

Integrated Civics Handout 1

The United States of America



Number of States: 50

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Independence: July 4, 1776

National Anthem: Star-Spangled Banner

National Bird: Bald Eagle

National Flower: Rose

Population: 300,000,000

Land Area: 3,615,123 square miles

Largest State: Alaska

Smallest State: Rhode Island

Bordered by: Canada (north) and Mexico (south)

Atlantic Ocean (east) and Pacific Ocean (west)

Gulf of Mexico (south)

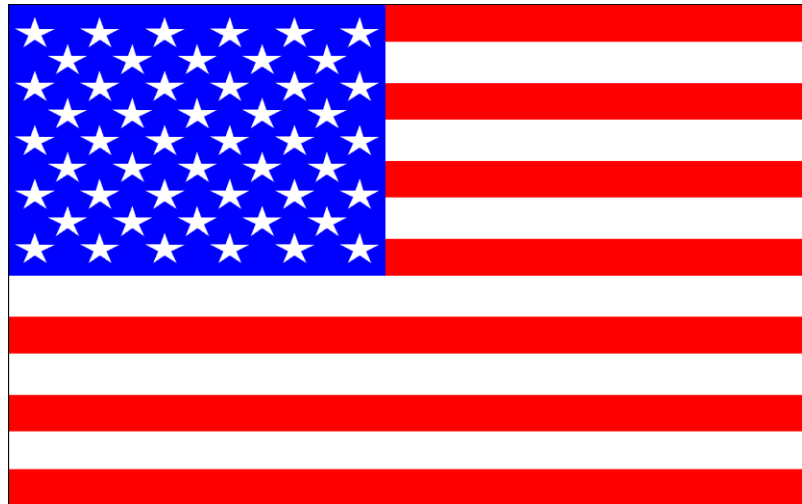
Graphic of map from <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx>.

If you have classroom computer access, you will find a good map of the USA at

<http://www.terraviva.com/mapus.gif>.

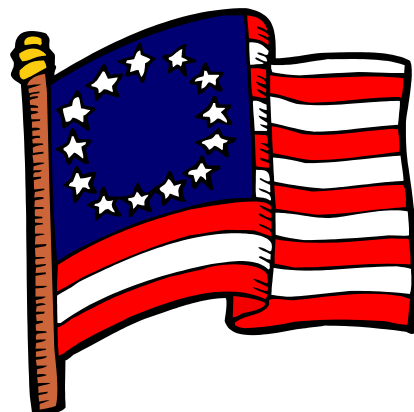
Integrated Civics Handout 2

The United States Flag



The United States flag has three colors: red, white, and blue. The red color stands for courage or strength. The white color stands for truth and purity. The blue color stands for justice. Our flag has 13 stripes. Each stripe is for one of the 13 original colonies. The flag has 50 stars--one for each state. Alaska was 49th state to come into the United States. Hawaii was the last state. The 50th star for Hawaii was added on July 4, 1960. Sometimes the flag is called **The Star-Spangled Banner**. Originally, the flag had 13 only stars--one for each of the 13 colonies.

Graphics from
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx>



Integrated Civics Handout 3

Flags of Different Countries: Comparison

I selected the flags of my ESL students' native countries, and I am from India.

The U.S. Flag



Blue represents justice. White stands for truth/purity. Red stands for courage/strength. The 50 stars represent 50 states. The 13 stripes stand for 13 original colonies.

The Chinese Flag



The Large golden star means the leader of the Communist Party. The four smaller stars stands for four classes of people. The red stands for communism and revolution. The gold color represents a bright future..

The Mexican Flag



Green stands for hope. White stands for unity. Red stands for the blood of national heroes. The Coat of Arms in the center features an eagle on a cactus with a snake in its beak.

The Indian Flag



The white band in the center represents purity and truth. Saffron stands for courage and sacrifice. Green stands for faith and fertility. The navy blue wheel with 24 spokes in the center called Ashoka Chakra represents wheel of law. This is a Buddhist symbol.

The Guatemalan Flag



Blue represents the sea and the sky and stands for vigilance, truth, loyalty and justice. White stands for peace and honesty. The coat of arms is a shield with two rifles and two golden swords tied with laurel branches. There are also golden letters, "Libertad 15 de Septiembre de 1821." Above, there is a Quetzal bird; a symbol of liberty.

The Flag of El Salvador



White stands for peace and honesty. The blue for sea and sky represents vigilance, truth, loyalty, and justice. The coat of arms in the center features a round emblem encircled by the words "REPUBLICA EL SALVADOR EN LA AMERICA CENTRAL"