

AMERICAN HISTORY PATRIOTIC SYMBOLS PROJECT

The word patriotism means “love of country.” Americans with patriotic feelings have a sense of belonging to their country and support its beliefs, customs, and institutions. Patriotism usually means attachment to the land and the people, as well as concern for the welfare of the community. Americans often display and express their patriotism through the use of patriotic symbols. Many poems and songs have been written to express the strong ties between citizens and the nation. Symbols such as the American Flag, statues, and buildings often remind people of the country’s history. Americans celebrate their patriotism in many different ways.

Select ten patriotic symbols to research from the following list:

1. The National Flag – One of the most important patriotic symbols is the national flag, often referred to as the “Stars and Stripes,” which represents the land, people, and government of the United States.
2. The Great Seal of the United States – The government adopted the Great Seal of the United States on June 20, 1782.
3. Uncle Sam – The term “Uncle Sam” started as a hostile nickname for the United States government during the War of 1812.
4. Bald Eagle – The eagle is a fierce, powerful bird that has long been viewed as a symbol of freedom.
5. Commemorative Stamps – A simple postage stamp has the ability to fan the flames of patriotism by focusing on a country’s great leaders and accomplishments.
6. Star-Spangled Banner – The “Star-Spangled Banner” was officially made the U. S. national anthem by Congress in March of 1931.
7. Washington and Lincoln – George Washington is sometimes called the “Father of His Country.” Abraham Lincoln was the sixteenth president of the United States.
8. The White House – The White House in Washington, D.C., is the official residence and workplace of the president of the United States.
9. Capitol Building – The Capitol stands on “Capitol Hill” near the center of Washington, D.C.
10. The Washington Monument – A gleaming white marble obelisk, rising 555 feet into the air, graces the Washington, D.C. landscape.
11. The Statue of Liberty – The Statue of Liberty, a gift from France to the United States in 1884, is a symbol of American democracy and a symbol of refuge for immigrants.
12. The Liberty Bell – The Liberty Bell, weighing more than 2,080 pounds is one of the earliest symbols of American freedom.
13. Mount Rushmore – Mount Rushmore, a giant sculpture carved into the side of a mountain, is located in the Black Hills of South Dakota.
14. Medals – George Washington created the first U. S. Military medal to honor his soldiers for bravery during the Revolutionary War.
15. Fireworks – The colorful sparks and loud noises created by exploding fireworks are often associated with patriotic events and parades

16. National Holidays – Many national holidays are patriotic.
17. Red, White, and Blue – These three colors have come to symbolize American patriotism.
18. Election Campaign – The center of an election is campaign headquarters.
19. The President of the United States – The person holding this office should represent the highest American patriotic values and ideals.
20. Parades – Parades have evolved into community events honoring a particular occasion or federal holiday.

You will need one poster board – it may be red, white or blue.

On the front side of the poster board you will put the title of the project – American Patriotic Symbols. You will also put pictures or illustrations of the symbols you have selected on this side. These may be chosen from sources such as magazines, brochures, etc., printed from the internet, or done by hand. They are to be matted using red, white, or blue paper, and each is to be labeled. The poster may be vertical or horizontal.

On the back of the poster you will put your heading in the upper left corner. Research each of the symbols that you selected and write a brief, informative explanation/description/history of each one in paragraph form. This is to be titled, typed, double-spaced, and matted using red, white, or blue paper and attached to the back side of the poster. You may put the complete information for more than one symbol on a page.

Presentation of material is very important. Make this as neat as possible and be creative with your project. Matting, good lettering, and color add to the over-all appearance of your poster. You will be graded on neatness, following directions, and detail of information.

