



Flag Etiquette

Indiana 4-H Civic Engagement Activity

Evolution of the United States Flag

Audience: Grades 3-12

Duration: 15 minutes

Overview: This activity briefly discusses how the United States Flag has changed over the years.

Objectives: Participants in this session will:

- Identify key events in the evolution of the United States Flag.

Materials

- Copy of the “Evolution of the United States Flag” handout for each person
- Writing utensil for each person
- Copy of the “Evolution of the United States Flag” answer key

Introduction

The United States Flag has undergone several changes since its initial design in the 1700’s. Based on information provided by the [usflag.org](http://www.usflag.org) website, let’s take a look at some of these changes and the people who were involved.

(<http://www.usflag.org/>)

Instructions

- Review the historical dates that relate to the Evolution of the United States Flag (<http://www.usflag.org/history/flagevolution.html>) with the students.
- Ask them to complete the activity sheet.
- Review the correct answers with them.

Discussion Questions

- Why is it important to understand the history of the flag of the United States of America?
- What surprises you about the evolution of the flag?
- How do you think it might change again in the future?
- How does history affect our present and our future?
- What are things that you can do to positively affect your own future?

New April, 2019

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Evolution of the United States Flag

Directions: Draw a line from the box to a point on the timeline which represents the historic time frame in which the flag-related event happened. Then write (below the box) which President you think signed off on the event.

Executive Order of President _____ dated August 21, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically.

President: _____

Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.

President: _____

On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the **first Flag Act**: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

President: None

Year 1777



Executive Order of President _____ dated January 3, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.

President: _____

Executive Order of President _____ dated June 24, 1912 - established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.

President: _____

Act of April 4, 1818 - provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President _____.

President: _____

Year 2020

Evolution of the United States Flag – Answer Key

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President: **Eisenhower** _____

Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.

President: **John Quincy Adams**

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President: None

Year 1777



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President: **Taft** _____

Act of April 4, 1818 - provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President _____.

President: **Monroe** _____

Year 2020