

## American Symbols

**Objective(s):** The student will be able to:

- Recognize and name some American symbols.
- Participate in discussion by responding orally to questions.

**TEKS:**

K.10 Citizenship. (A)

**Vocabulary:**

- Symbol
- Statue of liberty
- Constitution
- Monument
- Great Seal of the United States
- Bald eagle
- Liberty bell

**Materials:**

A social studies box contains: statue of liberty, constitution, a feather, Washington D.C. capital building, Washington monument and Lincoln memorial, White House, red rose, the Great Seal of the United States, Bald Eagle and Liberty Bell.

**Learning strategies:**

1. Tell the students that they will learn about some symbols of the United States.
2. Ask the children, “What is a symbol?” Explain that a symbol is something that represents or stands for something else.
3. Show the children the exterior of the box covered with red, white and blue colors. What do these colors symbolize? Where do you see these colors? Explain what they symbolize.
4. Open the box and show the cover of the box upside down to show the capital of the United States with some monuments. Explain Washington D.C. is the capital of the United States.
  - Show the children the American flag. Explain the flag is a symbol of our country. Invite the children to count the stripes and stars.
  - Show the children the constitution and the feather. Explain the purpose of the constitution.
  - Show the children the statue of liberty. Explain that the statue of liberty is a

- symbol of our country. Count the thorns on the crown.
- Show the red rose. Explain the red rose is a symbol of our country.
  - Show the Great Seal of the United States. Explain the Great Seal is a symbol of our country and the representation of every item in the seal.
  - Show the bald eagle. Explain the bald eagle is a symbol of our country.
  - Show the liberty bell. Explain the liberty bell is a symbol of our country.
5. Today we learned some American symbols. Ask students, “Tell me in your own words how are American symbols important?”
    - Ask students, “Which is your favorite American symbol? Why?”
  6. As a final review, will hold up each object and ask students what the symbol represents.
  7. As a group, use this link to review the American symbols learned.  
<http://www.kidport.com/GradeK/socialstudies/AmericanSymbols.htm>
  8. Hold up each object and ask students what the symbol represents and review what was learned about the American symbols. Ask the students, “What is the purpose of the American symbols?” Listen to students responses and then add that symbols represent history and significance to our daily lives.
  9. After reviewing all the symbols, I will show children the different symbols one at a time (statue of liberty, constitution, a feather, Washington D.C. capital building, Washington monument and Lincoln memorial, White House, red rose, the Great Seal of the United States, Bald Eagle and Liberty Bell) from inside social studies box and analyze if they recognize and name each symbol on their own. Also, when using the website link I will analyze if students recognize the name and symbol.

**Parent/family/community inclusion:**

Invite parents to share a symbol from their home or culture in class.

**Academic reinforcement/extension:**

Provide the children the opportunity to make their own symbols using construction paper and coloring items (crayons, markers, pencil) representing their life. For example, (kindergarten student name) Ruby’s symbols; international bridge symbolizes dual citizenship from Mexico and US.

# Images

