

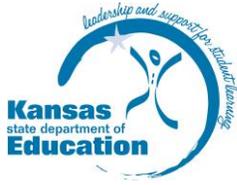


# ***Resources for Providing Patriotic Exercises and Instructions for Flag Etiquette***

Kansas Public Schools are required to have a "program of patriotic exercises" that includes instructions relating to flag etiquette, use and display, recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, and observance of legal holidays. (K.S.A. 72-5308, as amended.) The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) has prepared this resource for schools to develop appropriate programs of patriotic exercises. Included are the federal Flag Code, instructional suggestions, and selected resources that schools may choose to use in the development of a program that meets the statutory requirements and also aligns with the local curriculum.

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## ***Resources for Providing Patriotic Exercises and Instructions for Flag Etiquette***

### **2001 House Bill No. 2105 (L. 2001, ch. 79)**

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 72-5308 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-5308(a) The state board of education shall prepare for the use of the public schools a program providing for patriotic exercises the board deems to be expedient, under such instructions as may best meet the varied requirements of the different grades in such schools. The program of patriotic observation of every school district shall include:

- (1) A daily recitation of the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America;
- (2) Instructions relating to flag etiquette, use and display; and
- (3) Provisions relating to the observance in public schools of Lincoln's birthday, Washington's birthday, Memorial day, and Flag day; and such other legal holidays designated by law. (b) The state board of education shall adopt any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of subsection (a).

Section 2. K.S.A. 73-707 is hereby amended to read as follows: 73-707. The board of education of every school district and the proprietor of a private or parochial school in this state shall provide a suitable flag of the United States of America with staff or flagpole for every schoolhouse under the control and supervision of such board or proprietor. The flag shall be displayed in conformance with the instructions relating to flag etiquette, use and display adopted by the state board of education under K.S.A. 72-5308, and amendments thereto.



## ***Resources for Providing Patriotic Exercises and Instructions for Flag Etiquette***

### **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."**

#### **The History of the Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in August 1892 by the socialist minister Francis Bellamy (1855-1931). It was originally published in *The Youth's Companion* on September 8, 1892. Bellamy had hoped that the pledge would be used by citizens in any country.

In its original form it read:

"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. At this time it read:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today. Bellamy's daughter objected to this alteration. Today it reads:

**"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."**

Section 4 of the Flag Code states:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: "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.", should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute." –

<http://www.ushistory.org>



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## **Related Court Cases and links:**

[Elk Grove Unified School District v. Newdow](#)

[Doe v. Acton Boxborough Regional School District](#)

[West Virginia State Board of Ed. v. Barnette](#)

[Minersville School District v. Gobitis](#)

[Frazier v. Alexandre](#)

## **Sample Compelling Questions:**

Should students be forced to say the pledge?

Why might students not want to say the pledge?

What beliefs and ideas are represented by the pledge?

How has the pledge changed over time?

Why would a school or government want children to say the pledge?

## **Flag History**

### **THE HISTORY OF THE STARS AND STRIPES**

The Stars and Stripes originated as a result of a resolution adopted by the Marine Committee of the Second Continental Congress at Philadelphia on June 14, 1777. The resolution read:

*"Resolved, that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation. "*

The resolution gave no instruction as to how many points the stars should have, nor how the stars should be arranged on the blue union. Consequently, some flags had stars scattered on the blue field without any specific design, some arranged the stars in rows, and some in a circle. The first Navy Stars and Stripes had the stars arranged in staggered formation in alternate rows of threes and twos on a blue field. Other Stars and Stripes flags had stars arranged in alternate rows of four, five and four. Some stars had six points while others had eight.

Strong evidence indicates that Francis Hopkinson of New Jersey, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was responsible for the stars in the U.S. flag. At the time



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that the flag resolution was adopted, Hopkinson was the Chairman of the Continental

Navy Board's Middle Department. Hopkinson also helped design other devices for the Government including the Great Seal of the United States. For his services, Hopkinson submitted a letter to the Continental Admiralty Board asking "whether a Quarter Cask of the public Wine will not be a proper & reasonable Reward for these Labours of Fancy and a suitable Encouragement to future Exertions of a like Nature." His request was turned down since the Congress regarded him as a public servant.

[Federal Citizen Information Center: Our Flag](#)

[US Government Flag Code Link](#)

[US Flag Timeline Link](#)

### **Flag Related Court Cases and Links:**

[Halter v. Nebraska](#) (1907)

[Stromberg v. People Of State Of California](#) (1930)

[Street v. New York](#) (1968)

[Smith v. Goguen](#) (1974)

[United States v. Eichman](#) (1989)

[Texas v. Johnson](#) (1989)

### **Sample Compelling Questions:**

Why would people choose to tear up a US flag in public?

Why would some people get angry if people tore up a flag?

Should it be illegal to tear up a US flag? Why?

What is the US flag a symbol of?

Are symbols important? Why?

Why do people treat the flag differently today than they have in the past?

How does respect or disrespect for the flag change ideas about the US?

If you were asked to redesign the flag, what would it look like and why?



# **Resources for Providing Patriotic Exercises and Instructions for Flag Etiquette**

## **National Holidays**

### ***Labor Day: Celebrated the first Monday in September***

Labor Day is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. Through the years the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed during 1885 and 1886. From these, a movement developed to secure state legislation. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year four more states — Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York — created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, 23 other states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

-- Department of Labor <http://www.dol.gov/laborday/history.htm>

### ***Columbus Day: Celebrated the second Monday of October***

Columbus Day is a U.S. holiday that commemorates the landing of Christopher Columbus in the New World on October 12, 1492. It was unofficially celebrated in a number of cities and states as early as the 18th century but did not become a federal holiday until the 1937. For many, the holiday is a way of both honoring Columbus' achievements and celebrating Italian-American heritage. Throughout its history, Columbus Day and the man who inspired it have generated controversy, and many alternatives to the holiday have appeared in recent years.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/exploration/columbus-day>



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**Veterans Day: November 11<sup>th</sup>** but often celebrated on the closest Friday or Monday

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in the First World War, then known as “the Great War.” Commemorated as Armistice Day beginning the following year, November 11th became a legal federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became Veterans Day, a holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/history-of-veterans-day>

### ***Thanksgiving: Fourth Thursday in November***

President George Washington issued a proclamation naming Thursday, November 26, 1789 as a "Day of Publick Thanksgivin" - the first time Thanksgiving was celebrated under the new Constitution. Subsequent presidents issued Thanksgiving Proclamations, but the dates and even months of the celebrations varied. It wasn't until President Abraham Lincoln's 1863 Proclamation that Thanksgiving was regularly commemorated each year on the last Thursday of November. On October 6, 1941, the House passed a joint resolution declaring the last Thursday in November to be the legal Thanksgiving Day. The Senate, however, amended the resolution establishing the holiday as the fourth Thursday, which would take into account those years when November has five Thursdays. The House agreed to the amendment, and President Roosevelt signed the resolution on December 26, 1941.

– The National Archives <http://www.archives.gov/legislative/features/thanksgiving/>

### ***Christmas: December 25th***

Christmas is both a sacred religious holiday and a worldwide cultural and commercial phenomenon. For two millennia, people around the world have been observing it with traditions and practices that are both religious and secular in nature. Christians celebrate Christmas Day as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, a spiritual leader whose teachings form the basis of their religion. Popular customs include exchanging gifts, decorating Christmas trees, attending church, sharing meals with family and friends and, of course, waiting for Santa Claus to arrive. December 25–Christmas Day–has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1870.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/christmas/history-of-christmas>



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### ***New Year's Day: January 1<sup>st</sup>***

Over the centuries, the calendar fell out of sync with the sun, and in 46 B.C. the emperor Julius Caesar decided to solve the problem by consulting with the most prominent astronomers and mathematicians of his time. He introduced the Julian calendar, which closely resembles the more modern Gregorian calendar that most countries around the world use today. As part of his reform, Caesar instituted January 1 as the first day of the year, partly to honor the month's namesake: Janus, the Roman god of beginnings, whose two faces allowed him to look back into the past and forward into the future. Romans celebrated by offering sacrifices to Janus, exchanging gifts with one another, decorating their homes with laurel branches and attending raucous parties.

In the United States, the most iconic New Year's tradition is the dropping of a giant ball in New York City's Times Square at the stroke of midnight. Millions of people around the world watch the event, which has taken place almost every year since 1907. Over time, the ball itself has ballooned from a 700-pound iron-and-wood orb to a brightly patterned sphere 12 feet in diameter and weighing in at nearly 12,000 pounds.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/new-years>

### ***Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday: Celebrated on the third Monday in January***

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968) was a Baptist minister and social activist who played a key role in the American civil rights movement from the mid-1950s until his assassination in 1968. Inspired by advocates of nonviolence such as Mahatma Gandhi, King sought equality for African Americans, the economically disadvantaged and victims of injustice through peaceful protest. He was the driving force behind watershed events such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the March on Washington, which helped bring about such landmark legislation as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 and is remembered each year on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a U.S. federal holiday since 1986.

– History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/martin-luther-king-jr>

### ***Washington's Birthday/Presidents Day: Celebrated on the third Monday in February***

Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became



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popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/presidents-day>

### ***Memorial Day: Last Monday of May***

Memorial Day, an American holiday observed on the last Monday of May, honors men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, at least, it marks the beginning of summer.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history>

### ***Independence Day: July 4th***

Variously known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th>

## ***State Holiday***

### ***Kansas Day: January 29<sup>th</sup>***

Kansas became the 34th state on January 29, 1861. Its path to statehood was long and bloody: After the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 opened the two territories to settlement and allowed the new settlers to determine whether the states would be admitted to the union as "free" or "slave," North and South competed to send the most settlers into the region. This quickly led to violence, and the territory became known as "Bleeding Kansas." Kansas has long been known as part of America's agricultural heartland, and is home to the major U.S. military installation Fort Leavenworth. In 1954, it became a



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battleground of the civil rights movement when the landmark Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka case was decided in the Supreme Court, ending the doctrine of “separate but equal” in public schools. Kansas is also known for its contributions to jazz music, barbecue and as the setting of L. Frank Baum’s classic children’s book The Wizard of Oz.

-- History.com <http://www.history.com/topics/us-states/kansas>

### ***Sample Patriotic Exercises***

The following are suggested patriotic exercises that schools can utilize. Exercises should be selected to best meet the varied local requirements of the different grade levels in schools. Also, by state law, the program of patriotic exercises of each school must include an observance of Lincoln's birthday, Washington's birthday, Flag Day, Memorial Day, and such other legal holidays designated by law.

- \*In elementary classes, start each school day with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- \* At each assembly during the school year, have the principal, a faculty member, and a student lead the other faculty members and students in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- \*In elementary classes, discuss the meaning of the words in the Pledge of Allegiance. Discuss what this or any other country would be like if it did not have liberty and justice and if its people were so divided that they could not live peacefully with each other. Students could show what they learned by dramatizations or by making drawings to illustrate their ideas.
- \* Have older students create posters, using newspaper articles they find, that show examples of liberty, justice, and people living peacefully together as opposed to other examples showing those conditions not being present in different parts of the world. Maps could show the locations of the sites where the stories took place.
- \* On the first day of school each month, or in connection with national and state holidays, special school days, or special community events, have a different group of students perform a proper flag-raising and flag-lowering ceremony at the flagpole of the school. Prior to such ceremonies, the students will have to be instructed on how to conduct the ceremony. (Sections 174d and 177 of The Flag Code)
- \* Have students study and then demonstrate proper displays of the flag using flags and The Flag Code as resources. (Section 175 of The Flag Code)



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- \* Have students discuss the rationale for the code, i.e., why flags are sometimes flown at half-staff, or why 3 flags of two or more nations are flown from separate staffs of the same height and are approximately the same size.
- \* Have students conduct research on the flag as a symbol that evokes strong feelings among many of our citizens, such as those who have fought for this country and those who have immigrated from other nations.
- \* Have students discuss the ideals the flag represents, such as liberty and justice, and even the right of some citizens not to pledge allegiance to it. There was a controversy over students in school saluting the flag, which resulted in two Supreme Court decisions in the 1940s. Those cases are *Minersville v. Gobitis* (1940) and *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette* (1943). Students could conduct research about these cases and present reports to the class in a variety of creative ways.
- \* Have students collect or make pictures of the various forms the U.S. flag has taken since our nation's beginnings. Have them investigate and explain the symbolism in the various forms of the flag, how and why it has changed, and how it has stayed the same. Have students investigate and identify arguments concerning a constitutional amendment that would outlaw desecration of the United States flag.
- \* Have students learn how to properly fold a flag. [Flag Folding Instructions](#)

(Adapted from “Guidelines for Teaching Flag Etiquette in Missouri Public Schools,” Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)

## ***On-Line Resources***

*The Kansas State Department of Education does not endorse any particular program, resource or Web site, the informational resources provided below may be useful to local districts in developing curriculum for patriotic exercises.*

### **American Bar Association**

“The mission of the ABA Division for Public Education is to promote public understanding of law and its role in society.”

-- [http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_education/](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/)



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### **Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government for Kids**

This web site is produced by the Superintendent of Documents of the United States. It provides learning tools for teachers, parents and students at all grade levels. The web site focuses on how government works.

-- <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>

### **Bill of Rights Institute**

*"The mission* of the Bill of Rights Institute is to educate young people about the words and ideas of America's Founders, the liberties guaranteed in our Founding documents, and how our Founding principles continue to affect and shape a free society. It is the goal of the Institute to help the next generation understand the freedom and opportunity the Constitution offers."

-- <http://billofrightsinstitute.org/resources/educator-resources/>

### **California State University, Northridge**

"Dr. Marty Levine, Professor Emeritus of Secondary Education, California State University, Northridge (CSUN), has gathered lesson plans and resources from the Internet which social studies teachers will find useful."

-- <http://www.csun.edu/~hcedu013/plans.html>

### **Center for Civic Education**

"The Center for Civic Education is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization based in California. The Center's programs are implemented with the assistance of a network of public- and private-sector organizations and educational leaders in every state and congressional district in the country and in more than eighty other countries, many of which are emerging and advanced democracies."

-- <http://new.civiced.org/resources/curriculum>

### **Constitutional Facts.com**

This website has many facts about the Constitution and other founding documents. Students may find the available Constitution quiz interesting and fun.

-- <http://www.constitutionfacts.com/>

### **Constitutional Rights Foundation**

"CRF is a non-profit, non-partisan, community-based organization dedicated to educating America's young people about the importance of civic participation in a



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democratic society. Under the guidance of a Board of Directors chosen from the worlds of law, business, government, education, the media, and the community, CRF develops, produces, and distributes programs and materials to teachers, students, and public-minded citizens all across the nation.”

-- <http://www.crf-usa.org/online-lessons-index/free-lessons-index.html>

### **Founding.com**

“A project of The Claremont Institute, Founding.com is dedicated to making the documents and principles of the American Founding accessible to educators and students of all ages. It is an extensive collection of writings and documents by the American Founders and statesmen of the early republic.”

-- <http://www.founding.com/bibliography/>

### **Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History**

“The Gilder Lehrman Institute offers professional development and resources to assist teachers in their classrooms. The Institute has pioneered new models of history schools and programs, with proven success in improving academic achievement.”

-- <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/for-educators>

### **Hotchalk LessonPlansPage.com**

“HotChalk’s *LessonPlansPage.com* is a collection of over 3,500 lesson plans from preschool through high school and beyond, were developed by students and faculty at The University of Missouri, and more recently by the users of this website. Launched in October of 1996, *The Lesson Plans Page* was developed to assist educators of all types. Elementary school teachers get lesson plans that are ready to use in their classrooms. College students get great example lesson plans or ideas to base their own lesson plans on.”

-- <http://lessonplanspage.com/history-social-studies/>

### **icivics.org**

“iCivics prepares young Americans to become knowledgeable, engaged 21st century citizens by creating free and innovative educational materials. In four years, iCivics has produced 18 educational video games as well as vibrant teaching materials that have been used in classrooms in all 50 states. Today we offer the nation’s most comprehensive, standards-aligned civics curriculum that is available freely on the Web.”

-- <https://www.icivics.org/teachers>



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### **Kansas Bar Association**

The Kansas Bar Association's Law-Related Education Committee members strive to provide a variety of resources and experiences for educators and students. Celebrate Freedom Packets and presentations are available on request.

-- [http://www.ksbar.org/?educator\\_resources](http://www.ksbar.org/?educator_resources)

### **Kansas Council for Social Studies**

"While here, you'll find teacher resources such as lesson plans and web sites, membership information, annual conference information and updated social studies news / announcements. Future site enhancements will include teacher forums, videos of exemplar teaching strategies, a KCSS blog and multimedia tools."

-- <http://www2.kcss.info/node/15>

### **Kent State University College and Graduate School of Education, Health and Human Services**

"On this site are links to lesson plans adapted for multicultural awareness and appreciation as well as lesson plans adapted to address the needs of a diversity of learners. The phrase "original lesson plan" refers to lesson plans written by working teachers and/or employees of the Department of Education. . . Lesson plans adapted for multicultural awareness and appreciation were written in a variety of formats and were designed to help K-12 students understand the diversity of the United States as well as the global world in which we live."

-- <http://www.ehhs.kent.edu/diversity/adapted/index.htm>

### **Library of Congress**

"The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections in their teaching. Find Library of Congress lesson plans and more that meet Common Core standards, state content standards, and the standards of national organizations."

-- <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/>

### **National Constitution Center**

"The National Constitution Center serves as a hands-on, multimedia **museum**, a **national town hall**, and a **civic education headquarters**. Through must-see



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exhibitions, timely evening programs, and engaging educational resources, we inspire active citizenship and bring the Constitution to life for people of all ages.”

-- <http://constitutioncenter.org/learn/educational-resources>

### **National Foundation of Patriotism**

The National Foundation of Patriotism presents many facets of American Patriotism, in a unique educational and entertaining new way. These exhibits tell the story of patriotism in America past, present and future, through video presentations, fact based content and in some cases, interactive features that offer the opportunity for personal involvement. – <http://foundationofpatriotism.org/>

### **National Park Service**

“Your National Parks are a wealth of curriculum based experiences, aligned with local, state or national standards of learning. Check the parks listed below for fantastic learning opportunities for you and your students, inside the classroom and in the parks.” Particularly the Boston National Historical Park, Independence National Historical Park, and the Kansas sites of Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, Fort Larned National Historic Site, Fort Scott National Historic Site

-- <http://www.nps.gov/learn/curriculum.cfm>

### **National Underground Freedom Center**

“A core activity of the Freedom Center is educating the general public about the history of the Underground Railroad against the broader story of America's struggle for freedom. By combining elements of freedom struggles past and present, technology, and 21st Century teaching and learning, . . .”

-- <http://freedomcenter.org/educators/lesson-plans>

### **Scholastic**

“The corporate mission of Scholastic is to encourage the intellectual and personal growth of all children, beginning with literacy, the cornerstone of all learning. With more than 90 years of experience supporting the learning lives of children, today Scholastic remains committed to providing quality, engaging educational content in digital and print formats for the next generation of learners, and the families and educators who guide them.”

-- <http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/index.htm>



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### **teachinghistory.org**

“Teachinghistory.org is designed to help K–12 history teacher’s access resources and materials to improve U.S. history education in the classroom. With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the Center for History and New Media (CHNM) has created Teachinghistory.org with the goal of making history content, teaching strategies, resources, and research accessible.”

-- <http://teachinghistory.org>

### **USA Patriotism**

USA Patriotism! is all about ... expressing, sharing, and enjoying love and pride for the United States of America, in a "nonpolitical" environment with a ... mission to foster pride of America by her citizens and a better understanding about the USA from citizens of other countries. -- <http://www.usa-patriotism.com/>

### **USA Flag Site**

USA Flag Site is the home of all things patriotic. With every anniversary of 9/11, our hearts and prayers are with the September 11 victims, families and the entire nation. Just as the American flag represents much more than a simple banner, USA Flag Site represents the national symbols, songs and the culture that celebrate the greatest nation on earth. While our name highlights the importance of the American flag, we think you’ll find us to be a useful source for information on other national symbols, songs and icons. -- <http://www.usa-flag-site.org/>