

Additional titles
from **film ideas, Inc.**
in the
SYMBOLS OF AMERICA
5 PART SERIES

Uncle Sam

The White House

The American Bald Eagle

Images of Liberty

U.S. Flag



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A collage of American symbols including the Liberty Bell, the Statue of Liberty, the American Flag, the White House, and Uncle Sam. The background is a light blue gradient.

**Symbols
of America**
5 Part Series

The
U.S. Flag

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

The purpose of this video series is to acquaint young children to the importance of American symbols. It is designed to teach how symbols are objects or pictures that represents a much larger idea. Throughout American history symbols have played a significant role in how ideas have become an influential fabric of our culture. American symbols represent and communicate who we are and what we value as a society. As children learn the importance of symbolism they will understand their contribution to American history and how symbols have evolved to help shape and define a nation – The United States of America.

As a complementary device with each video, an instructional guide suggests exercises to help aid teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a child's level of comprehension about the importance of symbols and the joy of learning.

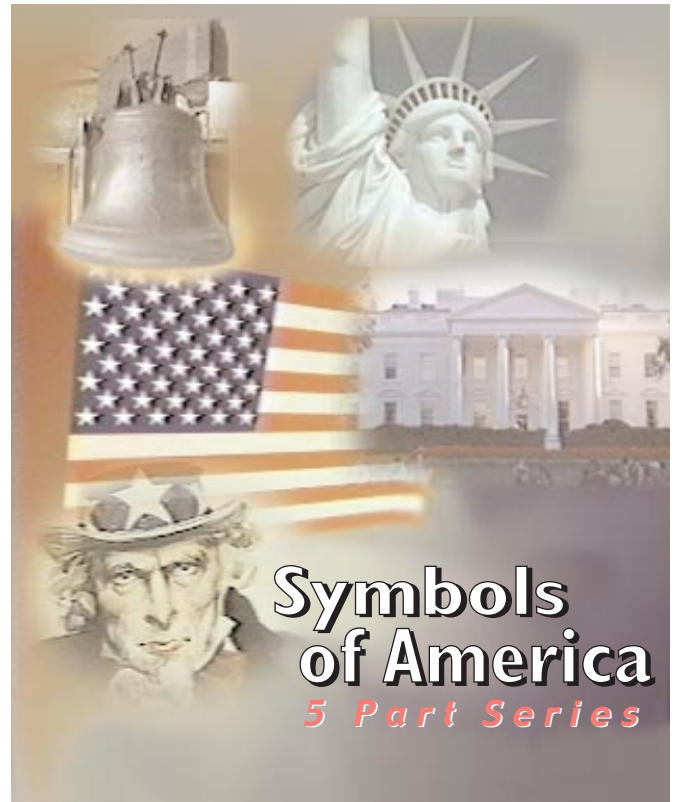
The instructional guide provides:

Child-friendly **exercises!** ✓

Fun-to-do **follow-up activities!** ✓

Easy-to-learn **reinforcement Q & A!** ✓

E-Guides available at
www.filmideas.com



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE U.S. FLAG
CONSIDER VISITING THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:**

<http://www.usflag.org/>

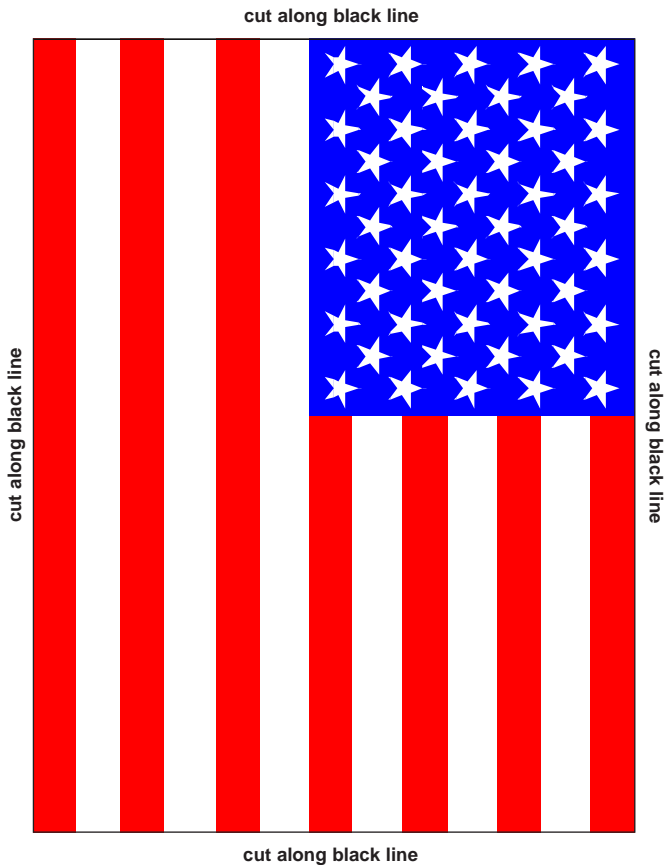
<http://www.sar.org/colors/flag.htm>

<http://www.treefort.org/~rgrogan/web/flag.htm>

<http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/flagtale.html>

**Permission granted to copy the
exercises provided in this guide.
For educational use ONLY.**

After students successfully complete the exercises chosen in this guide, have them cut out their U.S. Flag and display it proudly.



The historic story of the American flag is told from Revolutionary War days to the present. Viewers see many of the flags that have flown over the United States: the Join or Die, the Don't Tread On Me, the Continental Colors, and, of course, the Stars and Stripes, while learning the historical background of each one. Youngsters learn what the flags symbolize, what the various parts mean, and how to maintain and properly display the American flag. A special section explains how the flag prompted Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner" and tells when and under what circumstances the "Pledge of Allegiance" was written. Fun facts, such as the far-flung places the Stars and Stripes have been flown, why our flag is known as Old Glory, and the world's largest flag, are presented.

Program Objectives

After viewing the program, children should understand:

- what symbols are and what the "U.S. Flag" represents.
- the history of the "U.S. Flag".
- how to properly care and display the "U.S. Flag".
- the important people and events involved with the origins and creation of the "U. S. Flag".
- the meaning of Memorial Day, The Star Spangled Banner, and The Pledge of Allegiance.

VOCABULARY:

Betsy Ross: *A well known Philadelphia seamstress who became a main contributor during the creation of the first official U.S. flag.*

Declaration of Independence: *The document adopted by the Continental Congress stating the separation of the original 13 colonies from Britain. Three weeks before its signing the Continental Congress voted on an official flag with 13 stars and 13 stripes which represented the original 13 colonies.*

Francis Bellamy: *Author of the “Pledge of Allegiance”.*

Francis Scott Key: *A lawyer from Baltimore who wrote a poem called the “Star Spangled Banner” while a prisoner on a British ship. His poem eventually became the official national anthem for the United States in 1931.*

Memorial Day: *A special day to remember all of the service men and women who have given their lives in defense of the United States of America.*

Pledge of Allegiance: *A promise that a person will be loyal to the U.S. flag and America.*

Symbol: *An object or picture that represents a much larger idea.*

U.S. Flag: *An American symbol representing the people and ideals of the United States i.e. freedom, liberty & justice for every person.*

Reinforcement Q&A:

Review the video
to answer the following questions:

1) Name places where the U.S. Flag is flown for 24 hours every day.

2) What does the U.S. Flag represent?

3) What do the stars represent? How many stars are on the U.S. flag today? What do the stripes represent? How many stripes are on the U.S. flag today?

4) What does the Pledge of Allegiance mean? Who wrote it? Who wrote the Star Spangled Banner?

5) The U.S. flag has been given different nicknames. Can you name some of these different nicknames?

- (1) The White House, Fort Mchenry, Nation's Capitol Building, Valley Forge, PA.
- (2) Freedom, liberty, and justice for every person.
- (3) States / 50 / The original 13 colonies / 13
- (4) A Promise to be loyal to the flag and America / Francis Bellamy / Francis Scott Key
- (5) Old Glory / Stars & Stripes,

Follow-Up Activities:

1) Symbols communicate ideas. Have the children draw or cut out different symbols from publications and present them to their fellow classmates. As the symbols are presented have the students describe what they think each symbol represents.

2) The video explains how to properly care and display the flag. After reviewing the rules for flag etiquette (Exercise #3 on pg. 5) assign the children to display the flag in the classroom and then have them recite the “Pledge of Allegiance” and “Star Spangled Banner”.

3) Throughout American history there have been times when the U.S. flag has flown at half-mast. Discuss what half-mast means, the times when this has happened, and why this is done.

4) America is a country made up of many immigrants from all over the world. Discuss the main reason why so many people leave their homelands to live in America.

Exercise #1:

Have the students study the vocabulary list on page 2. Then write the number of the vocabulary word on the solid black line next to its definition.

Vocabulary List:

1) *U.S. Flag*

3) *Memorial Day*

2) *Francis Bellamy*

4) *Francis Scott Key*

A special day to remember all of the service men and women who have given their lives in defense of the United States of America.

American symbol which represents freedom, liberty & justice for every person.

A lawyer from Baltimore who wrote a poem called the “Star Spangled Banner”.

Author of the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Exercise #2:

Throughout its history the United States used many different flags. Observe the “flags” below and on the solid black lines write the name of each flag.



1) _____

2) _____



3) _____

- 1) First Original Flag - Flag designed by Betsy Ross in which the stars and stripes represented the original 13 colonies.
- 2) Rattlesnake Flag - Stating "Don't Tread on Me" used by the Continental navy.
- 3) Grand Union Flag - Flew over Gen. George Washington's headquarters at Prospect Hills when he fought the British in Boston on New Year's Day, 1776.

Exercise #3:

To show respect for the flag there are special rules we should observe. Study the rules below for the next time you observe the flag.

- The U.S. Flag should be flown higher than other flags that may be near it.
- When carried in a parade or procession the American Flag should be carried in front of all other flags or in the center of all other flags.
- When the flag is passing you in a parade or when you sing the national anthem, you should take your hat off and your hand should be over your heart.
- If you are wearing a uniform such as an army, navy, boy scouts or girl scouts, you should salute the flag.
- If you are carrying the flag make sure it doesn't touch the ground.
- When a flag is hung for display, the stars should be to your left as you look at it.
- On a flag pole outdoors, the flag should only be displayed between sunrise and sunset.