



NSDAR Educational Resources Committee

“American Flag Etiquette for Kindergartners”

Lesson Plan

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Grade Level: Kindergarten

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

State of Tennessee Standards, Social Studies, K.16 " Identify the following state and national symbols: *The American flag and its color and shape; *The words of the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

Students will identify the American flag and demonstrate proper flag etiquette.

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

U.S. flag to display

Small individual flags for each student (optional: may be available from local DAR Chapter or other sources)

Flag coloring sheet – available at no cost at several sites online, including www.coloringcastle.com/american_flag_coloring_pages.html

Baseball cap

Picture of a flag disposal bin (many are located at Post Offices)

4. Introduction of the topic:

Display the American flag and ask students to identify it.

“What is this?”

“What colors are in our flag?” (red, white, blue)

“How many stars are in our flag?” (50)

“Who knows what the 50 stars stand for?” (50 states)

“How many stripes are in the flag?” (13)

“What do the stripes mean?” (13 original colonies)

5. Procedure for instruction:

After identifying the flag and its components, begin to instruct students as to correct Flag etiquette.

Say: “Which hand do you use, and where do you place it when you say the Pledge?”

Say: “If you’re at a parade and the American flag passes by you, do you know what you should do?” (Stand with your right hand over your heart as the flag passes.)

Say: “What if you’re a boy or a man, and you have a cap or hat on. What should you do?” (You should take off your cap and hold it over your heart as the flag passes.) (Demonstrate with a baseball cap.)

Say: “Sometimes when you’ve had a flag for a long time, or it’s been out in the weather for a while, it gets dirty or torn. If this happens, we should be careful how we take care of it. It can be washed, or it can be mended. But if it’s in too bad of shape we have to get rid of it properly. It should NEVER be just thrown away or burned. Sometimes Boy Scout troops have a ceremony to properly dispose of old flags. But they can also be put in a proper disposal box, such as you can sometimes see at a Post Office. (Show picture of disposal bin.)

6. Lesson closure:

Talk about songs concerning the flag: (Ask for suggestions, to include...)

“Star-Spangled Banner”

“You’re a Grand Old Flag”

(If time, sing one or more songs.)

Say: "Our flag is very special to us and we should always respect it and take care of it.

7. **Assessment of student understanding:**

Have students stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, with proper hand placement. Hand out small flags and/or coloring sheets for students to use at teacher's discretion. (Teacher should note correct colors used.)