

Patriotic Holidays and Symbols Musical

#1 Speaker: We would like to welcome you to our patriotic musical. Recently, we have been studying about citizenship and patriotic symbols in social studies. We have learned a lot of important facts and concepts through music. Pay close attention to the lyrics of our songs and maybe you'll learn something, too.

#2 Speaker: First, we will sing about a very important document: the Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson. It was the official paper signed by our founding fathers on July 4th, 1776, declaring the reasons why the colonists wanted their independence from England. The opening part of the Declaration is very famous:

Everyone: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights: that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Song: Declaration of Independence

3 Speaker: Eleven years after the signing of the Declaration, the United States Constitution was signed by 40 delegates at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. This amazing document has lasted over 200 years and is one of the oldest constitutions in the world. Over one hundred countries have used it for a model in creating their own constitutions.

#4 Speaker: Our national government now requires that every student, kindergarten through college, learn about this wonderful document. Every September 17th is Constitution Day, which celebrates the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution in 1787. Our next song, called "In the Constitution," helps us understand the three important branches of our government, the twenty-seven amendments, and our individual rights.

Song: In the Constitution

#5 Speaker: We are proud of our government based on liberty, freedom, and equality. We want to try to be good citizens in all areas of our lives: in our homes, at school, and in our community. Our next song (which is actually part cheer) is called "I Am a Citizen."

Song: I Am a Citizen

#6 Speaker: As citizens, we are proud to live in a country with fifty unique and wonderful states. The last two states, Hawaii and Alaska, were added in 1959. Can you name all fifty states in alphabetical order? This next song, "The Names of the States, helps us remember.

Song: The Names of the States

#7 Speaker: With 50 separate states, we need a strong leader to help unite them all. That person is the President. All the Presidents have been strong leaders, in difficult times, and have helped shape the course of American history. We salute them now in this song called "Let's Salute the Presidents."

Song: We Salute the Presidents

#8 Speaker: Many other people throughout history have dedicated their lives to our country. One such individual was Dr. Martin Luther King, Junior. He had a dream that our nation would rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed that all men are created equal.

#9 Speaker: In his speech, "I Have a Dream," Dr. Martin Luther King proclaimed: "Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado. Let freedom ring from the slopes of California. Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia...from every mountainside, let freedom ring!" You will hear freedom ringing in our next song called, "Dr. Martin Luther King."

Song: Dr. Martin Luther King

#10 Speaker: No matter who we are, where we came from, or what race or nationality we might be, we all have something to contribute to this great country of ours. We are a melting pot of people and that's what makes America so unique. We're different, but we're also united, as stated in this next song, "We're All Americans."

Song: We're All Americans

#11 Speaker: We have learned about several important patriotic symbols this year. One that always seems to stir people's hearts is our American flag. Do you know other names for our flag? Do you know what the colors mean? You'll find out in this song called, "Old Glory."

Song: Old Glory

#12 Speaker: The Liberty Bell, now residing in Independence Hall in Pennsylvania, is another famous patriotic symbol. Did you know it cracked two times? Let's find out more interesting facts about it in this next song called "Liberty Bell."

Song: Liberty Bell

#13 Speaker: Another patriotic symbol, the Statue of Liberty, can be seen on Ellis Island in the New York Harbor greeting immigrants from all over the world. Lady Liberty proudly stands for freedom and opportunity...a symbol of hope to all. We hope *you* feel proud after hearing this song, "Lady Liberty."

Song: Lady Liberty

#14 Speaker: Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be our national bird. There are lots of reasons why the Bald Eagle was chosen instead. The next song, called "Bald Eagle," tells why it's a great symbol to represent our country.

Song: Bald Eagle

#15 Speaker: We are proud to live in America. We are proud of the people who have worked hard to make it great. We are proud of the ideals of freedom and liberty for which it stands...our beloved country, the U.S.A., and the name of our last song.

Song: U.S.A.

#16 Speaker: We hope you enjoyed our program and learned something about our wonderful patriotic symbols, too. Thank you for coming and have a great day!