1st Grade

Discover America Course 8 - Teacher Guide



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1st Grade Teacher Guide



Key Themes

- Freedom
- Bravery
- Sacrifice

Core Values

- Community
- Faith
- Life
- Liberty

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- State the name of America's national anthem.
- Explain who Francis Scott Key is and why he is important in American History.
- Describe what Francis Scott Key was watching while writing "The Star-Spangled Banner."



The National Anthem - 1st Grade **Key Terms**

01	anthem – a song of patriotism.
02	Fort McHenry – where American troops were located two miles south of Baltimore.
03	Francis Scott Key – an American lawyer who wrote The Star-Spangled Banner.
04	lyrics – words in a song.
05	The Star-Spangled Banner – the United States' national anthem.

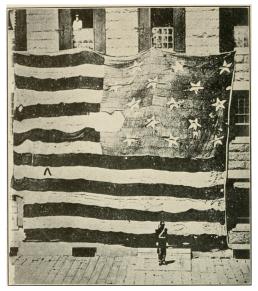
ASK Students

Did you know, our country has its own song?

Have you ever heard America's national anthem: The Star-Spangled Banner?

(allow students to respond)

An **anthem** is a song of patriotism. We often hear the national anthem played before a sports game. People stand up and put their hands over their hearts when they hear it.



Fort McHenry Flag

TELL Students

The Star-Spangled Banner goes like this:

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 through the perilous fight O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through 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?

You may know the words by heart, but it's just as important to know what they mean. Let's take a closer look at what was happening in America when "The Star-Spangled Banner" was written.



TELL Students

On September 14, 1814, **Francis Scott Key**, an American lawyer, watched as American troops bravely defended Fort McHenry. **Fort McHenry** was the location American troops were located two miles south of Baltimore.

The next day, Key could still see the American flag flying high. If the flag was gone, that would have meant the fort had been captured. The sight of the American flag flying was a symbol of American pride.

While he was watching from his ship what was going on at Fort McHenry, Key wrote down lyrics that described what he saw. **Lyrics** are words written in a song. Key's lyrics were published in newspapers with the title "The Defense of Fort McHenry." As a result, Key's firsthand account of the bravery he saw at Fort McHenry was shared with Americans far and wide.

Let's take another look at the first verse:

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 through the perilous fight O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through 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?

TELL Students

Key describes the American flag, with its "broad stripes" and "bright stars," that flew over Fort McHenry. The only way he could tell if everything was alright was if the American flag was still flying high in the sky.

By November 1814, Francis Scott Key's lyrics were printed and given the title: "The Star-Spangled Banner" – the name we know today. It was not until 1931, however, that Congress made "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States.

KEY POINT: "The Star-Spangled Banner" serves as a reminder that no matter what challenges our nation faces, we will always find a way to stay strong. So next time you hear The Star-Spangled Banner, take a moment to think about what it means to you as an American.

ASK Students

How does the American flag symbolize hope?

(allow students to respond)

Francis Scott Key Biography

Directions: Please fill out the graphic organizer with details about Francis Scott Key.

My name is:

I was born on:

Here is a picture of me:

Two facts about me:
1.
2.

I'm remembered for:

The National Anthem Resource List

- 01 https://www.history.com/topics/war-of-1812/war-of-1812
- 02 https://www.nps.gov/fomc/learn/historyculture/battle-of-baltimore.htm
- 03 https://www.nps.gov/fomc/learn/historyculture/the-bombardment-of-fort-mchenry.htm
- 04 https://www.nps.gov/fomc/learn/historyculture/bombardment-of-fort-mchenry-pt-1.htm
- 05 https://www.nps.gov/fomc/learn/historyculture/the-negotiation-for-dr-beanes.htm
- 06 https://www.nps.gov/fomc/learn/historyculture/bombardment-of-fort-mchenry-pt-2.htm
- ()7 https://bensguide.gpo.gov/j-Star Spangled
- 08 https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-story-behind-the-Star-Spangled-banner-149220970/
- 09 https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-Star Spangled-banner
- 10 https://www.history.com/topics/19th-century/the-Star-Spangled-banner
- 11 https://www.npr.org/2018/09/06/644991357/how-sports-met-the-Star-Spangled-banner
- 12 https://www.nps.gov/stsp/learn/historyculture/national-symbols-stories-icons.htm
- 13 https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/jackie-robinson

Notes

