

# Discover America

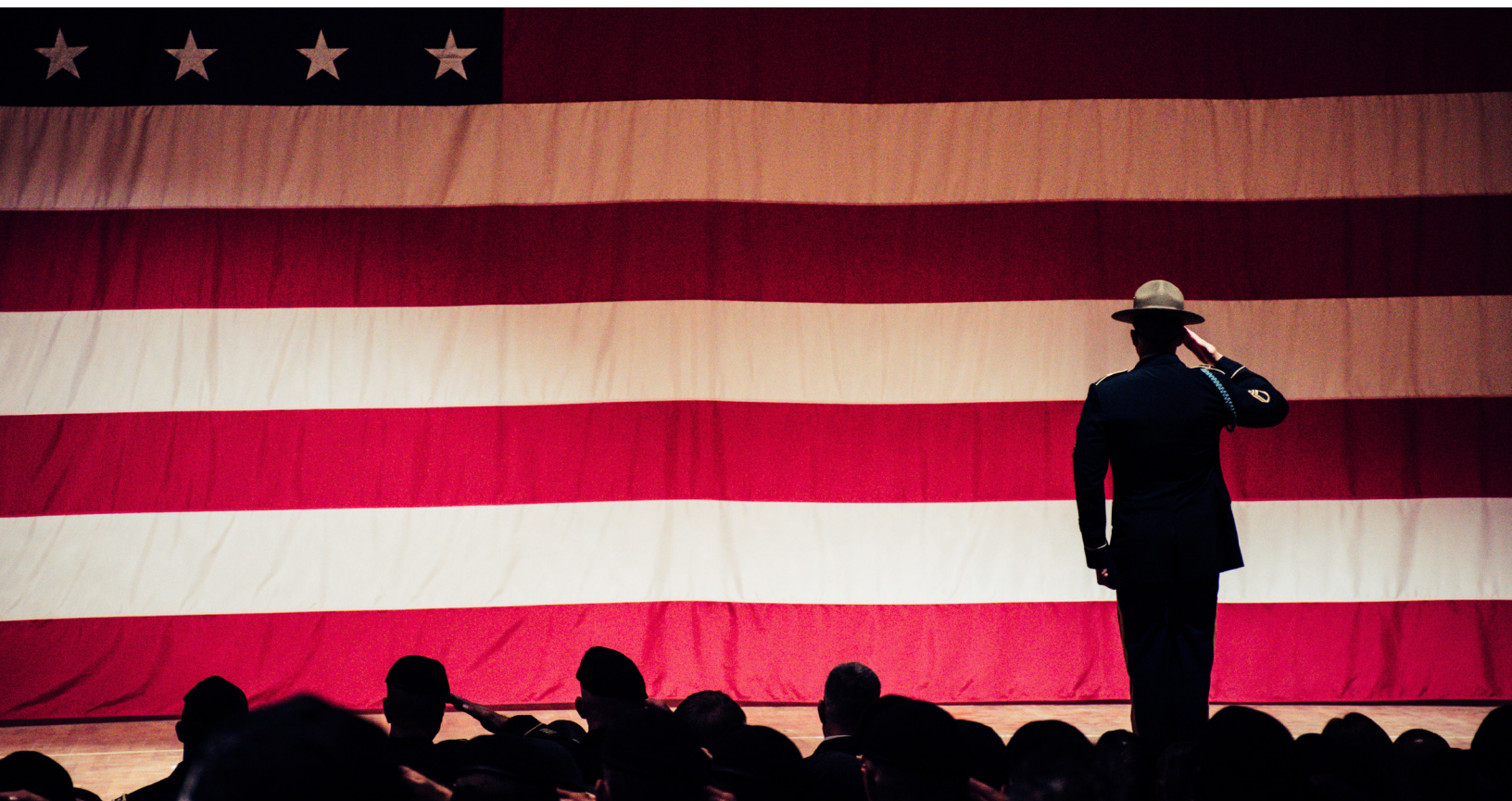
## Course 11 - Teacher Guide



# Learning Objectives

## Students will be able to:

- Understand the importance of thanking Soldiers and Veterans
- Understand what it means to sacrifice
- Understand the history of wars the USA has fought in



# Our American Heroes - 4th Grade

## Key Terms

- 01 **Nuclear Weapons** - incredibly powerful explosive devices
- 02 **Ted Williams** - a baseball legend who played left field for the Boston Red Sox; served as a United States Marine Corps Naval Aviator during WW2; called back to active duty for the Korean War
- 03 **Bernie Fisher** - United States Air Force Major awarded the Medal of Honor for rescuing a downed pilot during the Vietnam War

# Our American Heroes - 4th Grade

# Introduction



In this course, we will learn about Our American Heroes! America has a rich history of honoring those who sacrifice for our freedom on special days throughout our year.

## **TELL** Students

For a nation that had entered WWII as a third rate military power and had exited that war less than 4 years later as the world's only nuclear armed Superpower, the concept of fighting a war that was "limited" in its objectives seemed totally foreign. The principle reason for this radical change was the advent of nuclear weapons. The consequences of the massive use of these incredibly powerful weapons would be terminal, not just for our nation and our nuclear armed enemy's nation, but for the whole world. Our nation's principle strategy therefore radically altered — from winning through to "unconditional surrender" as we had in WWII, to one of deterring a war from ever starting in the so called Cold War.

## **WATCH**

Learn More with Liberty:  
**Episode 11, Our American Heroes  
War Strategies**

# Our American Heroes - 4th Grade

# Lesson Guide

## Ted Williams - The Korean War

### **TELL** Students

Ted Williams was a baseball legend, playing left field for the Boston Red Sox. He was a 19 time All Star, a two time Most Valuable Player, and a six time batting champion. He left professional baseball in the middle of a season that would see him win the American League Triple Crown to serve as a United States Marine Corps Naval Aviator during WW2 flying F4U Corsair fighters.

Returning to civilian life in 1946, he stayed in the Reserves while playing Professional Baseball and like so many others was called back to active duty for the Korean War on May 2, 1952. Unlike WWII, the nation was divided over the fighting in Korea and lacked the unified spirit of that previous war. Ted flew 39 combat missions with the Third Marine Air Wing's 311th Squadron.

### **WATCH**

Learn More with Liberty - **Ted Williams**

# Our American Heroes - 4th Grade

# Lesson Guide

## Bernie Fisher - The Vietnam War

### **TELL** Students

Then United States Air Force Major Bernie Fisher is a legendary example of self sacrifice to save others in the face of near certain death. After serving with the Idaho Air National Guard while attending college, he won his Air Force Pilot Wings and flew air defense fighters until he volunteered for combat duty in Vietnam, a war which was growing unpopular and would greatly divide our nation in the years ahead.

During a battle, Major Fisher observed his fellow A-1 pilot crash land on the battle-torn airstrip. Believing that the downed pilot was seriously injured and in imminent danger of capture from enemy soldiers who were only 200 yards away from him, Major Fisher elected to land on the battle strewn runway amidst heavy enemy fire and rescue his friend.

### **WATCH**

Learn More with Liberty - **Bernie Fisher**

# Our American Heroes - 4th Grade Assessment

## Fill in the Blank

1

Why did the United States transition to "Limited War"?

2

Which war did Ted Williams serve in?

3

True or False: Major Bernie Fisher was the first Air Force member to receive the medal in the Vietnam War.

# Our American Heroes - 4th Grade **Assessment Key**

## Fill in the Blank

1

Why did the United States transition to "Limited War"?

**The USA now had nuclear weapons**

2

Which wars did Ted Williams serve in?

**Korean War + World War II**

3

True or False: Major Bernie Fisher was the first Air Force member to receive the medal in the Vietnam War.

**True**



