Discover America

Course 8 - Teacher Guide



Table of Contents

3	Themes + Values
4	Learning Objectives
5	Key Terms
6	Introduction
8	Lesson
12	Biography Activity
13	Assessment
15	Answer Key
16	Resources
17	Notes

3rd Grade

Teacher Guide



Key Themes

- Freedom
- Bravery
- Sacrifice

Core Values

- Community
- Faith
- Life
- Liberty

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Tell when The Star-Spangled Banner became America's national anthem.
- Explain who Francis Scott Key is and why he is important in American History.
- Explain the significance of the War of 1812 in American history.
- Detail the scene Francis Scott Key observed as he wrote the verses of the Star-Spangled Banner.



Key Terms

01	anthem — a song of patriotism.				
02	ceased – stopped.				
03	Fort McHenry — two miles south of Baltimore where the British Navy attacked				
	American troops.				
04	Francis Scott Key — an American lawyer who wrote The Star-Spangled Banner while				
	watching the fight happening at Fort McHenry.				
05	lyrics — words in a song.				
06	The Star-Spangled Banner — the United States' national anthem.				
07	The War of 1812 – the war between the United States and Great Britain over trade				
	disputes, British attempts to prevent Americans from expanding into western lands, and				
	the Royal Navy's practice of impressment.				

Introduction

ASK Students

What is your favorite part of going to a big sporting event?

Is it watching your favorite team play, seeing the half-time performance, or enjoying the food?

(allow students to respond)

WATCH

Star-Spangled Adventures Episode 8: The National Anthem



Scan Me!

Introduction

TELL Students

We all have our own favorite sports memories, but there's one experience that we have all shared: listening to the national anthem before the game. An **anthem** is a song of patriotism.

America's national anthem is called "The Star-Spangled Banner." It 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.

Lesson

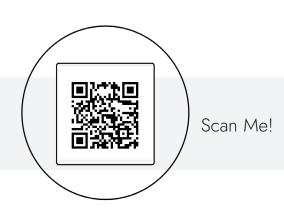
TELL Students

The War of 1812 began on June 18, 1812 when the United States officially declared war against Britain. On August 24, 1814, British forces captured and burned Washington, D.C., our nation's capital, and set the White House and the Capitol building ablaze. Weeks later, the British forces launched a land and sea attack against Baltimore. Baltimore was the third-largest city in America at the time and the location of one of the nation's most important seaports. Because the initial land advances of the British army had been held off by American forces, a naval advance was the British military's ticket to breaking through the city's defenses and capturing Baltimore. All that stood in the Royal Navy's way was Fort McHenry and one thousand American troops.

By the morning of September 13, 1814, seventeen British ships had advanced toward Fort McHenry and were just a few miles offshore. Just before 6:30 AM, the first bomb was fired and within three hours, one bomb or rocket would explode near the fort every forty-five seconds. While all this was happening, Francis Scott Key, an American lawyer, was on his ship (which was tied to a British ship) in the bay, watching the battle take place.

WATCH

Learn More With Liberty Video: A Naval Blockade



Lesson

TELL Students

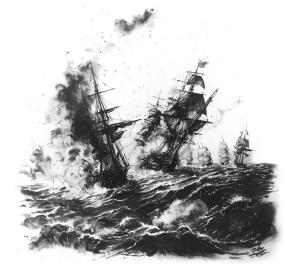
Francis Scott Key, an American lawyer, watched throughout the night and into the early morning as American troops bravely defended Fort McHenry from the Royal Navy. The British were met with a determined American resistance. On September 14, 1814, after failing to take Fort McHenry and proceed on to Baltimore as planned, the navy **ceased** (stopped) fire and prepared to retreat. As the next day dawned, Key could still see the American flag flying above Fort McHenry. If the flag had been removed or replaced with a British flag, that would have meant the fort had been captured. The sight of the American flag flying above Fort McHenry was a symbol of enduring American patriotism, determination, sacrifice, and freedom.

While he was still on his ship, Key wrote down lyrics which described his experience watching the attack on Fort McHenry. **Lyrics** are words written in a song. Key's lyrics (which he did not title) were distributed by a local printer and then were published in newspapers as "The Defense of Fort McHenry." As a result, Key's firsthand account of the bravery he witnessed at Fort McHenry was shared with Americans far and wide.

ASK Students

Why did Francis Scott Key write the poem "The Defense of Fort McHenry" after witnessing the events near Baltimore unfold?

(allow students to respond)



Lesson

TELL Students

Let's take a second look at the first verse of Francis Scott Key's composition:

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?

Key describes the American flag, with its "broad stripes" and "bright stars," that flew over Fort McHenry and the American defenses. As night fell, it was not always clear that the American flag was still flying. Yet, from the glow of the "rocket's red glare" and the "bombs bursting in air" he could see the American flag still waving. The only way he could tell if everything was alright at Fort McHenry was if the American flag was still flying high in the sky.



Lesson

TELL Students

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.

"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. The American flag will continue to represent the determination, bravery, and sacrifice of Americans. So next time you hear The Star-Spangled Banner, take a moment to think about the significance of the national anthem and what it means to you as an American.

ASK Students

How would life as an American be different if we did not have a national anthem?

(allow students to respond)

WATCH

Scan Me!

Optional Course Videos:

Learn More With Liberty: Andrew Jackson

Learn More With Liberty: The Defense of Fort McHenry



Francis Scott Key

Biography

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

My name is:	I was born on:
Adjectives to describe me:	My favorite hobbies include:
Four fact	s about me:
I stand for:	I'm remembered for:
_	

Assessment

- [01] In what year did the United States officially declare war against Britain?
 - a) 1218
 - b) 1881
 - c) 1812
 - d) 1821
- 02 Who wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner?"
 - a) Napoleon
 - b) James Madison
 - c) General William Hull
 - d) Francis Scott Key
- On August 24, 1814, British forces captured and burned which building(s) in Washington, D.C.?
 - a) The White House
 - b) The Capitol building
 - c) The Washington Monument
 - d) Both A and B
- O4 What city was the third-largest city in America at the time and the location of one of the nation's most important seaports?
 - a) Baltimore
 - b) Fort McHenry
 - c) Washington D.C.
 - d) Brooklyn
- O5 During the bombardment of which city was Francis Scott Key watching everything take place from his ship?
 - a) Baltimore
 - b) Fort McHenry
 - c) Washington D.C.
 - d) Brooklyn

Assessment

06	On what date did the British Navy retreat from the attack on Fort McHenry? a) November 18, 1814 b) June 18, 1812 c) September 14, 1814 d) August 24, 1814
07	The lyrics which Francis Scott Key did not title were first distributed by a local printer and then were published in newspapers with the title a) "The Defense of Fort McHenry" b) "The Star-Spangled Banner" c) "Francis Scott Key" d) "The National Anthem"
08	In what year did Congress make "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States? a) 1812 b) 1814 c) 1890 d) 1931

- (19) How was Francis Scott Key able to tell that everything was alright during the attack on Fort McHenry?
 - a) He saw the bombs bursting in air.
 - b) He saw the American flag flying in the sky.
 - c) He was able to negotiate a prisoner's release.
 - d) He couldn't tell at all.

The National Anthem - 3rd Grade Assessment Key

- **C)** 1812 01
- D) Francis Scott Key 02
- 03 **D)** Both A and B
- 04 A) Baltimore
- 05 **A)** Fort McHenry
- 06 **C)** September 14, 1814
- 07 A) "The Defense of Fort McHenry"
- 80 **D)** 1931
- 09 **B)** He saw the American flag flying in the sky.

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
- 07	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