



Celebrate the Star-Spangled Banner Second Grade

The students will:

- Identify how symbols and celebrations represent American beliefs and principles
- Identify patriotic songs that represent American beliefs and principles

TEKS:

2.14BCD

Vocabulary:

- anthem
- Celebrate Freedom Week
- Freedom
- Star-Spangled Banner
- symbol

Materials:

- Historical Scene Investigator handout
- Star-Spangled Banner *PowerPoint*
- The Star-Spangled Banner Text handout
- Patriotic Song handout
- [Star-Spangled Banner](#) video
- [Lone Star Celebrates Freedom \(optional\)](#)

Teaching Tips:

- Look at The Star-Spangled Banner PowerPoint in advance so you can see how each time you click a piece of the image is revealed. Students will be making predictions about the image in the lesson.
- You might use the [Lone Star Celebrates Freedom](#) book as a read aloud this week to talk about the Lone Star flag. This would be great to use as a shared and modeled reading learning experience.
- You might also use the [LRE Interactive Pledge Games](#) as a learning station during this week.

Teaching Strategies:

1. Have students look around the room and point out anything they see that represents the United States. (American flag, Texas flag, Constitution, etc.)
2. Ask students what the American flag represents or symbolizes. Ask questions such as:
 - What does the American flag symbolize? What makes you say that?
 - What is meant by the word 'symbol?'
 - Why is the American flag important to us?
 - How do we show our respect for the flag?
3. Share that the American flag symbolizes our country. It represents the freedoms we have as citizens in this country.
4. Ask students where they have seen American flags flying.
5. Share with students that they are going to be Historical Scene Investigators. (Play it up with them and get them excited about being investigators.) Give each student a Historical Scene Investigator handout. Explain that you are going to show them a piece of an image, and they are going to predict or infer what the image is based on what they see.
6. Open the Star-Spangled Banner PowerPoint. (Each time you **click**, a piece of the image will reveal itself.)
 - Click one time so students see the flag in the image.
 - In the first column of the handout, have students list everything they see in the image.
 - Then on the right-side of the handout, have students make a prediction about what they think the whole image is.
 - **(Click)** Show another piece of the image. Have students once again list everything they see and make a prediction.
 - Continue the process until the whole image is revealed. The last image might help students make a connection to the Star-Spangled Banner.
7. Once the whole image is shown and students have made predictions, have them use their senses to try to make sense of the image. Ask questions such:
 - What do you see in the image?
 - What might you hear if you were in the image?
 - What might you taste?
 - How might you feel?
 - Where do you think this image takes place?
 - Is it in the present? How do you know?
 - Who is Francis Scott Key?
 - What might he have to do with this image?
8. Have students write a summary on the bottom of their handout of what story the image is telling. Allow time for students to share.
9. Share with students that Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner. See what students know about the anthem.

10. Show students the [Star-Spangled Banner](#) video. If students know the song have them sing it. As they are listening to the song, have them think about the similarities in the song and the image they just observed. (You might decide to just play the song while the students are looking at the image. Afterwards, ask questions such as:
 - What similarities do you notice in the song and the image?
 - What might the song have to do with this image?
11. Give students a copy of [The Star-Spangled Banner Text](#) handout. Have them read the story about the anthem and then with a partner, compare the story to the image they observed.
12. Afterwards, discuss student thoughts and ask questions about the text to clarify student understanding.
13. Share with students that the song is a patriotic symbol of the freedoms we have in our country as Americans. We celebrate the patriotic symbols of America this week during Celebrate Freedom week.
14. Share with students that they are going to have an opportunity to write a song sharing their love for their country. Give each student a [Patriotic Song](#) handout.
15. Divide students into groups to write patriotic songs to the tune of *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*.
16. Have student groups share their songs with the class.



HISTORY SCENE INVESTIGATOR

1) The Evidence

What do I see in the image?

LIST:

2) Prediction:

What do I think this is?

Uncover a piece of the image

← Add what I see to my LIST

3) Second Prediction:

Now I think?

Uncover a piece of the image

← Add what I see to my LIST

4) Final Prediction:

I think?

5) Title and Summary of Image:

The Star-Spangled Banner

Francis Scott Key got the idea to write the song, The Star-Spangled Banner, in 1812 when the British and the American soldiers were fighting a battle during the War of 1812. The British attacked the American soldiers at Fort McHenry, which was a fort used to protect America during the war. A large flag flew over the fort so that the British could see it from far away. The flag measured 30 feet wide by 42 feet long and weighed over 200 lbs. Francis Scott Key was working as a lawyer at the time and was asked by the president of the United States to go free a doctor who was being held prisoner by the British. The British freed the doctor but attacked Fort McHenry.

On September 13, 1814, Francis Scott Key was on a ship at the time the British attacked the fort. It was dark, but he could hear the bombs and rockets exploding. Francis could not see what was happening. Then, the sun came up. Francis saw something that made him very happy.

The one thing that was still standing tall was the flag flying over the fort. After fighting all night, the British gave up the fight and left. America had won the war. That gave Francis Scott Key the idea to write a poem called "The Defense of Ft. McHenry." It was printed for people to read. They really liked the poem. Later it was put to music to make it a song and renamed The Star-Spangled Banner. More than one hundred years later, the Star-Spangled Banner became the official song of the United States.

The Star-Spangled Banner honors our flag and our country. Americans sing it to celebrate their love for their country and their flag. The song is a patriotic symbol of the freedoms we have in our country as Americans.

Patriotic Song

Write a patriotic song to show the love you have for your country. Write the song to the tune of *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*.

Consider using some of the words below in your song.

Word Bank

freedom
symbol
stars

honor
pride
stripes

respect
Flag
bravery

celebrate
Patriotic
Americans

Handwriting practice area with 10 sets of lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.