



Lesson Plan: The Pledge of Allegiance

Oral History Project (Student generated questions)

1. Can you recite the pledge of allegiance?
2. What is the pledge of allegiance a symbol of?
3. What does the pledge of allegiance mean?
4. What does the phrase, "justice for all" mean?
5. What does the word, "indivisible" mean?

Activity Steps:

- **Hook:** What does "symbols" mean? Heads together as a team to make predictions. Observation Charts. Inquiry Chart. Motivational Big Book. American Symbols Chant.
- **American Flag Pictorial:** Teacher draws an American flag while talking about the location, description, what it represents, how we honor it, and some interesting facts about it. Teacher uses pictures to show examples of each category. For every 10 minutes the teacher gives information, students get two minutes to review with the person sitting next to them what they just learned. The pictorial is reviewed the next day with vocabulary cards and a chant to follow up.
- **Learning Log:** Students write two-three sentences about their learning of the American flag. On the "text" side, they can write facts they learned. On the "you" side, students should make a personal connection. Pictures and words should be used in the learning log to show what the child has learned.
- **The Pledge of Allegiance:** Recite the pledge of allegiance together as a class and highlight high-level vocabulary words that students want to know the meaning of. The next day, recite the pledge again and go over the meaning of the highlighted vocabulary words using words and pictures to help explain. Explain the meaning of the pledge together as a class.
- **Learning Log:** Students write two-three sentences about their learning of the pledge and what it means to them. On the other side, students are going to make a pledge to themselves about something they want to accomplish or a goal they have set. They will create a symbol that represents their pledge to themselves.
- **Interactive Journals:** What is your favorite phrase from the pledge of allegiance and why?
- **Classroom Flag:** The symbols that students made for their personal pledge will be put together to make a classroom flag.



CALIFORNIA ON MY HONOR

Curricula for K-12 Civics Education

- **Classroom Pledge:** After creating the classroom flag, we will put together a pledge that resembles our common goals in class and we will recite the classroom pledge each morning with the regular pledge of allegiance.
- **Oral History Project:** Students will brainstorm questions that they think are good questions for adults and students to know. We will select four or five questions and they will be asked to interview a family member and a second grader. We will compare and contrast the results and graph our answers.

Special Needs of students are considered in this lesson:

This lesson, and unit, is based on the strategies and theories of Project GLAD. It easily lends itself for everyone to participate on different levels because the unit is based on a language acquisition design model but is also created to teach to the highest kids in the class. There are many opportunities for flexible grouping where students are able to work with heterogeneous groups and are pulled for guided instruction as well. The model is designed for everyone to support each other so students with different learning styles and special needs can rely on their classmates to support their learning. There is a lot of active participation, chants, movements, team work, and opportunities for individual writing. There is not really a need for specific modifications because each strategy is created so each child can work at their ability level.

Extension Ideas:

- Learn about other countries flags and what they stand for. Do they have a pledge?
- Research Table: Research American symbols.
- Role Play: What the pledge of allegiance means through song or dance.