

4th Grade

# Discover America

Course 8 - Teacher Guide

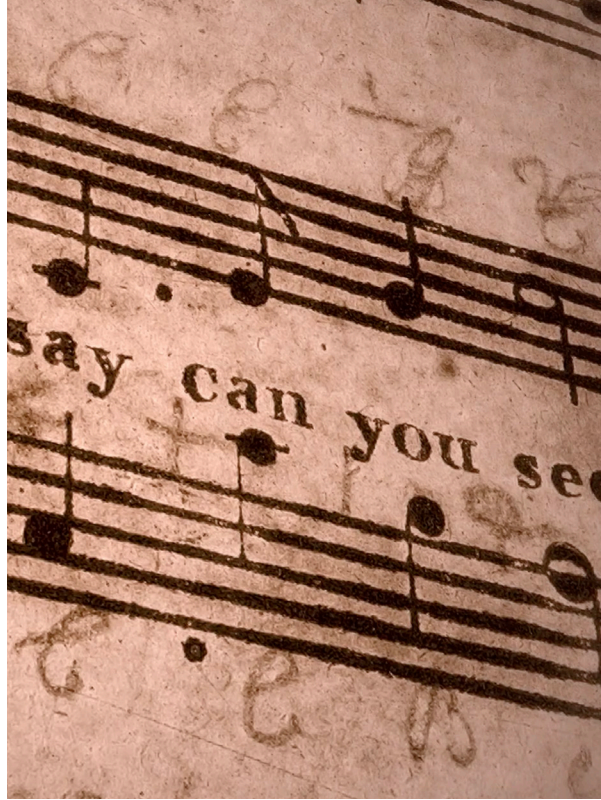


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4th Grade

# Teacher Guide



## Key Themes

- Freedom
- Bravery
- Sacrifice

## Core Values

- Community
- Faith
- Life
- Liberty

# Learning Objectives

## Students will be able to:

- Summarize the process through which the Star-Spangled Banner was officially adopted as the national anthem of the United States.
- Explain Francis Scott Key's contributions to American history and contemporary patriotism.
- Explain the historical importance and chronology of the War of 1812 within the context of American history.
- Explain who Francis Scott Key is and why he is important in American History.



# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

## Key Terms

- 01 **anthem** – a song of patriotism.
- 02 **ceased** – stopped.
- 03 **composition** – a piece of music.
- 04 **Fort McHenry** – two miles south of Baltimore where the British Navy attacked American troops.
- 05 **Francis Scott Key** – an American lawyer who wrote The Star-Spangled Banner while watching the fight happening at Fort McHenry.
- 06 **impressment** – taking seamen from U.S. merchant ships and forcing them to serve in the British navy.
- 07 **lyrics** – words in a song.
- 08 **protestor** - an individual who publicly expresses their disapproval.
- 09 **seaport** – a port or harbor on the coast for ships.
- 10 **sheet music** – music printed on paper for musicians.
- 11 **The Star-Spangled Banner** – the United States' national anthem.
- 12 **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.

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Introduction

## ASK Students

What is your favorite part of going to a big sports game or match?

Is it watching your favorite team, the half-time show, or the concession stand food?

(allow students to respond)

## WATCH

Star-Spangled Adventures Episode 8:  
*The National Anthem*



Scan Me!

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Introduction

## TELL Students

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

America's national anthem is called "**The Star-Spangled Banner.**" Do you know the words? 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.

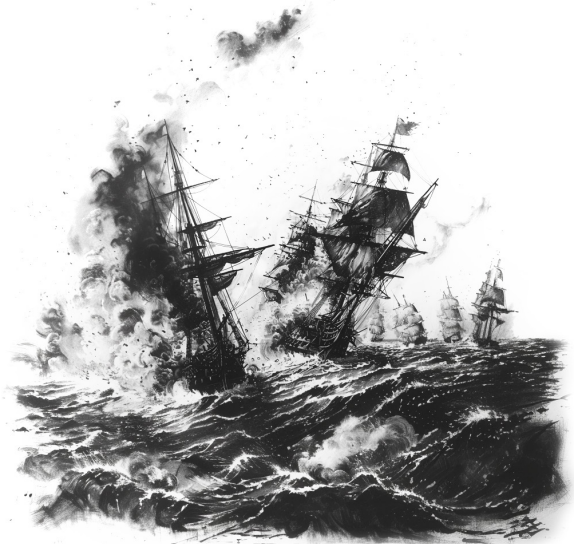
# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Lesson

## TELL Students

On June 18, 1812, the United States officially declared war against Britain. **The War of 1812** was fueled by trade disputes with Great Britain, British attempts to prevent Americans from expanding into western lands, and the Royal Navy's practice of **impressment** (taking seamen from U.S. ships and forcing them to serve in the British navy). 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 beginning on September 12, 1814. Baltimore was the third-largest city in America at the time and the location of one of the nation's most important seaports. A **seaport** is a port or harbor on the coast for ships. 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.





# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Lesson

## TELL Students

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.

Francis Scott Key watched throughout the night and into the early morning as American troops bravely defended Fort McHenry from the Royal Navy for twenty-five grueling hours. 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 at 7:30 am and prepared to retreat.

As 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 on the morning of September 14, 1814, was, for all who saw it, a symbol of enduring American patriotism, determination, sacrifice, and freedom.

While he was still on his ship, Key wrote down lyrics to the tune of a popular song at the time, 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.

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Lesson

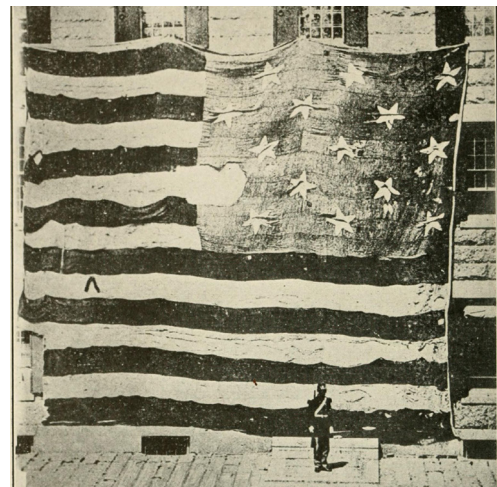
## TELL Students

Let's take a second look at the first verse of Francis Scott Key's **composition** (a piece of music):

*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.

As day dawned the next morning and the fighting stopped, Francis Scott Key wondered what was going on at Fort McHenry. The only way he could tell if everything was alright was if the American flag was still flying high in the sky.



Fort McHenry Flag

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Lesson



## TELL Students

By November 1814, Francis Scott Key's lyrics were printed on sheet music by a Baltimore music store and given the title: "The Star-Spangled Banner" – the name we know today. **Sheet music** is music printed on paper for use by musicians.

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 regardless of the challenges our nation faces, we will always find a way to keep going. The American flag will continue to fly and represent the determination, bravery, and sacrifice of Americans since the founding of our nation. So next time you are at a big event, whether it is a celebration or sports game, take a moment to think about the significance of the national anthem and what it means to you as an American.

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Lesson

## TELL Students

Today, we most commonly hear the national anthem sung before sporting events. This tradition was born in the 1918 World Series, when the Chicago Cubs faced off against the Boston Red Sox. During the seventh inning stretch, the energy in the crowd was low and the home team (the Cubs) were playing badly. World War I was also in full swing, weighing in the back of the minds of those who were watching and playing. The band started playing "The Star-Spangled Banner," and it brought the stadium to life. The song was played at the next games in the series. By the late 1930s, it was commonly played at baseball, hockey, and football games!

However, you may have noticed that during some of the games today, athletes will take a knee instead of stand during the national anthem. **Protesters** (individuals who publicly express their disapproval) engage in this action because they perceive the American flag and the national anthem as symbols of the unjust treatment of certain groups within America. This view ignores the meaning of the flag and the significant role our national anthem has played throughout history.

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Lesson

## TELL Students

The American flag and “The Star-Spangled Banner” are important representations of a unified, free country.

**KEY POINT:** Standing for the national anthem and the American flag shows respect for the people who have protected our freedom throughout history. The flag represents all of us. When we honor the American flag, we are showing respect for the freedom, values, and pride we share as a country.

## ASK Students

How does the national anthem unify us as Americans?

(allow students to respond)

## WATCH

### Optional Course Videos:

*Learn More With Liberty: Andrew Jackson*

*Learn More With Liberty: The Defense of Fort McHenry*

*Learn More With Liberty: The War of 1812*

Scan Me!



# The National Anthem

## 5 Ws Word Web

### DIRECTIONS

Complete the word web to answer the 5 Ws about the Star-Spangled Banner.

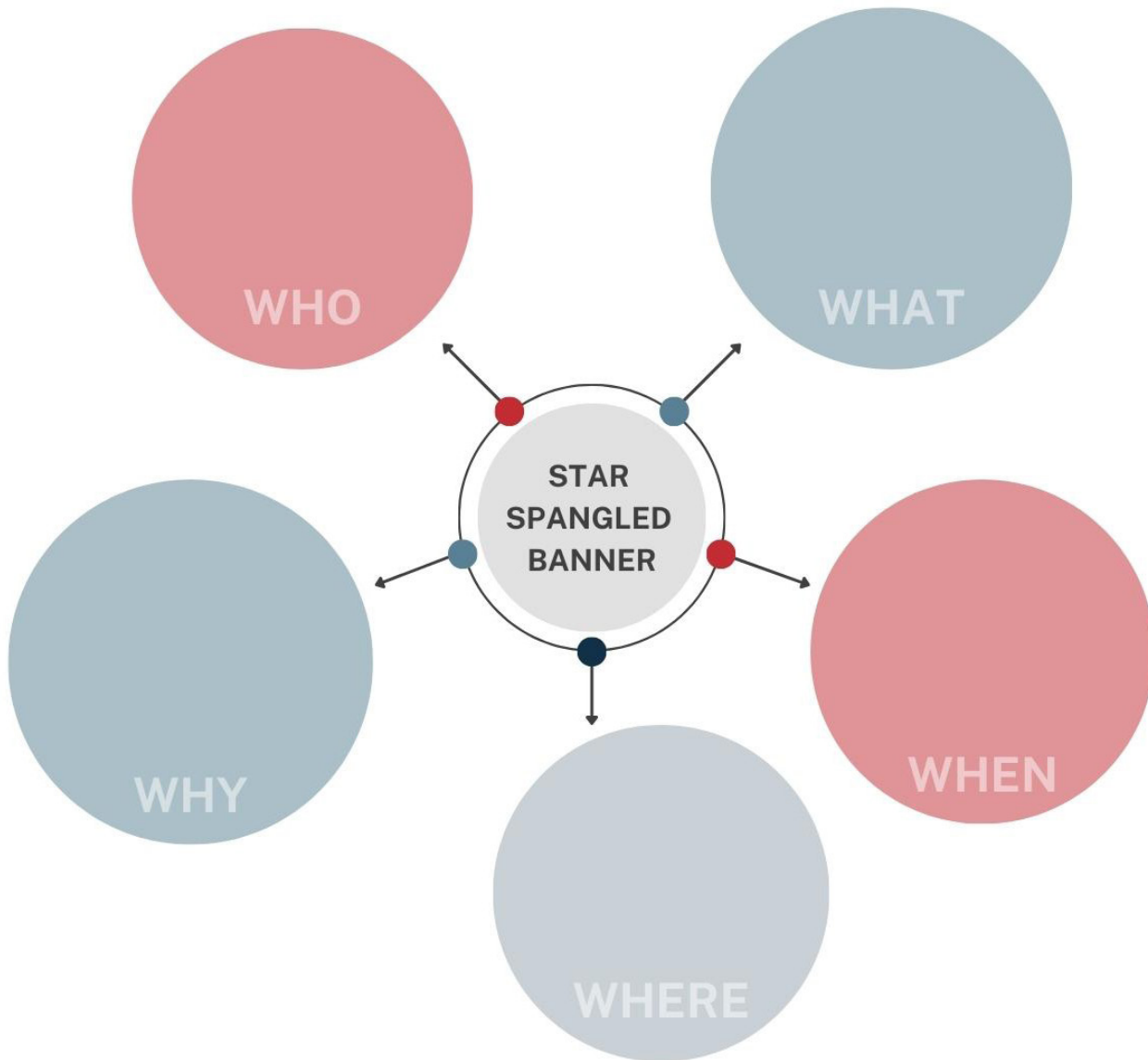
WHO wrote it?

WHERE was it written?

WHAT is it?

WHY was it important?

WHEN was it written?



# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Assessment

- 01 In what year did the United States officially declare war against Britain?
- a) 1218
  - b) 1881
  - c) 1812
  - d) 1821
- 02 The practice of “impressment” by the British Navy meant \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) they tried to press into or claim American land
  - b) they refused to trade with America or France
  - c) they took American ships and sailors for the British navy
  - d) they impressed their ideals on Native Americans
- 03 Who wrote “The Star-Spangled Banner?”
- a) Napoleon
  - b) James Madison
  - c) General William Hull
  - d) Francis Scott Key
- 04 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
- 05 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

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

# Assessment

- 06 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
- 07 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
- 08 The lyrics which Francis Scott Key did not write 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"
- 09 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
- 10 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 - 4th Grade

# Assessment Key

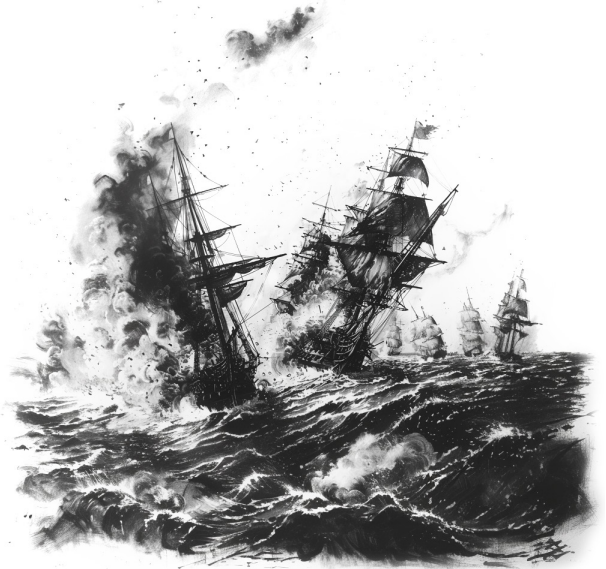
- 01 **C)** 1812
- 02 **C)** they took American ships and sailors for the British navy
- 03 **D)** Francis Scott Key
- 04 **D)** Both A and B
- 05 **A)** Baltimore
- 06 **B)** Fort McHenry
- 07 **C)** September 14, 1814
- 08 **A)** "The Defense of Fort McHenry"
- 09 **D)** 1931
- 10 **B)** He saw the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

# The National Anthem - 4th Grade

## Student Text

*On June 18, 1812, the United States officially declared war against Britain. The War of 1812 was fueled by trade disputes with Great Britain, British attempts to prevent Americans from expanding into western lands, and the Royal Navy's practice of impressment (taking seamen from U.S. ships and forcing them to serve in the British navy). 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.*

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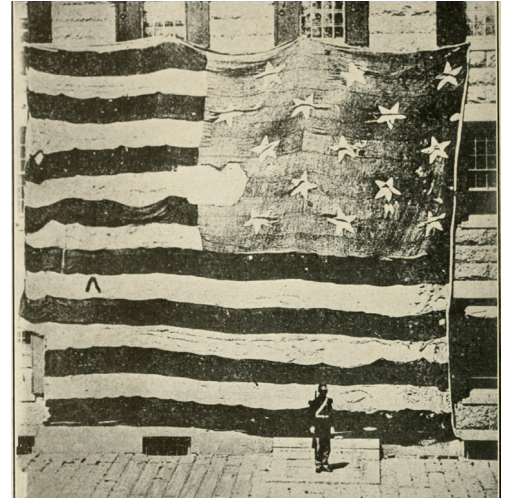
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Fort McHenry Flag

*First verse of Francis Scott Key's composition:*

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## Student Text

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## Student Text

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*Standing for the national anthem and the American flag shows respect for the people who have protected our freedom throughout history. The flag represents all of us. When we honor the American flag, we are showing respect for the freedom, values, and pride we share as a country.*



# 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>

