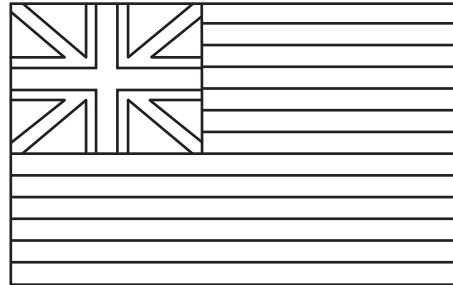


Flags of the U.S.A.

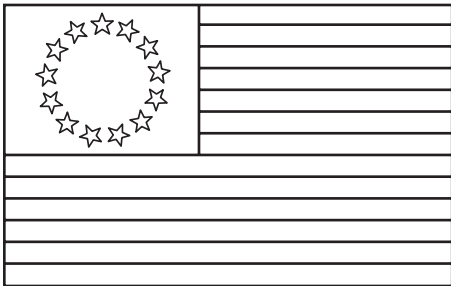
Directions: Look at the different flags that have been official flags of the United States. Color the flag in each box. Cut out the boxes, place them in the correct order, and staple them in the top left corner to make a mini-book.

U.S. Flags Mini-Book

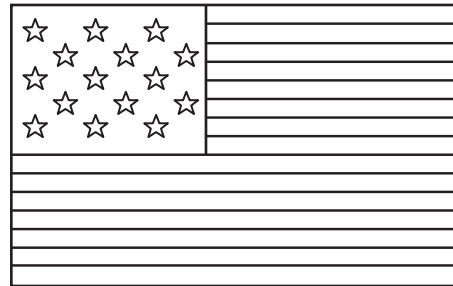
Name _____



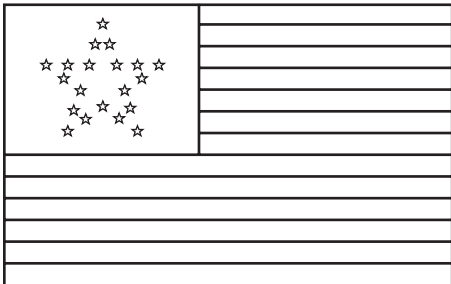
The Continental Colors (1776) **1**



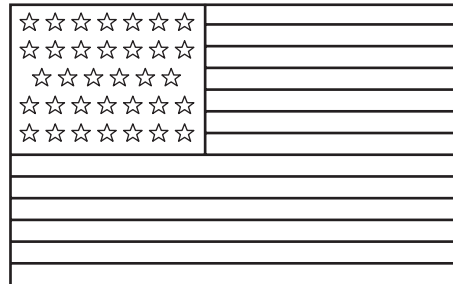
The first Stars and Stripes (1777) **2**



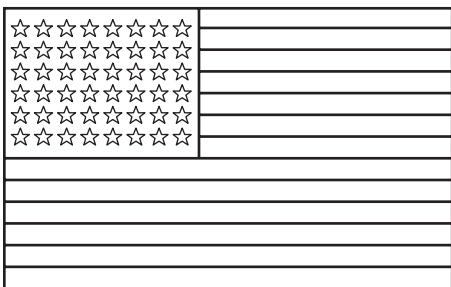
The 15-star 15-stripe flag (1795) **3**



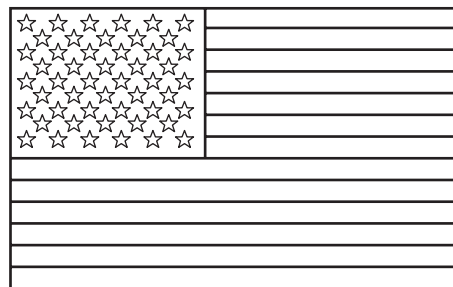
The Great Flag (1818) **4**



The 34-star flag (1864) **5**



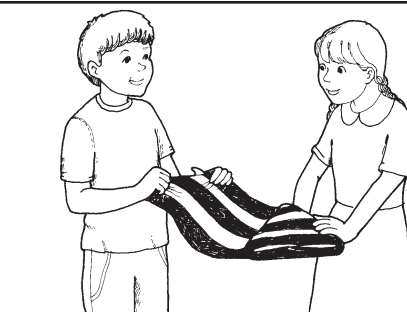
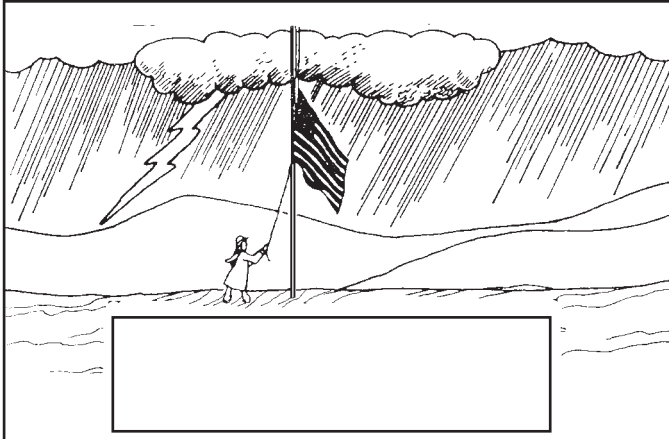
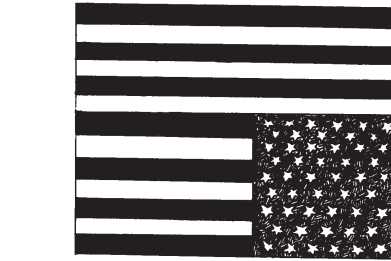
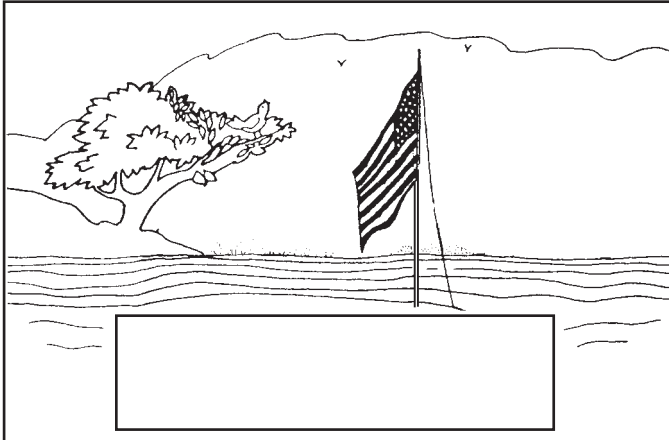
The 48-star flag (1912) **6**



The 50-star flag (1959) **7**

Honoring the Flag

The flag of the United States is a symbol to be treated with respect. Here are some rules for displaying the flag with honor. Cut out each of the boxes that hold the rules. Paste or glue them under the appropriate pictures.



Do not display the flag if the weather could damage it.

Do not hang the flag upside down. That signals a serious emergency.

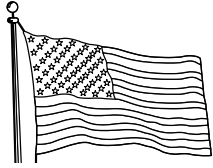
Carefully fold the flag when it is not being displayed.

Do not let the flag touch the ground.

The flag of the United States may not be used for clothing. Use the colors, not the flag.

Display the flag from sunrise to sunset.

The Star-Spangled Banner



“The Star-Spangled Banner” was written on September 13, 1814, by 35-year old Francis Scott Key (1779–1843). It tells the story of the brave defense of Fort McHenry in Maryland against British attack.

Francis Scott Key was both a poet and a lawyer. He was opposed to war, but in 1813–1814, he served in the Georgetown Light Field Artillery. During this time, his friend, Dr. William Beanes, was taken prisoner by the British army.

Key sailed on a truce ship to ask for his friend’s return. On September 13, 1814, Key’s boat stood eight miles below Fort McHenry. It was guarded by a British warship. From the deck, Key watched the bombardment of the American fort. Here, he became inspired to write the lyrics to “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

In 1931, the United States Congress officially adopted “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the American National Anthem.

After you have read and discussed the words of “The Star-Spangled Banner” as a class, answer the questions below.

1. Define the following words from “The Star-Spangled Banner”:

perilous _____

ramparts _____

gallantly _____

dread _____

reposes _____

fitfully _____

desolation _____

preserved _____

motto _____

2. What is the star-spangled banner that Key wrote about?

3. Why were the British and the Americans fighting in 1814?

4. Who are the “free-men” that Francis Scott Key wrote about in the fourth stanza?

5. Why do you think “The Star-Spangled Banner” continues to be our national anthem?

The Star-Spangled Banner

by Francis Scott Key

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution.
Refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave:
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever when free-men shall stand
Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: In God is our trust!
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

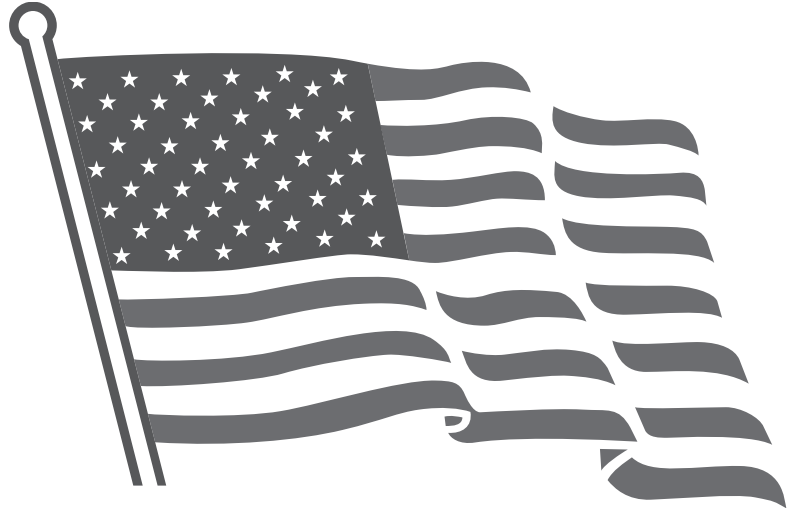
U.S.A. Math

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: If your teacher wishes, you may use a calculator to find the answers to the following mathematical problems. Write your answers at the bottom of the page.

1. The flag of the United States has five rows with six stars each and four rows with five stars each. How many stars are on the flag of the United States?

2. The Declaration of Independence was approved on July 4, 1776. It said that the United States was no longer a part of Britain. How many years ago did the United States become free of Britain?



3. The United States made a law that the U.S. flag was to have 13 stars and 13 stripes for the 13 states. This law passed on June 14, 1777. Now June 14 is called Flag Day. How many years ago was the first Flag Day?
4. The first United States flag had 13 stars that stood for the original 13 colonies. How many more stars are on the United States flag now?
5. The Pledge of Allegiance was written by a man named Francis Bellamy in 1892. Congress made it a promise of loyalty to the United States in 1942. How long ago was it written?
6. The words for “The Star-Spangled Banner” were written as a poem by Francis Scott Key in 1814. He was happy because, even though the British were bombing Fort McHenry, in the morning the United States flag was still there. “The Star-Spangled Banner” became the national anthem in 1931 by an act of Congress. How many years after it was written did it become our national anthem?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

You're a Grand Old Flag

George Michael Cohan (1878–1942) wrote the popular marching tune, “You're a Grand Old Flag.” Cohan worked as a composer, playwright, actor, and producer. He first acted on stage at the age of nine. He presented his first play on Broadway in New York in 1901. Cohan wrote many patriotic songs in his lifetime. To see a photograph of him, go to the website below:

<http://www.melodylane.net/standards4.html>

After you have read and discussed the words of “You're a Grand Old Flag” as a class, answer the questions below.

1. Define the following words from “You're a Grand Old Flag”:

grand _____

emblem _____

boast _____

brag _____

acquaintance _____

2. Why do you think George Michael Cohan used the word “old” to describe the flag?

3. How does Cohan describe Americans in this song?

4. What does Cohan mean by “auld acquaintance”? What does he say we should do if we forget it?

5. Imagine you are asked to design a flag symbolizing your feelings about America. Draw your flag in the space on the right, and then explain why you chose this particular design.



I chose this design for my flag because

You're a Grand Old Flag

by George Michael Cohan

You're a grand old flag,
You're a high flying flag
And forever in peace may you wave.
You're the emblem of the land I love
The home of the free and the brave.
Ev'ry heart beats true
'neath the Red, White, and Blue,
Where there's never a boast or brag.
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
Keep your eye on the grand old flag.

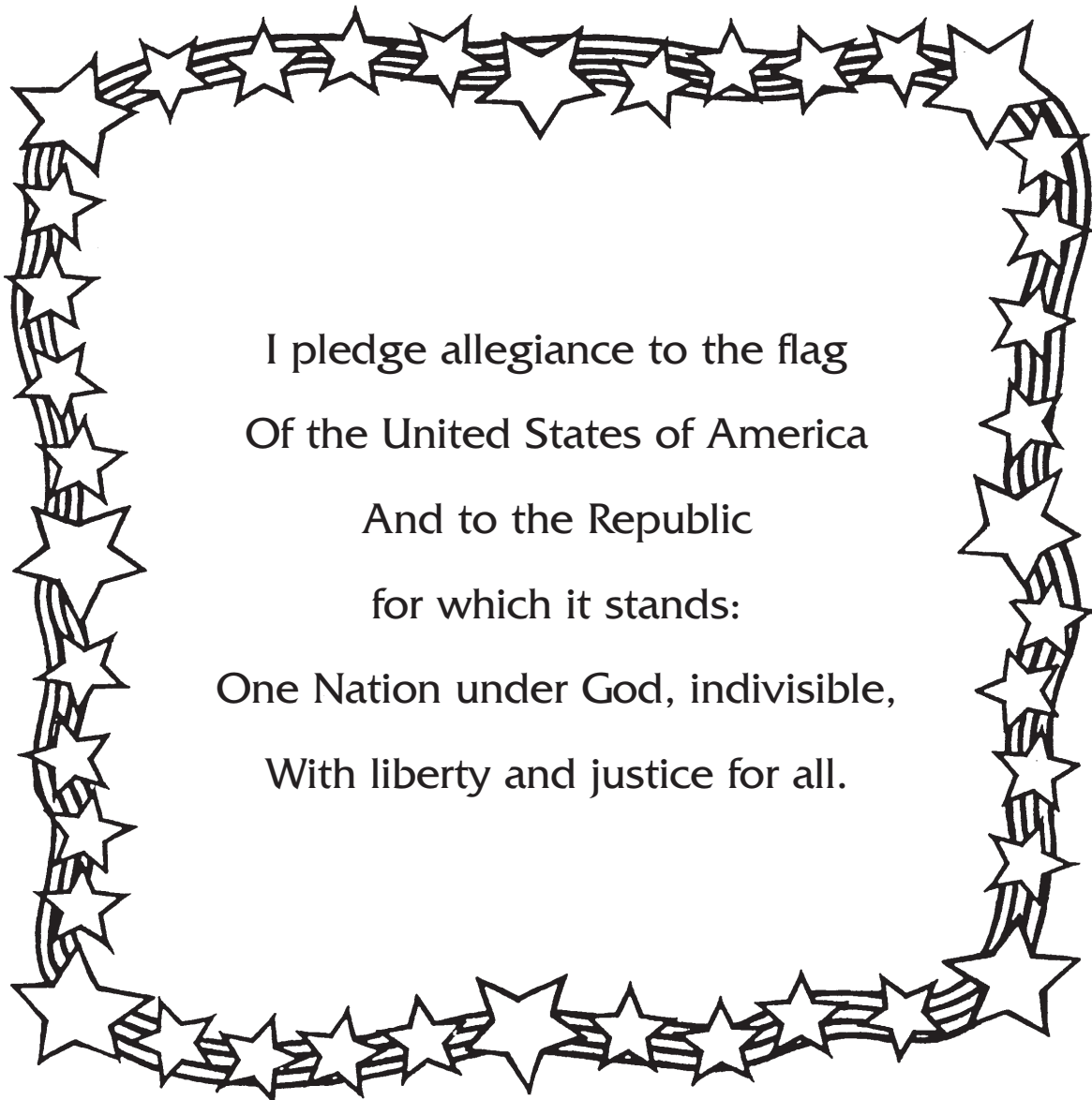
The Pledge of Allegiance



The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag symbolizes our loyalty to America. Francis Bellamy (1855-1931), a Baptist minister, wrote the original Pledge in August 1892. It was published in a children's magazine called *The Youth's Companion*. More than 12 million children first recited the Pledge on October 12, 1892, during school celebrations of Columbus Day.

The Pledge of Allegiance was officially recognized by the United States Congress in 1942.

When people recite the Pledge, they usually put their right hands over their hearts. Men should remove their hats. People who work in the military give the military salute.



Write Your Own Pledge

A pledge is a promise that you make to someone. In the space below, write your own pledge. It might be a promise to a parent, a sister or brother, or a friend. You might make a pledge to a favorite pet or to the land in which you live. Be creative and have fun!

