United We Stand



Complete at least six out of 10 activities.

1. Show the Colors
Learn the correct way to fly an American flag or carry one in a parade. How do you show that you respect the flag?

2. Write On!
With the help of an adult, send cards to people in the Army, Navy, or other U.S. armed forces. Thank these people for protecting your freedoms.

Note: For security reasons the US Department of Defense has discontinued special mail programs addressed to "any serviceman." If you want to do this particular activity, you need to address the cards or box of cards to a specific person. This is a great activity for those who have contacts on military bases or overseas. Check out the DOD news release on alternatives to sending mail.

3. Express Yourself
Write a poem or create a piece of art about what your country means to you. Submit it to your local or school newspaper, or your council newsletter.

4. Roots
One of the unique things about America is that it is a nation of immigrants. Find out what countries the people in your community or their ancestors came from. How many different nationalities, religions, and cultures are within your own town? city? state?

5. The Pledge of Allegiance
Learn the Pledge of Allegiance in sign language. Visit the Michigan State's American Sign Language Browser Web site to learn ASL signs.

6. Sing Out
Learn a patriotic song like:
America the Beautiful
God Bless America
America
The Star-Spangled Banner
This Land Is Your Land
Yankee Doodle
When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again
Sing the song with your family, friends, or Girl Scout troop. Visit the University of Virginia Library: Lift Every Voice, Music in Everyday Life for more ideas.

7. For Which It Stands
The American flag isn't the only American symbol. Find out about two other American symbols and what they stand for.

8. Check It Out
With your troop or some friends visit a historical site, museum, memorial, or park in your community.

9. Days Gone By
What did kids your age do centuries ago? Pick a time (the 1600s, 1700s, 1800s) and find out.

10. Lend a Hand
Show your patriotism by helping people in your community who are in need. Spend one morning or afternoon lending a hand.