Giant Screen Films presents an Opry Entertainment Film
in association with The Collective

THE HEART OF A NATION IS ITS MUSIC

* ALABAMA *
* VINCE GILL *
* ALAN JACKSON *
* LYLE LOVETT *
* LORETTA LYNN *
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Teacher’s Guide
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Notes from the producer...

History is far more than words on a page, pictures in a book, or images on a screen. It is made by flesh and blood people just like you and me.

The same goes for country music. Country music was never created in a vacuum; it is in response to or reflective of the events of the day. Early country music songs have been about the sinking of the Titanic, about being poor, about coming to America, about the things that affected people in those times.

That songwriting trend continues to today, and that is what Our Country attempts to capture.

My vision for this film was to transport youthrough the twentieth century on the wings of country music. The film takes the songs of country music and relates them to events that have occurred in our nation’s history. Keep on the Sunny Side struck a chord with a nation mired in the Great Depression because it related to how they felt. Sixteen Tons was written decades later about coal miners.

With each of the songs in Our Country, we paint a picture of what America was like during that time. Maybe some of you will be inspired to write a song about America that affects you. Maybe you can talk to your parents, relatives, or friends to learn about their lives and what America was like when they grew up.

Life is change, and history attempts to put those changes into perspective. History is a moving target that looks slightly different from each pair of eyes that views it, just as every song can have different meaning to both the writer and the listener.

Without understanding our past, we cannot comprehend our present. And if we do not know where we are now, how can we know where to go in the future? This is the lesson of Our Country.

Our Country is about America—its trials, tribulations, and triumphs. It is about the wonderful mix of people and music that has created a new nation full of hope and dreams.

It is about you and me. Enjoy!

Tom Neff
Roots of Country Music

Immigrants brought to America Old World “folk” songs about their traditions, history, and heartache. By the early 1900s and particularly in Appalachia, musicians had been recording fiddle tunes (“Old Time Music”) for several years. In August 1927 in Bristol, Tennessee, RCA’s Ralph Peer recorded the most historic sessions in country music history, “The Bristol Recordings.” There, Jimmie Rodgers — “The Father of Country Music” and the Carter Family — “The First Family of Country Music” sang into primitive recording equipment.

The two sessions, ironically, were only two days apart and have resonated throughout Country Music ever since. Jimmie Rodgers, called “The Singing Brakeman” after his work on the railroads, was to become America’s first national sensation. His songs reflected the wandering man, experiencing life to the fullest. The Carter Family sang their famous “Walt the Circle Be Unbroken” and “Wildwood Flower,” both Country Music classics. Their songs spoke of homegrown simplicities, of hearth and home, of the old red schoolhouse now gone.

★ ERA OF INVENTIONS ★

For millions of immigrants, New York provided opportunity and the chance for a new beginning, and the city became a melting pot of cultures. The U.S. was becoming an urban society, and workers were needed to fuel the Industrial Age. Not only did the men and women slave in the factories, but children of all ages worked in mines, mills and fields to help support the family.

After the outbreak of World War I in 1914, immigrants’ loyalties were often called into question. Through the early 1920s, a series of laws was passed to limit the flow of immigrants, and even today immigration is a volatile issue.

The Industrial Age created a new Middle Class, which enjoyed new “modern conveniences” such as washing machines. Electricity, with the automobile gave America a mobility it had never before experienced, and the growth of the stock market provided a financial engine for the nation. With newfound wealth and confidence, America was poised to enter “The Roaring Twenties.”

U.S. History - Ask the US citizen: Wall, what famous pistols recieved thousands?
Social Studies - What National Registration was founded for the advancement of colored peoples?
Art/Model - Who from Europe is famous for his drawings on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post?
Science - Who developed the general theory of relativity?
Pop Culture - In 1913, what fashion scarf was all the fashion rage?
Sports - In 1908, what famous athlete was America’s pride?

Discovering Your Family Tree

Find your heritage by interviewing your relatives. Ask your parents, grandparents, aunts or uncles about your family’s past. Keep notes in a diary, collect pictures, and find the countries that they came from on a globe or map. Researching your family is a personal detective story. Here are some ideas and sample questions to help you:

1. Identify what you already know about your family
2. Decide what you want to learn about your family
3. Choose one person to learn about and prepare a research diary
4. Identify questions to answer about the person
5. Collect copies of family pictures
6. Share your family history with others.


Talk to your parents about planting a tree in honor of your relatives. Trees preserve records of the past that allow us to “see” backwards into times before we were born.

http://www.beloit.edu/~SEPM/Fossil_Explorations/Tree_Rings.html

The Plumber’s Pipe

By Mark Shepard

Plastic plumbing pipe (PVC) is ideal for simple flutes. It’s waterproof, crack-proof, and nearly unbreakable. It’s fine acoustically, if you use the right dimensions. PVC can be cut like wood but for drilling, use a very slow speed to minimize “grabbing” when the bit reaches the interior.

The “Plumber’s Pipe.” It’s in the key of G and plays two full octaves. You might have to modify the design, depending on materials.

3/4 inch CPVC pipe & standard end cap

The exact dimensions are 7/8 inch outside diameter, 1/2 inch inside diameter, 3/32 inch wall thickness. The tube length, with the end cap off, is 15 9/32 inches. The wall thickness of the end cap too is 3/32 inch, for a total mouth hole depth of 3/4 inch.

Use the chart for the size of each hole and the distance from its center to the top of the flute tube — measured with the flute cap off. Mark distances on paper, a ruler, a dowel, or a length of pipe. Use pattern to place the holes on pipe. Two holes are slightly offset as shown, for easier fingering.
American Dream to The Great Depression

Do You Recognize These Famous Courageous Men and Women?

- This writer sought freedom of thought and action, which changed the face of modern writing, Realistic and rebellious, he wrote what he wanted and fought censorship.
- A famous explorer of the Antarctic and Arctic whose 1933-35 expedition to Antarctica conducted many scientific research projects.
- An African American athlete who won four gold medals in track-and-field at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin and put to shame Hitler's Aryan superiority message.
- This heavyweight boxing champion and son of a poor timber and mining family in Manassa, Colorado, did little to stay the public opinion of boxing as a brutal sport.
- This famous writer wrote about a hopeful look at the Negro in America.
- This one unsuccessful act brought about much of the flavor of the Jazz Age or Roaring Twenties. Jazz, Harlem, Chicago, and The Cotton Club were hot! For the first time, blacks and whites enjoyed entertainment together. On the other hand, racial tensions were high and quotas were set for immigrants.

Courage

In times of adversity and trouble, you need courage to help you. In his Fireside Chats, President Roosevelt told Americans to have courage. The first woman pilot to cross the Atlantic, Amelia Earhart, wrote a poem about courage.

Women were allowed the right to vote in national elections and the US was paralyzed by the grip of the “red scare” (Communism). Communication exploded through radio, movies, the automobile, magazines and books, and America “shrunk.” Buying on credit was invented, and Americans borrowed to invest in the stock market. The great times ended on October 24, 1929, called Black Thursday. The stock market crashed, and panic broke out. Over 10,000 banks closed, and because they were not insured, people lost all of their money. Almost 25% of the nation became unemployed. Franklin Roosevelt influenced Americans with his Fireside Chats to calm their fears about the nation’s plight.

My Own Kind Of Hat

Write a poem or paragraph about what you think needs courage to face. Losing a job? Failing a test? Being a fireman? Not following the crowd? Unless we dare—

Courage is the price that Life exacts for granting peace,

The soul that knows it not, knows no release

Knows not the livid loneliness of fear

Winnie the Pooh

A.A. Milne writes

1926 A.A. Milne writes Winnie the Pooh

1927 Radio’s wild popularity created both audience and stars. In 1925, National Life and Accident Insurance Company created a radio station WSM (“We Shield Millions”) and sponsored a “Barn Dance”, or country variety show, that became the new famous “Grand Ole Opry” broadcast live from Nashville, Tennessee.

America became fascinated with the heroism and romance of the cowboy in both film and music. Westerns were hugely popular, and Gene Autry and Roy Rodgers became national stars as “Singing Cowboys.” Country music absorbed the cowboy image, seeking to replace the hillbilly stigma with a more commercial appeal. A combination of country, jazz, and blues with the big band created a sound that became known as “Western Swing,” typified by Bob Wills and The Texas Playboys, Spade Cooley, and others. The depiction in cinema of country performers in western costumes forever cemented the bond between country music and the cowboy.

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### Answers to Trivia Questions above: US History
- Victory in Europe
- Social Studies
- Civil Rights
- Art/Music
- Jukebox
- Science
- Penicillin
- Pop Culture
- FM radio
- Sports
- Jackie Robinson

### Pop Culture
What type of broadcasting begins in a small way in 1940?

**FM radio**

In 1948, **The Louisiana Hayride** airs and becomes the “Cradle of the Stars.”

### Sports
In 1947, commercial television with 13 stations became available to the public.

**Sports -** In 1947, who became the first African American to play Major League Baseball? 

**Jackie Robinson**

### Science
In 1948, **Penicillin** is discovered.

**Science -** In 1944, what drug revolutionized the war effort? 

**Antibiotics**

### Social Studies
In 1948, the GI Bill allowed more men than ever before to get a college education.

**Social Studies -** What event gave the blacks the right to vote? 

**World War II**

### Art/Music
The **Wurlitzer Co.** mass produced what record player system?

**The Wurlitzer Co.**

### Other
Women had to give up their jobs to the returning men, but they had tasted independence and demanded equality. Thousands of young servicemen picked up their lives and started new families in new homes, with new jobs, in new locations. American industry expanded, as Americans began buying goods not available during the war, which created housing and jobs, or the “Post-War Boom.” Growth was everywhere, and suburbia was born.

### Honky-Tonk Music
Honky-Tonk is a freewheeling, often boisterous style of music spawned in the Southern bars (aka “honky-tonks”) of post-WWII. By the late 1940s the venue for country music had shifted from social gatherings to watering holes where performers no longer had to worry about keeping up appearances or exposing “family values” in their songs. Hank Williams, Ernest Tubb, Kitty Wells and others wrote to, for, and about the workingman.

### Bluegrass and Honky-Tonk Music
It was in the mid 1940’s that modern Bluegrass started. Bluegrass musicians never use amplifiers or electric guitars: all of their instruments are “acoustic,” or natural. A typical Bluegrass band will have a fiddle, a guitar, a mandolin, a bass, and a banjo. The most famous of the bluegrass musicians is Bill Monroe, called “The Father of Bluegrass.” His band, “Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass Boys,” birthed a new form of driving, energetic country music. When Earl Scruggs joined the group in 1945 with his incredible banjo technique, bluegrass became a national phenomenon.

### Teaching Objectives
- To help students find ways to contribute to the general health of our environment.
- To make students aware of the detrimental effects of not recycling on our local and global communities.
- To encourage students to share their understanding of the serious problem of solid waste management.
- To encourage students to become interested in further study beyond this unit.
- To encourage students to investigate careers in conservation and recycling.
- To encourage students and their families to practice recycling on a regular basis and to make an effort to buy recycled products when available.

### Student Objectives
- Why is it important for everyone to know the effects of pollution on the environment?
- Can you as a student have an impact on the issue of recycling at your school, your home, where you play, etc.?
- How will recycling and recycling by everyone help your community, your state, your country and the earth?
- Are you willing to make a lifetime commitment to reusing, reducing, and recycling for the purpose of helping to save the earth?

### Links:
- [http://kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/decade40.html](http://kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/decade40.html)
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### Never No More Blues
World War II dominated the 1940’s. European artists and intellectuals fled Hitler and the Holocaust, bringing new ideas that reflected American enthusiasm and European disillusionment. War production demanded rationing, which affected the food we ate, the clothes we wore, the toys with which children played. After the war, the men returned, having seen the rest of the world. No longer was the family farm an ideal; no longer would blacks accept lesser status. The GI Bill allowed more men than ever before to get a college education.

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Suburbia and consumerism boomed in the early 1950’s as the Korean Conflict developed. The USSR became a major enemy in the Cold War. Senator Joseph McCarthy claimed Communists had infiltrated the US government. Americans were feeling a sense of national anxiety. These seeds of discontent in the 50’s exploded in the 1960’s. Martin Luther King Jr. demanded equality of opportunity and social status for blacks in a movement labeled Civil Rights. John F. Kennedy called for the nation to go to the moon, an astounding declaration, considering that no one had even gone around the earth. The 60’s became a decade of extremes. The post war generation felt a sense of purpose and privilege, and protested the Vietnam War. Malcolm X said blacks had the right to use violence to achieve racial equality, and the 60’s saw riots and violence on both sides. Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus. Literature and films reflected cracks in the American Dream and disenchanted youth. The Beat Generation was born. The Beatles showed Rock and Roll was here to stay. Women and Hispanics roared of oppression while DDT and the environment entered public discussion. The conservative 50’s were gone forever…

**I HAVE A DREAM**

*Rockabilly and the Nashville Sound*

In the Memphis of 1953, race lines were sharply divided — most blacks listened to rhythm and blues (aka “race music”) while country was the music favored by most white people. Enter Elvis Aaron Presley to producer Sam Phillips’ Sun Records. On July 5, 1954, nineteen-year-old Elvis improvised a rocking version of “That’s All Right Mama,” and rock and roll was born, an energetic combination of country and blues. Combining a bluesy rock beat with country became known as rockabilly. Though its popularity barely made it through the 50’s, artists as diverse as Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins all began their recording careers in the genre.

The late 1950’s saw traditional country music’s popularity on the wane. People thought it sounded too “hillbilly.” Producers Chet Atkins and Owen Bradley made a move. The Nashville Sound developed. The USSR became a major enemy in the Cold War. Senator Joseph McCarthy claimed Communists had infiltrated the US government. Americans were feeling a sense of national anxiety. These seeds of discontent in the 50’s exploded in the 1960’s. Martin Luther King Jr. demanded equality of opportunity and social status for blacks in a movement labeled Civil Rights. John F. Kennedy called for the nation to go to the moon, an astounding declaration, considering that no one had even gone around the earth. The 60’s became a decade of extremes. The post war generation felt a sense of purpose and privilege, and protested the Vietnam War. Malcolm X said blacks had the right to use violence to achieve racial equality, and the 60’s saw riots and violence on both sides. Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus. Literature and films reflected cracks in the American Dream and disenchanted youth. The Beat Generation was born. The Beatles showed Rock and Roll was here to stay. Women and Hispanics roared of oppression while DDT and the environment entered public discussion. The conservative 50’s were gone forever…

**Breathless**

*Students*

Match these words with their proper definition:

1. A body that revolves around a larger body. For example, the moon is a satellite of the earth.
2. The scientific study of matter in outer space, especially the positions, dimensions, distribution, motion, composition, energy, and evolution of celestial bodies and phenomena.
3. A theory of cosmology in which the expansion of the universe is presumed to have begun with a primordial explosion.
4. An object whose gravity is so strong that not even light can escape from it.
5. A celestial body that consists of a fuzzy head usually surrounding a bright nucleus, that has a usually highly orbit, and when in the part of its orbit near the sun develops a long tail which points away from the sun.
6. Atomic nuclei (mostly protons) and electrons that are observed to strike the Earth’s atmosphere with exceedingly high energies.
7. The passage of one celestial body in front of another, cutting off the light.
8. A component of our universe made up of gas and a large number (usually more than a million) of stars held together by gravity.
9. A measure of the total amount of material in a body, defined either by the inertial properties of the body or by its gravitational influence on other bodies.
10. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, founded in 1958 as the successor to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

*Teachers*

Neil Armstrong said that it took over 400,000 men to put one on the moon. Divide your students into groups of 4. Supply them with materials such as paper, string, rubber bands, scissors, tape, rulers, etc. Their task will be to create a spaceship, a solar community, or a space station. They should include answers to the following:

- How does it operate?
- What rules would they have?
- How would they survive?
- Will there be alien creatures?

**Links:**

- [http://www.medialibrary.unm.edu/time/1960s.html](http://www.medialibrary.unm.edu/time/1960s.html)
- [http://kclibrary.unm.edu/decade60.html](http://kclibrary.unm.edu/decade60.html)
- [http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/sats_n_data/sats_n_data.html](http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/sats_n_data/sats_n_data.html)
Protest and the 1st Amendment

Benjamin Franklin said: “They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.” Read about your basic liberties, check out the Bill of Rights. Protest is a fundamental right of our democracy. Stay informed, exercise your freedom of speech and recognize your ability to influence issues. It is your duty as a good student or citizen to provide constructive criticism on rules that you disagree with. Protest is a minority revolution. The minority says “We can’t live with the majority on this issue.” Protest includes questioning, complaining, grumbling, and debating. “The aim of debating is to learn, not to win. Or rather learning is the only form of victory that makes sense.” A.J. Toynbee

Think:
- What things are unfair that you want to change?
- What do you dislike that protest won’t help?
- What don’t you like that you can or can’t live with?

Act:
- Form a petition
- Write your Principal, Councilman or President
- Serve on Student Council
- Go to a school board or City Council meeting
- Vote in your classroom or at home

Topics:
- Dress code in school
- What foods to serve in the cafeteria (School lunches)
- Homework on Friday
- 12-month school year
- Dodge Ball (should it be allowed?)

Teachers

Students, with the help of their teachers will make the school a place where young people can freely express their ideas, thoughts and talents. Divide your class into 2 parts; one smaller than the other. Assign a topic; choose from the list above or create your own. Have the smaller group (minority) protest their view to the larger group (majority). Then have them reverse roles. Pro/con debates often use neutrals and officers. Mix it up, make it a challenge.

CrossOver and Outlaws

Rock ‘n roll created a void in the “easlistening” market, and Nashville was quick to fill it with cross-over artists like Olivia Newton John and Charlie Rich, among others. Singers and songwriters scrambled to create watered down pieces that would please everyone; the result was songs that were two-parts country to one-part Vegas. Conversely, pop artists, too, attempted to make it in country; this cross-fertilization proved an uneasy marriage at best.

A new generation of country artists, tired of recording their records the same old way, demanded more artistic freedom and independence. Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, and others returned to more traditional country and an “edgier” sound, and were quickly branded “outlaws” by the Nashville establishment. Writers like Kris Kristofferson brought a new maturity and realism to country song writing. At long last, country music reflected the social changes of the late 60s, and suddenly, country was cool.

FROM ELVIS TO NIXON

The chaotic 60’s were destined to continue into the 70’s. Dissolution with government, increased impact of the Women’s and Civil Rights movements, heightened environmental concerns, and increased space exploration were under debate. “Radical” ideas of the 60’s gained wider acceptance in the 70’s, and mainstreamed into American life and culture. Amid war, social change and presidential imprisonment achievements, American culture flourished. Intel introduced the microprocessor, “computer on a chip.” DNA production on genes was discovered, and the first test tube baby was born.

Minorities and women demanded full rights in society, politics, jobs and education. The rising divorce rate left many women as sole breadwinners, forcing some into poverty. Forced busing often led to violence. African-Americans increased their numbers in Congress and elected mayors to major cities. Affirmative action was controversial, and Nixon opened China. The tumultuous times reflected and became inspirational music, literature, entertainment, and fashion. This decade saw the Beatles breakup and Elvis Presley died, robbing rock of two major influences. Pop music split into a multitude of styles: soft-rock, hard-rock, country-rock, folk-rock, punk-rock and the dance craze of the decade, disco! And the times they were a changin’...

Woodstock to Watergate

1966: US troops in Vietnam rise to 500,000
1967: Cordless telephones
1968: Tammy Wynette, the Heroine of Heartbreak, sings “Stand by Your Man” marries George Jones
1969: Children watch Sesame Street while 1/2 million strong flock to Woodstock
1970: Canadian filmmakers invent giant projector IMAX system
1971: Email and Cell phone invented
1972: Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I) signed by U.S. & Soviets
1973: Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizes abortion
1974: Punk rock music emerges in Britain, with themes of nihilism, anarchy.
1975: Microsoft and Saturday Night Live, Jews, Nashville
1976: Aretha Franklin’s search for her ancestors is published as Soulfood.
1979: Radiactive leak at Three Mile Island nuclear power plant.
It’s Not Easy Being Green

**Urban Cowboy and The Rise of Country Chic**

You no longer had to live in the country to be country. Hollywood capitalized on the release of the film Urban Cowboy. Soon, cities from New York to Los Angeles had their own version of Gilley’s (the Texas bar where you could ride a mechanical bull). For all its popularity, however, country music had very little new to show for itself in the way of creativity.

The Urban Cowboy craze faded. To bring about artistic change, it would take a conscious return to the traditions that were at the roots of the music. One of the first to strike a blow for those who would come to be called the “New Traditionalists” was Ricky Skaggs. Drawing on his bluegrass roots, Skaggs forged a traditional and contemporary sound. But it was Randy Travis who broke the ground of popularity with his deep voice and traditional country song in the early 1980s, soon to be dwarfed by Garth Brooks. The old was new again, and country music enjoyed a renaissance of talent and record sales.

**SHOP TILL YOU DROP**

The 1980s became the Me generation of status seekers. Tom Wolfe dubbed the baby-boomers as the “splurge generation.” The decade began with double-digit inflation, Reagan declared a war on drugs. Kermit didn’t find it easy to be green, hospital costs soared, the AIDS spread found no social or economic barriers, and unemployment rose. Hostile takeovers, leveraged buyouts, and mega-mergers spawned a new breed of billionaire. “If you’ve got it, flaunt it” and “You can’t serve 2 masters” were catchphrases.

Video games, aerobics, minivans, camcorders, and talk shows became part of our lives. The 80’s cemented drastic changes in family, more divorces and single parent families; the two-income family became a necessity as costs rose. More women earned college and advanced degrees. On the bright side, the US Constitution had its 200th birthday, and in 1989 Americans gave $1.15 Billion to charity. America saw the Berlin Wall fall — making great changes for the decade to come! Many were happy to leave the spendthrift 80s for the 90s, although some thought the eighties TOTALLY AWESOME.

**Money Crossword**

**Across**

1. Usually a child’s first place to save money
2. A mutual fund gives shareholders an annual report each
3. A copper coin
4. A former movie star, Ronald Reagan, is elected president
5. You may put money in a account
6. What you use to pay for things
7. You can find 13 of these on the back of the $1 bill
8. You may get this for doing chores each week
9. His picture appears on #1 across

**Down**

1. 3M Post-it notes
2. The IBM PC, mouse, and laptop are introduced
3. Vanessa Williams crowned 1st African American Miss America
4. Michael Jackson’s album Thriller sells 25 million copies
5. Farms aid • Social Studies
6. The name of the computer as “Man” of the Year for 1982
7. See answers below
8. Our Country

**Assist In Doing**

**Community Aid**

Organize a group. Clean an alleyway or vacant lot; paint benches, fix fencing, build planter boxes, plant grass and shrubs, trim hedges and help with general yard cleanup.

Planting a Victory Garden — Although the world is a very different place than it was during World War II, and America a very different country, we are still theoretically in a time of war. Gardening can help you create something positive and peaceful.

Collect foods for Second Harvest - Second Harvest Food Bank began in Minneapolis in 1989. Today, they feed millions. Voluntrees come in all shapes and sizes.

**Financial Aid**

Okay, so you definitely know how to spend money! But how do you make it work for you? Become involved with the Stock Market ... rewarding and fun. Learn to handle money by choosing a stock, investing and watch it grow!!

http://www.younginvestor.com/

**Cool Aids**

http://www.loc.gov
http://www.woz.org

**Answers**

Across

1. Piggy bank, 2. Year, 3. Washington, 4. Quarter (Of the four coins we use — penny, nickel, dime and quarter — only the dime and quarter have grooves around the edges. The quarter has 119, one more than the dime.), 6. Mutual

Down

1. A copper coin
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Super Highways to the 21st Century

What is Patriotism?

This decade renewed “Our Country’s” awareness of Patriotism. From 9/11 to the Gulf War we have become a nation of flag wavers. Patriotism can be defined as love for one’s country, to support, serve, and defend, to be inspired by, to change for the better and to care deeply for its citizens. How do you show Patriotism?

Here are a few ideas:

- Learn how your government works
- Think and write about issues
- Learn about our electoral system; discuss the last election
- Vote in class elections; become involved in the political process
- Volunteering for committees, community groups, campaigns
- Stay informed so that one may contribute to the general public debate

Teachers

Teach flag protocol such as how to properly display the flag, flag rules and regulations.

Assign students to establish a country, design their flag and a slogan to represent the country’s ideals. They should describe how their country should be governed and what basic rights the people living there should have.

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- Construction paper (blue and white)
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Cut the bottom off an oatmeal box. Cover the box with blue construction paper and then glue on white construction paper stars. Cut some red and white crepe paper streamers and glue or staple them to one end of the windsock. Punch four holes along the top of the windsock. Cut two pieces of string about a foot long. Tie the strings to the windsock (tie the opposite ends of a string to holes on opposite sides of the cylinder). Tie a longer piece of string to the smaller pieces — you’ll hang the windsock from this piece of string.

Old Glory - Captain Stephen Driver, a shipmaster

LIVING IN THE PROMISELAND

In the 1990’s America sent troops to the Gulf War, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq. The U.S. played arbitrator, enforcer, and peacekeeper throughout the world. Social debates were health care, social security reforms, and gun control. Sex scandals dominated the media, starting with the Navy Tailgate matter to President Clinton, who narrowly survived impeachment. Violence escalated; O.J. Simpson was tried for murder, and there were at least fourteen incidents of school shootings. During the Gore/Bush campaign we learned of “flubs,” and America mourned the deaths of Princess Di and JFK, Jr. There was good news. The booming economy led to record low unemployment, with the lowest interest rates since the 1960’s. Minimum wage was increased to $5.15 an hour. The stock market reached an all time high. The Internet changed communication and commerce, and cell phones were rampant. America faced the new millennium with an open, diversified society. Democracy is spreading throughout the world, and more nations embrace freedom.

Make a Flag WindSock

U.S. History: What should cost corporations billions in technical improvements?

Social Studies: In 1996 what language (“Chicano”) was recognized in California?

Art/Music: In 1990, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum opened in what city?

Sciences: In 1997, 80% of Americans saw this comet without a telescope.

Pop Culture: In 1993, what appliance was the fastest selling in history?

Sports: In 1999, the US Women’s Soccer Team won the World Cup over what country?

Links:
http://www.ushistory.org/bytes/flagtrip.html
http://www.myschoolonline.com/content_gallery/0,3138,2507-108666-2-40932,00.html
http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/flags/usa/usflag.shtml

Miles of Platinum Smiles

Once the glass faded from the New Traditionalist Movement, the country music pendulum began to swing again toward a more pop-oriented sound. Reba McEntire, Dwight Yoakam and Wynonna cut a path through popular music, but no one could have predicted what the decade of the ’90s would hold. In store. Garth Brooks entered with a resounding crash of guitars. But out where the bluegrass grows, Alison Krauss captured the hearts of country fans as well as a CMA Female Vocalist of the Year award. In 1993, before her 22nd birthday, Krauss became the Grand Ole Opry’s youngest member. In 1996 teenage Lichten Rimes presented a youthful sensation, and Faith Hill became the sensual Diva of country. Artists such as Tim McGraw, Brooks and Dunn, Trind Yearwood, and Amy Grant all had platinum sales, in the late ’90s country moved toward pop, led by Shania Twain.

The Federal Building in Oklahoma City was destroyed by a bomb in 1995. Timothy McVeigh was convicted of that crime in 1997. On September 11, 2001, U.S. citizens watched as the terrorist attacks changed America forever. Violence escalated; O.J. Simpson was tried for murder, and there were at least fourteen incidents of school shootings. The government changed; the U.S. played arbitrator, enforcer, and peacekeeper throughout the world. Social debates were health care, social security reforms, and gun control. Sex scandals dominated the media, starting with the Navy Tailgate matter to President Clinton, who narrowly survived impeachment. Violence escalated; O.J. Simpson was tried for murder, and there were at least fourteen incidents of school shootings. During the Gore/Bush campaign we learned of “flubs,” and America mourned the deaths of Princess Di and JFK, Jr. There was good news. The booming economy led to record low unemployment, with the lowest interest rates since the 1960’s. Minimum wage was increased to $5.15 an hour. The stock market reached an all time high. The Internet changed communication and commerce, and cell phones were rampant. America faced the new millennium with an open, diversified society. Democracy is spreading throughout the world, and more nations embrace freedom.

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Old Glory - Captain Stephen Driver, a shipmaster of Salem, Massachusetts, coined this famous name in 1832. As he was leaving on one of his voyages some friends gave him a beautiful flag of twenty-four stars. As the banner opened to the ocean breeze for the first time, he exclaimed “Old Glory!”
Songs from Our Country

★ Will The Circle Be Unbroken (Can The Circle Be Unbroken)
Written by A.P. Carter
Performed by Trace Adkins, Gary Allan, Bill Anderson, Jessica Andrews, Charlie Daniels, Joe Diffie, Sara Evans, Billy Gilman, Patsy Cline, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, She & Him, Ricky Skaggs, Connie Smith, Pam Tillis, The Whites, The Wilkinsons, Trisha Yearwood

★ Turn, Turn, Turn
Written by Pete Seeger
Performed by Guy Clark, Rodney Crowell, Kathy Mattea, Roger McGuinn, Leigh Nash, Dolly Parton, Kim Richey

★ City Of New Orleans
Written by Steve Goodman
Performed by Marty Stuart

★ Rauchhide
Written by Bill Monroe
Performed by Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Glen Duncan, Bela Fleck, Alison Krauss, Earl Scruggs, Randy Scruggs, Joel Sonnier, Marty Stuart

★ Foggy Mountain Breakdown
Written by Earl Scruggs
Performed by Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Glen Duncan, Bela Fleck, Alison Krauss, Earl Scruggs, Randy Scruggs, Joel Sonnier, Marty Stuart

★ Keep On The Sunny Side
Written by A.P. Carter
Performed by Crystal Gayle, Loretta Lynn, The LYNNS

★ Never No Mo’ Blues
Written by Jimmie Rodgers/Elsie McWilliams
Performed by Dwight Yoakam

★ Hey, Good Lookin’
Written by Hank Williams
Performed by Alan Jackson

★ Walkin’ After Midnight
Written by Don Hecht and Alan Block
Performed by Martina McBride

★ You’re From Texas
Written by Cindy Walker
Performed by Asleep At The Wheel, Lyle Lovett

★ Breathless
Written by Otis Blackwell
Performed by Eric Heatherly

★ Living in the Promiseland
Written by Lee Ann Womack
Performed by David Lynn Jones

★ 16 Tons
Written by Merle Travis
Performed by Alabama

★ How Great Thou Art
Traditional
Performed by Vince Gill

★ My Own Kind Of Hat
Written by Merle Haggard/Red Lane
Arranged by Jo Dee Messina
Performed & arranged by Jo Dee Messina

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