#### **The American Flag**

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## **Kentucky Academic Standards**

Grade Level	Concepts and Practices	-	Standards
Kindergarten	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a	K.C.RR.1	Identify roles and responsibilities of self and others at home, in school and neighborhood settings.
	Citizen	K.C.RR.2	Identify symbols and events that represent American patriotism.
Grade 1	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	1.C.RR.1	Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
Grade 2	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	2.C.RR.1 2.C.RR.2	Describe the importance of civic participation. Compare the rights and responsibilities of citizens in North America.
Grade 3	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	3.C.RR.1	Examine how the government maintains order, keeps people safe, and makes and enforces rules and laws in diverse world communities.
Grade 4	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	4.C.RR.1	Describe the importance of civic participation, and locate examples in past and current events.
Grade 5	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	5.C.RR.1 5.C.RR.2	Analyze responsibilities of U.S. citizens by explaining and demonstrating ways to show good citizenship. Analyze the personal rights conferred by citizenship, and find examples of citizenship, using a variety of sources.
Grade 6	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	6.C.RR.1	Evaluate the rights, roles, responsibilities and limitations of the concept of citizen in Classical Greece and Rome.
Grade 7	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	7.C.RR.1	Compare rights, roles, responsibilities and limitations of subjects in empires between 600-1600 with those of citizens in modern countries.
Grade 8	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a Citizen	8.C.RR.1	Analyze the role of citizens in the U.S. political system, with attention to the definition of who is a citizen, expansion of that definition over time and changes in participation over time.
		8.C.RR.2	Analyze expansion of and restriction on citizenship and voting rights on diverse groups in the United States from the Colonial Era to Reconstruction from 1600-1877.
		8.C.RR.3	Analyze how groups in the United States have challenged Constitutional provisions, laws and court rulings denying them the rights of citizens.
High School	C: Roles and Responsibilities of a	HS.C.RR.1	Evaluate the civic responsibilities of individuals within a society.
	Citizen	HS.C.RR.2	Explain how active citizens can affect the lawmaking proces locally, nationally and internationally.

## **The American Flag**

- Origin
- Elements of the American Flag/Meaning
- Changes over time
- Displaying the American Flag
- The Pledge of Allegiance/Star-Spangled Banner
- Folding the American Flag
- Famous photos of the American Flag

# The American Flag Origin

- The first flag was believed to have been designed by Francis Hopkinson in 1776
- It was officially adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777
- The resolution that passed stated that the flag would have 13 stripes alternating red and white and 13 stars on a field of blue

# The American Flag Origin

- Was given the nickname "Old Glory" by William Driver, a sea captain from Massachusetts
- The 10'x17' flag owned by Driver made it through the Civil War intact despite multiple attempts to deface it and now resides in the National Museum of American History
- Over time there have been 6 acts that change the elements and lay out of the flag

#### **Elements of the Flag**

- 13 stripes (7 red and 6 white)
  - Red signifies hardiness and valor
  - White signifies purity and innocence
- Field of blue signifies vigilance
- Stars
  - First flag had 13 stars representing the 13 original colonies
  - In 1795, Congress enacted a resolution that stated a star would be added to the flag for each state admitted to the union

## **Changes to the American Flag**

- 1776 First flag known as the "Betsy Ross" flag is designed with 13 stars in a circle
- June 14, 1777 Congress passes the "First Flag Act" establishing an official flag, describes the contents of the flag but no layout requirements (on Aug. 3, 1949, President Harry S. Truman declared June 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day)
- Act of January 13, 1794 (went into affect on May 1, 1795) changed the flag to 15 stripes and added two stars for two new states (Vermont (14) and Kentucky (15))

## **Changes to the American Flag**

- Act of April 4, 1818 changed the flag back to 13 stripes and stated that on July 4<sup>th</sup> a new star would be added for any state that joined the Union in the previous year
- Executive order June 24, 1912 established proportions, provided arrangement of the starts, and stated that one point of each star should be pointed upward
- Executive orders January 3, 1959 and August 21, 1959 – each changed the arrangement of the stars due to addition of new states.

## **Displaying the American Flag**

- When displayed horizontally on a wall, the stars should be in the top left corner
- When displayed vertically in a window or other flat surface, the starts should be in the top left corner
- When displayed with another flag or flags on a single pole, the American Flag goes on top
- When displayed with other flags on poles of the same height, the American Flag is always to the far left, if any pole is taller than the others, the American Flag should fly higher then any other flag

## **Displaying the American Flag**

- Flag displays on a stage or around a public speaker should have the American Flag placed to the left from the perspective of the crowd
- Flags are lowered to Half-Staff on certain holidays and by order of the President or state Governor to honor principal figures of the government
- Flags draped over a coffin should be done so with the stars over the left shoulder of the deceased, the flag should not be lowered into the ground

# The Pledge of Allegiance

- Originally created by Francis Bellamy in the 1890s, the wording has changed a few times since
- Current format was adopted in 1954 when "Under God" was added by Congress at the request of President Eisenhower
- Those not in uniform should stand and remove any non-religious headdress and place their hand over the left portion of the chest to represent placing the hand over the heart
- Service members should stand and salute when wearing a cover (hat) outdoors or stand at attention when indoors

# **Pledge** Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands: one Nation under God, indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for all.

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I Pledge Allegiance	I Promise to be faithful and true (Promise my loyalty)
to the flag	to the emblem that stands for and represents
of the United States	all 50 states, each of them individual, and individually represented on the flag
of America	yet formed into a UNION of one Nation.
and to the Republic	And I also pledge my loyalty to the Government that is itself a Republic, a form of government where the PEOPLE are sovereign,
for which it stands,	this government also being represented by the Flag to which I promise loyalty.
one Nation under God,	These 50 individual states are united as a single Republic under the Divine providence of God, "our most powerful resource" (according to the words of President Eisenhower)
Indivisible,	and can not be separated. (This part of the original version of the pledge was written just 50 years after the beginning of the Civil War and demonstrates the unity sought in the years after that divisive period in our history)
with Liberty	The people of this Nation being afforded the freedom to pursue "life, liberty, and happiness",
and Justice	And each person entitled to be treated justly, fairly, and according to proper law and principle,
	And these principles afforded to EVERY AMERICAN, regardless of race, religion, color, creed, or any other criteria. Just as the flag represents 50 individual states that can not be divided or separated, this Nation represents millions of people whether the second states are set of the second states.
for All.	can not be separated or divided.

# "Star-Spangled Banner"

- September 14, 1814 Frances Scott Key writes a poem titled "The Defence of Fort McHenry" after being inspired by the sight of the American Flag still flying following a British bombardment at Fort McHenry
- 1916 President Woodrow Wilson orders the "Star-Spangled Banner" to be played at military occasions
- March 4, 1931 A bill is signed by President Hoover officially making "Star-Spangled Banner" the National Anthem

## "Star-Spangled Banner"

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light. What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

## Folding the American Flag

- As an Army and Navy custom, the flag is lowered daily at the last note of retreat
- Special care should be taken that no part of the flag touches the ground
- The Flag is then carefully folded into the shape of a tri-cornered hat, emblematic of the hats worn by colonial soldiers during the war for Independence
- In the folding, the red and white stripes are finally wrapped into the blue, as the light of day vanishes into the darkness of night



# William Driver's "OLD GLORY"



# Fort McHenry



# American Flag on the Moon





# Marines at Iwo Jima





