

Contributor: Dr. Savannah Elizabeth Joyce **Grade Level:** 3rd / Special Needs

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

Grade 3 – South Carolina – Common Core and State Standard

Standard 1: Utilize the college and career skills of a historian to study the continuity and changes over time in the United States.

2.H.1 Identify and compare significant historical events, moments, and symbols in U.S. history. This indicator was developed to encourage inquiry into historical events, including figures, symbols, and observances, that have been important to the U.S. over time as well as how they impact us.

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

To identify the meaning of the American flag and its colors.

To create a representation of the American flag.

3. Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:

1. American Flag
2. Red, white and blue construction paper
3. Glue
4. Scissors
5. White Paint or Foil stars
6. Q-tips

4. Procedure for instruction:

1. Display a flag in front of the classroom. Ask students what they see on the flag. (Students should answer with the colors, stripes, stars, etc...)
2. Explain that our flag is also known as "Old Glory" and "The Star Spangled Banner"
3. Explain to students that each part of the flag has its own meaning.
4. Explain that there are 13 stripes-one for each of the original 13 colonies. Each star represents a states, so there are 50 stars. You can go further and explain the colors and what they mean: red stripes mean bravery, white stripes stands for freedom/liberty, blue means justice/fairness

5. Give each student a piece of red, white, and blue construction paper.
Depending on how your students do with scissors, you may want to cut red stripes out ahead of time, or they can cut 7 red strips. Have students cut out a rectangle with the blue construction paper.
6. Remind students that there are 13 stripes, so lay the red stripes down on the white paper with space in between to make the white stripes. Glue them down.
7. Glue the blue rectangle in the top left corner.
8. Lastly, you will add stars. If using white paint, have students use a Q-tip to dot the blue paper for the stars. You can also use foil stars stickers.
Remind students that there are 50 stars for each state.
9. When they are dry, hang them around the room.

5. Lesson Closure

Review with students the meaning of each part of the flag.
If classroom computers are available, go to Edpuzzle.com (free website). Search for "The United States Flag-Red Cat Reading" by Heidi Wallner. It is a 1:52 minute video with questions about the flag. You may assign it individually or present it live mode.

6. Assessment of Understanding:

Give Students a copy of a flag and have students label parts of the flag.

United States Flag

