

# NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

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## Research Topic: The American Flag

**Grade Level:** Pre-Kindergarten – Kindergarten

**Time Requirement:** 1 class period (45 minutes)

**Ohio's Learning Standards – History Strand:** Heritage: Symbols and practices of the United States include the flag, Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

**Common Core Standards:** Key Ideas and Details:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1 – With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.2 – With prompting and support, retell familiar stories, including key details.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3 – With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.

**Objective:** Students will be able to identify symbols and colors of the American flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the National Anthem.

**Research Statement:** The American flag is symbolic to the freedom, justice, liberty and independence of our country. As American citizens, it is important to understand and be able to identify the meaning of the colors and shapes of the flag.

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<b>Introduction</b>	The American flag is one of the nation’s most recognized symbols. A symbol is something used for or regarded as representing something else, an emblem, token or sign. The American flag represents our shared experiences as citizens of the United States of America.
<b>Supporting Idea I</b>	The American flag was adopted on December 3, 1775 as the Grand Union flag. Betsy Ross (b. 1752-d. 1836), an upholsterer, has been credited with making the first American flag. On June 14, 1777, the 13-star version was adopted; on July 4, 1960, the 50 stars version was adopted.
<b>Supporting Idea II</b>	The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 states of the United States of America and the 13 stripes represent the thirteen British colonies.
<b>Supporting Idea III</b>	The colors of the American flag are red, white and blue. Red represents hardiness and valor. White represents purity and innocence. Blue represents vigilance, perseverance and justice.
<b>Procedure</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Have students identify the American flag in the classroom.</li><li>2. Teacher will read “Why Are There Stripes on the American Flag?” by Martha E.H. Rustad. Following the reading, ask students about the history of the flag and the symbolism of the flag.</li><li>3. Have students view a video of the signing of the National Anthem.</li></ol>
<b>Conclusion</b>	The American flag is a symbol that is very important to citizens of the United States. It represents the values and ideals of American culture.
<b>Assessment</b>	At the conclusion of the lesson, ask students to identify the stars, stripes and colors of the American flag.
<b>Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">“The History of the American Flag” by PBS</a></li><li>- “Why Are There Stripes on the American Flag?” by Martha E.H. Rustad</li></ul>
<b>Critical Thinking Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What do red, white and blue represent on the American flag?</li><li>- What do the stars and stripes represent on the American flag?</li><li>- In what ways do we honor the American flag?</li></ul>

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**Title:** The American flag-bearer at a large outdoor rodeo that's a feature of the annual (in this case 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary) Jubilee Days festival in Laramie, Wyoming

**Contributor Names:** Highsmith, Carol M., 1946-, photographer

**Created/Published:** 2015-07-12

**Subject Headings:**

- United States –Wyoming—Laramie
- America
- Laramie Rodeo
- Laramie Jubilee Days
- American flags

**Format Headings:** Digital photographs –Color—2010-2020.

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**Title:** The American flag, a new national lyric b Revd. J.B. Dickson of Scotland/Gilmour & Dean, litho.

**Contributor Names:** Gilmour & Dean, lithographer

**Created/Published:** c1862

**Subject Headings:**

- Flags—American—1860-1870
- Women—1860-1870

**Format Headings:** Lithographs—Color—1860-1870