

# The Declaration of Independence - Kindergarten

## Write Your Own Declaration

### *objective*

Kindergarten students will learn about the concept of independence by understanding the purpose of the Declaration of Independence and applying it to a relatable scenario.

### *materials*

1. whiteboard or chart paper
2. markers or chalk
3. picture of M&M candies
4. paper and crayons or pencils

### *introduction*

- Remind students that you are the ruler of M&M Land and you collect taxes (M&Ms) from everyone who plays the M&M board games.
- Ask students to think about whether it is fair for you to collect taxes.

### *activity*

- Tell students that they are going to pretend to be the people of M&M Land who want to declare their independence from the M&M board game tax.
- Ask students to raise their hands if they think it is fair for you to collect taxes from them.
- Have a brief discussion about why they think it is fair or unfair.
- Tell students that just like the people of M&M Land, the colonists in America felt it was unfair for the British to tax them without giving them a say in the government. This led to the Declaration of Independence.
- Explain that students are going to write their own Declaration of Independence from the M&M board game tax.
- On the whiteboard or chart paper, write the following prompt: "We, the people of M&M Land, declare our independence from the M&M board game tax because..."
- Ask students to think about why they want to declare independence and what they want to say about it.
- Allow students to share their ideas aloud.
- Provide each student with a piece of paper and crayons or pencils.
- Instruct students to draw a picture and write a sentence or a few words declaring their freedom from the M&M board game tax.

### *conclusion*

- After students have completed their declarations, invite a few students to share what they wrote.
- Display their declarations around the classroom.
- Recap the lesson by briefly discussing the importance of independence and how it relates to the Declaration of Independence.