



Honoring the Spirit of America

www.museumofpatriotism.org

“Our Flag Throughout History”

Grades 4-8

Objective: The student will create a timeline of the history of the American Flag.

Materials:

- Images of past and present American flags
 - <http://www.usflag.org/history/historicflags.html>
- Flag timeline
 - <http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/flagfact.html>
 - this site should be useful to help students get started
- Images of Presidents
 - <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/>
 - students could print off President images from this site
- pencils
- Red, white, and blue construction paper
- Glue
- markers
- Rulers

Procedure:

1. Display images of all the American flags ever used. (Use website listed above.)
2. Ask students which one is the American flag.
3. Take guesses, and then lead a class discussion about how they are all the American flag, they were just used at different times.
4. Have students work in groups to document the flag throughout history by creating a comprehensive timeline.
5. Students should use the library and/or Internet sources to create their timeline.
6. Each timeline should include:
 - a. An image/drawing of the flag at that point on the timeline
 - b. The state(s) that was/were added to need more stars
 - c. Interesting facts or important events surrounding the flag described
 - d. The name (and imagine, if possible) of the U.S. presidents that served under the flag
7. Encourage students to be creative with their timelines and construct them in red, white, and blue. Timelines should be neat and rulers should be used.

8. Allow students to share their timelines with the class.
9. As groups are presenting, have the “audience” check their timeline information against other groups.
10. Once all groups have finished sharing, have students create a quiz consisting of questions that could be answered using their timeline.
11. Display timelines on a classroom bulletin board.
12. Have groups swap quizzes and answer each other’s quiz using the bulletin board of timelines.

Assessment:

Evaluate answers to quizzes.

Resource:

Education World

www.education-world.com