

The American Flag



The American flag is an important symbol of the United States.

The flag has 13 red and white stripes.

The stripes represent the 13 original colonies.

There are 50 stars on the flag.

Each star represents a state.

Our national anthem is about the American flag.

The name of the national anthem is “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

The Star-Spangled Banner was written in 1814.

Saying the Pledge of Allegiance

We show loyalty to the flag when we say the Pledge of Allegiance.

This means that we promise to be loyal to the United States.

When we say it, we stand, turn toward the flag, and put our right hand over our heart.



**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.**



*Saying the Pledge of Allegiance during a naturalization ceremony.
Courtesy of the USCIS Office of Citizenship.*

**Here are some special words from the pledge.
Practice these words with your teacher.
Match the words with the meanings.**

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <u> 3 </u> republic | 1. cannot be separated or divided |
| <u> </u> pledge | 2. loyalty |
| <u> </u> allegiance | ✓ 3. country where we elect our leaders |
| <u> </u> indivisible | 4. freedom |
| <u> </u> nation | 5. promise |
| <u> </u> liberty | 6. fairness or equality |
| <u> </u> justice | 7. country |

The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty is a famous symbol of the United States.

The Statue of Liberty is in New York Harbor on Liberty Island.

In 1886, France gave the statue to the United States.

It was a symbol of friendship between France and the United States.

Millions of immigrants saw the statue when they arrived in America.

Today, the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom and democracy.



*An immigrant family looking at the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor.
Courtesy of the USCIS Historical Library.*

National U.S. Holidays

There are ten national U.S. holidays.

On these holidays, many people do not work.

Most banks, schools, and government offices are closed on national holidays.

These holidays honor an important person or an event in U.S. history.

For example, the Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4.

Every year we celebrate Independence Day on July 4.

What is your favorite holiday? My favorite holiday is _____.

Why do you like it? Because _____.



*Families participate in an annual Independence Day parade in Garrett Park, Maryland.
Courtesy of the Newman family.*

Complete the Chart—Holidays

Look at a calendar for this year.

Write each holiday on the chart below. Write the exact date for this year.

- Memorial Day Labor Day ✓ New Year's Day Veterans Day
 Columbus Day Presidents' Day Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 Independence Day Christmas Thanksgiving

Month	Name of Holiday	Date of Holiday
January	New Year's Day	January 1, 20__
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		

The Pledge of Allegiance

Copy the Pledge of 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.



*A young boy saying the Pledge of Allegiance
at a naturalization ceremony in 1962.
Courtesy of the USCIS Historical Library,
BK9.4, Item 112.*