

The Great American Challenge

As a fifth grade team, we think it is important for all students of American History to understand important parts of our history. We have created a Great American Award to help them achieve this. This award is optional. Students are NOT required to do this but they are strongly encouraged.

In order to earn the Great American Award, students must pass off all five (5) of the required memorizations and four (4) of the optional projects. The requirements must be passed off by your child's teacher, who will keep track of what has been passed off. The work needs to be the students own quality work. This is a GREAT American award, not a "good" American award.

- **The Pledge of Allegiance—written down with no less than 3 mistakes**
- **The National Anthem—memorized 1st and 4th verse**
- **U.S. States and Capitals—fill out map with states and capitals**
- **The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States—memorized**
- **3 hours of service given to a charity, an institution, neighbor or anyone other than family member**

In addition, students will pick 4 projects from the next page.

Students have the entire year to work towards completing all parts of the challenge. There will be limited designated times that students can work on studying the requirements for the challenge at school, students should also be dedicating time at home towards studying the requirements as well. All students who complete The Great American Challenge will be honored with a special award at the end of the school year.

All memorizations and projects for the Great American are due on Friday, April 25th.

The Great American Challenge Requirement 1:

The Pledge of Allegiance

Students must be able to correctly write out in either print or handwriting the Pledge of Allegiance using the correct grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

To pass this requirement, students are not allowed any teacher help.



I pledge allegiance
to the flag of the
United States of America,
and to the republic
for which it stands,
one nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty
and justice for all.

The Great American Challenge Requirement 2:

The National Anthem

Students must be able to correctly recite or sing the National Anthem 1st verse and 4th verse.

The Star Spangled Banner

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous
fight, O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly
streaming? And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting
in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still
there;

O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation.
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

The Great American Challenge Requirement 3:

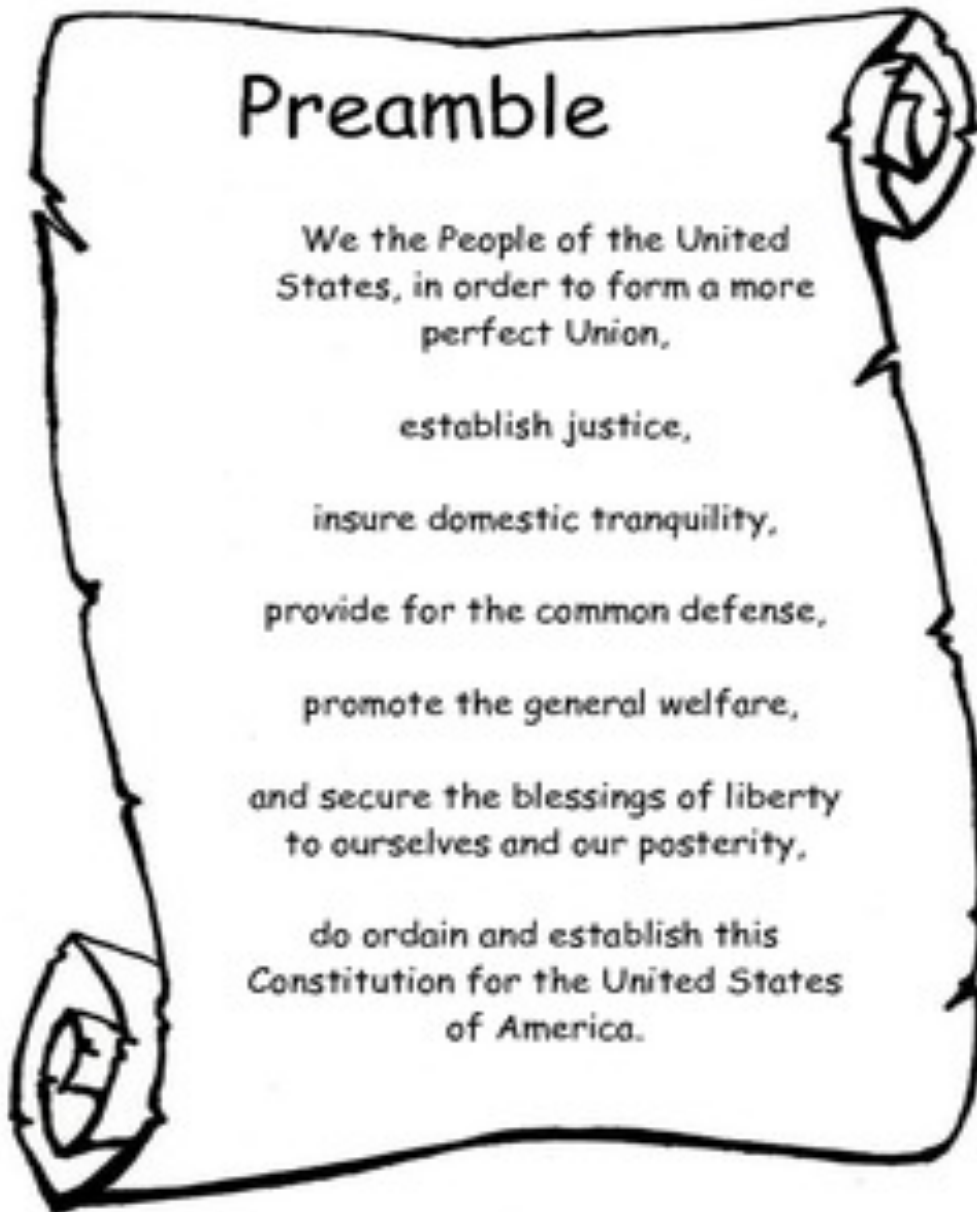
U.S. States and Capitals

Students must be able to correctly identify 50 states and capitals on a map.

Alabama - Montgomery	Montana - Helena
Alaska - Juneau	Nebraska - Lincoln
Arizona - Phoenix	Nevada - Carson City
Arkansas - Little Rock	New Hampshire - Concord
California - Sacramento	New Jersey - Trenton
Colorado - Denver	New Mexico - Santa Fe
Connecticut - Hartford	New York - Albany
Delaware - Dover	North Carolina - Raleigh
Florida - Tallahassee	North Dakota - Bismarck
Georgia - Atlanta	Ohio - Columbus
Hawaii - Honolulu	Oklahoma - Oklahoma City
Idaho - Boise	Oregon - Salem
Illinois - Springfield	Pennsylvania - Harrisburg
Indiana - Indianapolis	Rhode Island - Providence
Iowa - Des Moines	South Carolina - Columbia
Kansas - Topeka	South Dakota - Pierre
Kentucky - Frankfort	Tennessee - Nashville
Louisiana - Baton Rouge	Texas - Austin
Maine - Augusta	Utah - Salt Lake City
Maryland - Annapolis	Vermont - Montpelier
Massachusetts - Boston	Virginia - Richmond
Michigan - Lansing	Washington - Olympia
Minnesota - Saint Paul	West Virginia - Charleston
Mississippi - Jackson	Wisconsin - Madison
Missouri - Jefferson City	Wyoming - Cheyenne

The Great American Challenge Requirement 4:
The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States

To pass this requirement, students may not receive more than 1 help from the teacher.



Optional Projects (4)

Memorize and recite The Gettysburg Address.

Memorize, recite or write the list of U.S. Presidents in order with first and last names.

Create a timeline of 10 Great Americans. Include a paragraph of accomplishments for each American. Only one timeline per student.

Create a 3d project showing all the branches of the military.

Write a 200 word historical fiction story.

Recite from memory the Declaration of Independence.

Create an art project (sculpture, painting, song, poem, dance, movie, etc.) about what it means to be patriotic.

Study a great American scientist or inventor. Make a working model of one of their experiments or inventions and do a one page write up of how it works.

Make a game based on an event in American history. The game must be for two or more players, be sturdy and usable, be original and come with instructions. The game must also have a definite objective. (How do you win?)

Read a biography of a great American or historical fiction book about some event in American history. Do one of the projects listed below about the book.

- Make a powerpoint, Keynote or iMovie presentation

- Write a two page book report and draw a picture about the book.

- Do a 5-7 minute oral presentation for the class.

Study the evolution of one of the following topics: fashion, transportation, film or communication in America. Create a display that you will present to the class. The display must include facts, pictures, and an explanation of how your topic changed over time. Only one evolution per student.

Complete a project of your own choice. Your teacher must approve this project idea before beginning. You must get pre-approval.

The Great American Challenge Requirement 5: Three hours of service

The service cannot be for your family. The service can be three separate one hour projects or one three hour project. You must return a note signed by your parents and/or the person or organization that you performed the service for.

Any questions, please call or email your student's teacher.

We want all students to earn their Great American.

