Second Grade Families,

Your child is about to embark on a terrific journey discovering symbols, landmarks and celebrations from our state, nation, and other countries.

This is a glimpse into what we will be doing for the next 4 weeks. The learning experiences are driven by the students. We are excited to guide your students through this process and we cannot wait to see what they discover.

-Second Grade Teachers

Transdisciplinary Theme

How We Express Ourselves:

Inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

Central Idea

Culture is represented by symbols and celebrations that express diversity within our global community.

Lines of Inquiry

- significance of national, state and local symbols and landmarks
- significance of national, state and local holidays and celebrations
- connections between celebrations across cultures

Summative Assessment: Each student will create a “Word / Symbol / Picture” foldable to explain a chosen symbol, landmark or celebration. Students will write a word, create a symbol and draw a picture to represent their chosen item. Students will then write a brief explanation of their work to present to the class.

Mrs. Allen  Mrs. Berlin  Mrs. Breitenbach
Mrs. Calkins  Mrs. Doggett  Ms. Wengler

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A peek at some of our Learning Experiences

- Each class will create a patriotic song book. Students will be given a line of a patriotic song to illustrate. The class will put the illustrations together to create a class book.
- After learning about symbols that represent our state and nation, students will create a symbol that represents them. They will explain why they chose the symbol and what it means to them.
- Students will compare and contrast cultural celebrations that occur around the world.

Sample Books to Read

- Texas Facts and Symbols (States and Their Symbols) by Emily McAuliffe
- Celebrating Texas: Patriotic Symbols and Landmarks by Trisha James
- O, Say Can You See? America’s Symbols, Landmarks, and Important Words by Sheila Keenan and Ann Boyajian
- America My Country ’Tis of Thee: An American Song about Freedom by Marsha Qualey and Samuel Francis Smith
- Holidays Around the World Series
- Our National Holidays by Patricia J. Murphy
- Veteran’s Day by Mari C. Schuh
- Let’s Celebrate!: Festival Poems from Around the World by Debjani Chatterjee, Brian D’Arcy and Shirin Adl

Sample Websites


http://bensguide.gpo.gov

http://kids.house.state.tx.us/texassymbol/index.htm

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/kids/about_texas/symbols/

Home Connection

- Discuss holidays that are celebrated in your family’s culture. Research how they might be similar to other holidays or celebrations from around the world.
- Take a day trip to the San Jacinto Monument or Sam Houston Monument to learn more about TX landmarks. Discuss the importance of these landmarks to our state.
- Create a symbol or crest to represent your family.
Newsletter Template

Customize the newsletter template to meet your classroom needs. Click inside a box to type your information. Change the boxes to whatever you’d like to include!

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