Independence Day
Lesson Plans Grades K-8

WREATHS across AMERICA
# Wreaths Across America
## Lesson Plan

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## OBJECTIVES: NCSSS; 10. CIVIC IDEALS AND PRACTICES
An understanding of civic ideals and practices is critical to full participation in society and is an essential component of education for citizenship. This theme enables students to learn about the rights and responsibilities of citizens of a democracy, and to appreciate the importance of active citizenship.

## STRATEGIES:
- Drawing/Coloring
- Writing
- Think/Pair/Share
- Collaboration
- Discussion Questions
- Small Groups

## MATERIALS:
Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; This lesson plan has materials and activities that cover a multitude of grade levels K-8; it is suggested that you review the materials and select the ones that are most appropriate for your students.

## Engage:
Hook the students

Think/Pair/Share Activity- Pair the students with a partner. Explain the T/P/S directions. The students will think of their answer, get with their partner and share their answer.

T/P/S Question: Ask students what the word freedom means.

### Video Clips:

- **K-1st:** 4th Of July For Kids - Independence Day | Story with Interesting Facts for Children | Kids Academy [https://youtu.be/XoNlsqT5s0](https://youtu.be/XoNlsqT5s0)
- **Grades 2-3:** Can We Ring the Liberty Bell? Written By: Martha E.H. Rustad; Illustrator: Kyle Poling [https://youtu.be/hZPkrctVUtJ](https://youtu.be/hZPkrctVUtJ)
- **Grades 4-5:** Information about The Liberty Bell and Reading of Saving the Liberty Bell, Written by Megan McDonald; Illustrator: Marsha Gray Carrington; [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05u2f6pSHwY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05u2f6pSHwY)
- **Grades 6-7:** Liberty’s Kids-Wild Brain, The Boston Tea Party; [https://youtu.be/spAyol-MZuk](https://youtu.be/spAyol-MZuk) This is a series of videos that cover the entire Revolutionary War Period-each video clip is approximately 23 minutes long.
- **Grade 8:** Tea, Taxes, and The American Revolution: Crash Course World History #28 with John Green [https://youtu.be/HIUIsSBXQHCw](https://youtu.be/HIUIsSBXQHCw)

## Explore:
Students make sense of a concept through observations.

- **Grades K-1:** Writing Practice Independence Day; Writing Practice The Liberty Bell; Independence Day Memory Match Cards
- **Grades 2-3:** Review the [July 4th PowerPoint](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFu6kb3-e20) ; Watch the Art for Kids video How to Draw the Liberty Bell, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFu6kb3-e20](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFu6kb3-e20) Independence Day Memory Match Cards
- **Grades 4-5:** Read the What is Liberty? Coloring/Worksheet; Liberty Bell Acrostic Poem Activity; Independence Day Word Search Puzzle; Independence Day Memory Match Cards
- **Grades 6-8:** Independence Day Word Search Puzzle; Read the What is Liberty? Worksheet; Independence Day Acrostic Poem Activity; Independence Day Memory Match Cards

## Explain:
Vocabulary

Vocabulary will vary depending on the Grade Level

## Elaborate:
Students apply what they have learned.

Students will complete various activities about Independence Day based on grade level.

## Enrichment/Service-Learning Project
Spend time with veterans or your elderly neighbors on July 4th. If your family cooks too much, share with your local Police/Fire Departments!

Remember-Honor-Teach
K-1

**Writing Practice Independence Day-July 4th**

July 4 is known as

Independence Day in the

United States. On July 4,

1776, the American colonies declared independence from

Great Britain by signing the

Declaration of Independence.
Today many Americans celebrate July 4th with family and friends having picnics and watching fireworks!

Remember-Honor-Teach
The Liberty Bell Writing Practice

The Liberty Bell is a symbol of American independence and the ideals of freedom and liberty it represents.

Remember-Honor-Teach
Independence Day Memory Match

Print the Memory Cards, cardstock works well. Cut along the Guidelines. Use fewer cards for younger students. The Independence Day Memory Match can be played alone or with friends. Place all cards image side down into rows. Turn over any 2 cards. If the cards match, keep them. If the cards do not match, turn the cards back over. Try to remember where each card is during each turn! The game is over once all of the cards have been collected. When played with more than one player, the player with the most matches wins!!
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Remember-Honor-Teach
Grades 4-8

What is Liberty?

Every American has Individual Liberty and we are born with liberty. This means we have freedom of expression, freedom of choice, freedom to protest, freedom from government control of our lives, freedom of political choice and freedom to choose our own moral ground to take a stand on what we believe!

With liberty comes the responsibility to be a good citizen. To educate yourself and attend school, be good in class, to work and pay your bills, pay your taxes when you grow up, and to help others when you can. Many American soldiers have died to guarantee that liberties remain a part of American life. We have the best liberties in the world.

Remember-Honor-Teach
Grades 4-5 After reading the information about the Liberty Bell on the previous page, write an Acrostic Poem.

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Grades 6-8

Independence Day Word Search Puzzle

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E I K I N D E P E N D E N C E
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BEN FRANKLIN THOMAS JEFFERSON PAUL REVERE TOWNSHEND ACT
BOSTON TEA PARTY KING GEORGE III REVOLUTION GEORGE WASHINGTON
BOYCOTT LIBERTY BELL STAMP ACT
INDEPENDENCE THOMAS PAINE TAXES

Remember-Honor-Teach
Grades 6-8  **Answer key** Independence Day Word Search Puzzle

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Grades 6-8 WRITE AN ACROSTIC POEM USING THE LETTERS BELOW

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