag! They represent all 50 states that we have! The flag is displayed all over our nation in many public places!

Who can help me come up with a list of places where they've seen the flag displayed?

-Make sure we cover schools, libraries, and courthouses. -

-Display the Statues of Liberty slide-

This is the Statue of Liberty! Have any of you ever seen it in real life? If you have, I want you to raise your hand super high!

Okay, hands down!

I want you to turn and talk with someone next to you in a quiet voice and tell them what you know about the Statue of Liberty.

- Give them between 30-45 seconds to talk with each other.

Okay first graders, now I want you to turn your attention back up to me and the board!

The Statue of Liberty was a gift to the United States from France and it is supposed to represent our freedom. She is supposed to be a Roman Goddess that is holding a torch. Written somewhere on the Statue of Liberty is the date July 4, 1776. Does anyone have any ideas why that date is important?

That date is the day that the United States became their very own country! That's why we celebrate the Fourth of July every year!

The statue of liberty is made of copper, which might make you wonder why she's green. She turned green from being outside and right next to the ocean for so long, it made the copper turn green!

Our next symbol that we're going to learn about today is the bald eagle! If you've ever seen a bald eagle before I want you to show me two fingers! -Hold up two fingers so I'm modeling for them what I want them to do-

-Call on one student who has two fingers in the air and ask them if they saw the bald eagle in the zoo or in the wild-

That's so cool (insert students name!) It's not very often that we get to see bald eagles. It's kind of a rare sighting.

Yes, I know SO many of you have probably seen a bald eagle in the zoo so I want you to turn and talk to your neighbor about when you saw them and anything else you know about them!

- Give them between 30-45 seconds to talk with each other.

Okay first graders, now I want you to turn your attention back up to me and the board!

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The bald eagle is the national bird for the entire United States. It's kind of a big deal. The bald eagle was chosen as the bird because it represents strength, a long life, and freedom. You can find the bald eagle on coins and on dollar bills!

I brought in some coins for us to see so that we can see the eagle on the back of the coin!

Our fourth symbol we have is the Liberty Bell! Has anyone ever heard of the Liberty Bell? Give me a thumbs up if you have and a thumbs down if you haven't.

I want you to turn and talk with someone next to you in a quiet voice and tell them what you know about the Liberty Bell.

- Give them between 30-45 seconds to talk with each other.

Okay first graders, now I want you to turn your attention back up to me and the board!

The Liberty Bell is in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Way on the other side of the United States from where we live. The Liberty Bell is a symbol of freedom. It symbolizes an end to slavery in the United States. The Liberty Bell hasn't been rang in a very long time because one of the first times it was rang, it cracked, so it's no longer usable anymore and now it is just on display for us to be able to go see!

Our next symbol we're going to talk about today is the Lincoln Memorial.

If you know anything about the Lincoln Memorial, I want you to turn and talk with someone next to you in a quiet voice and tell them what you know.

- Give them between 30-45 seconds to talk with each other.

Okay first graders, now I want you to turn your attention back up to me and the board!

It is made to honor Abraham Lincoln. He was the 16th President of the United States. The memorial is located in Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C. is the capital of the United States! If you look on the back of a penny or a five dollar bill, you will see the Lincoln Memorial.

I brought in a penny for us to look at so we can see the Lincoln Memorial. We are going to pass the coin around and we are going to be respectful and make sure every one gets a chance to look at it.

Our last symbol we are going to look at today is Mount Rushmore! Here's a picture of me at Mount Rushmore! How many of you have been to Mount Rushmore? Raise your hands!

First graders, I want you to turn and tell your neighbor about your time at Mount Rushmore if you've been or what you know about it.

- Give them 45 seconds to a minute to talk. (Since this one is closer to home, they may have more to say about it, so give them a little bit longer to talk.)

Okay first graders, let's bring our attention back up to the board and to me!

It is located in the Black Hills of South Dakota and has the faces of four presidents on it. The presidents are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. It took 14 years to finish creating Mount Rushmore. The faces are 60 feet tall.

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Explore: (independent, concrete practice/application with relevant learning task -connections from content to real-life experiences, reflective questions- probing or clarifying questions)

First graders, we are going to review our six symbols we learned today now!

Put up slide of the American flag. If you think you know it, on 3, tell me in a voice level 1!

Great job first graders, you are so smart.

-Statue of Liberty-

What about this one? Do you guys know this one? If you remember, on 3, tell me in a level 1!

-Bald Eagle-

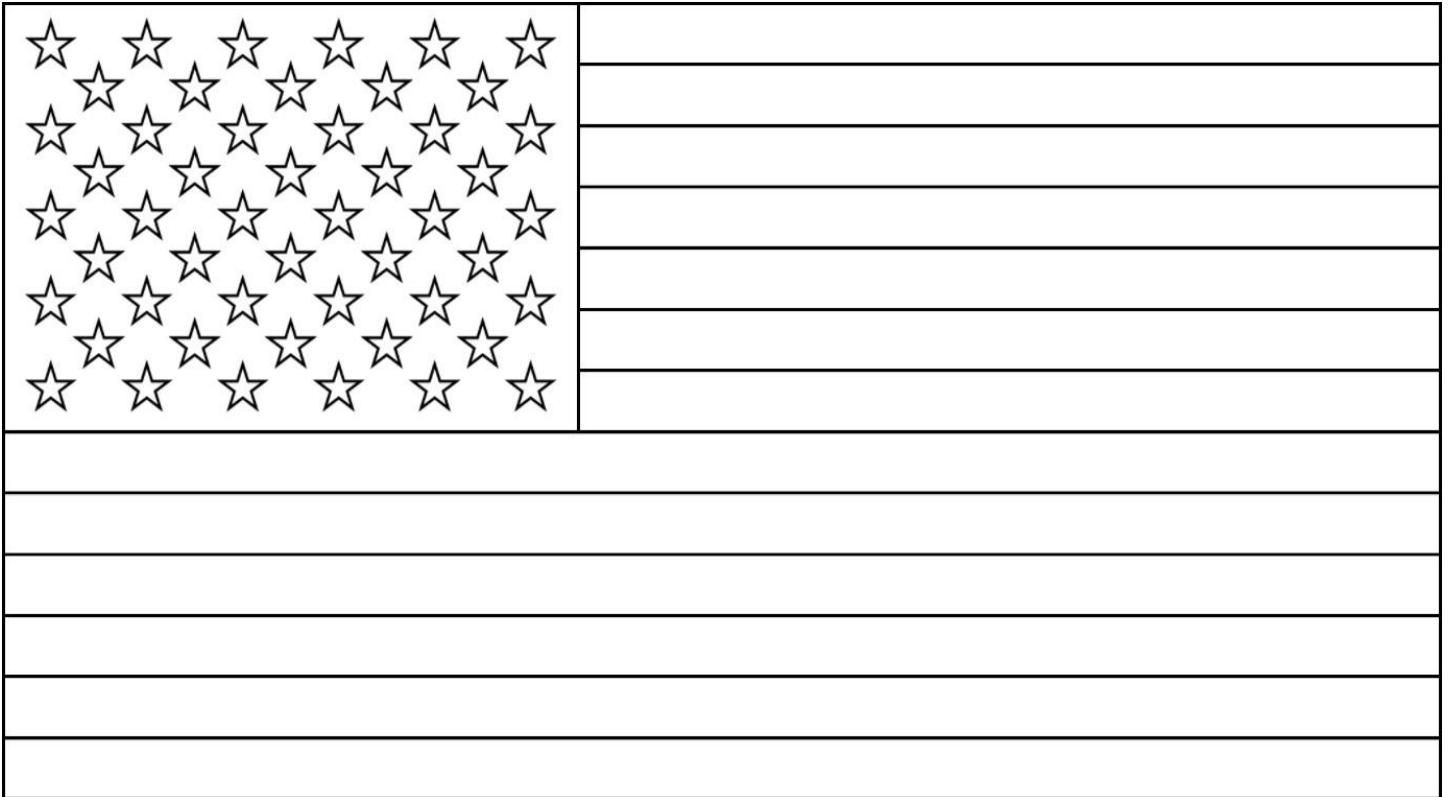
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	<p>Do we remember this one? If you remember, on 3, tell me in a level 1!</p> <p>-Liberty Bell-</p> <p>What about this one? If you remember, on 3, tell me in a level 1!</p> <p>-Lincoln Memorial-</p> <p>This one we looked at quarters for! If you remember, on 3, tell me in a level 1!</p> <p>-Mount Rushmore-</p> <p>This is the one that is closest to us! If you remember, on 3, tell me in a level 1!</p> <p>Now first graders, I want you to quietly go back to your desks and get out a pencil and we are going to do an activity together.</p> <p>We are going to color this American Flag and answer three questions about the flag! The questions are just asking you what the stars and stripes represent and how many of each there are! Remember, the flag is red white and blue! I will keep the flag up on the screen up here so you guys can look at if you forget! Don't forget to put your name on your flag!</p>
1	<p>Review (wrap up and transition to next activity): First graders, when you are all done with coloring your flag and answering the few questions on your sheet, I want you to turn it into the tray and then get ready for library media. Over the next few days, I want you to think about where you are seeing these symbols and we will share out if any of us have seen them during one of our next morning meetings.</p>
<p>Formative Assessment: (linked to objectives, during learning)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Progress monitoring throughout lesson (how can you document your student's learning?) <p>I will document my students learning at the end of our instructional time during our review.</p> <p>I will document my students learning with the worksheet I give them about the American flag.</p>	<p>Summative Assessment (linked back to objectives, END of learning)</p>
<p>Reflection (What went well? What did the students learn? How do you know? What changes would you make?):</p> <p>This lesson was so fun! The students were very engaged and so excited to talk about each symbol that I put up on the board. The students learned what six of the symbols of the United States represented. (The American Flag, Lincoln Memorial, Mount Rushmore, Bald Eagle, Liberty Bell, and the Statue of Liberty) I know they learned these symbols because I was able to review with them at the end of the lesson and put up a quick slide of what each symbol was without the words on it and we did a shoutout of each symbol. We then did a coloring page/worksheet on the American Flag at the end of our lesson that asked what the stars and stripes represented on the flag, how many there were, and what colors the flag was. Another way I know that they learned these things is because in the days following my lesson, they were so excited to point out other places they saw the symbols we talked about during our lesson. If I were to teach this lesson again, I wouldn't use the Pledge of Allegiance worksheet for them. A lot of the words that were on there were too big to expect first graders to be able to spell and write. I would also allow for them to turn and talk with their neighbor after I introduced each symbol and share what they know about the symbol. They were so excited to share after each symbol and I felt like I didn't have enough time during my lesson to allow each student who wanted to share something to have the chance to share.</p>	

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1. What do the stars and stripes represent on the flag?
2. How many stars are on the flag?
3. How many stripes are on the flag?