

Full STEAM Ahead:

Connecting Library of Congress Primary Sources and Graphic Novels

Lesson Plan Template			
Author(s): Marie Hallman & Kristen Augustine			
Grade Level(s): 10-11			
Subject: U.S. History			
Length of Class: 90 minutes			

Image



Alternative Image



Image Citation: first image https://gilroydispatch.com/pledge-of-allegiance-created-to-sell-flags/ (Public Domain image)

2nd image The school day begins with a salute to the flag, Rochester, New York, March 1943. By Ralph Amdursky. Source: Library of Congress.

Lesson Title:	The Evolution of the Pledge to the US Flag		
Overview:	Americans did not always stand with their hands over their hearts as they recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The pledge and how one salutes the US' flag has evolved. From its conception by a Christian socialist to the kneeling of Colin Kaepernick during the playing of the national anthem, the pledge and honoring the US' flag has been impacted by current events.		
Learning Objective:	Students will identify patterns of continuity and change chronologically and thematically as demonstrated by the evolution of the pledge of allegiance.		
Standards:	USHC.4.CC Examine the continuity and changes on the U.S. homefront surrounding World War I and World War II.		
Essential Question:	How has the Pledge of Allegiance changed over the years? (since it was first introduced in 1892?)		
Supporting Question(s):	How does the original Pledge of Allegiance differ from the one used today? Why have changes been made to the Pledge of Allegiance? Why was the way that we salute the flag changed during WWII?		
Digital Primary and Secondary Sources:	https://www.loc.gov/resource/fsa.8d27701/ https://www.loc.gov/resource/cph.3a33491/ https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1943-03-11/ed-1/seq-25/ https://www.loc.gov/resource/rbpe.24202800/ https://www.loc.gov/resource/music.muswwism-200203386/?r=- 0.59,0.451,2.179,0.817,0 https://www.gilderlehrman.org/news/pledge-allegiance-adopted-congress- day-june-22		
Required Classroom Materials:	Computer, Promethean Board, photographs, <i>Free Speech Handbook</i> by Ian Rosenberg, access to Google Classroom, Padlet and Harvard Project Zero's Thinking Routine Toolbox, LOC photo analysis template https://www.classtools.net/reveal/ Classtools image reveal template https://www.archives.gov/ for analysis sheets		
Classroom Environment:	The desks are arranged in rows facing the Promethean Board and white board.		

Differentiation and	Use the slowly reveal button on Classtools.	
Adaptations:	• Show full image and have students complete a Photo Analysis form	
	(https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/photo_a	
	nalysis_worksheet_former.pdf) and follow up with a Think, Puzzle,	
	Explore (TPE)	
	(https://pz.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/Think%20Puzzle%20Explore	
	<u>3.pdf</u>)	

Lesson Sequence/Procedures				
Estimated	Detailed Description of Teaching and Learning			
Time Needed				
10-15 minutes	Bell Ringer - Insert the first image from above into the image reveal template on			
	https://www.classtools.net/reveal Click the four squares until you have 25 boxes			
	to reveal. Reveal box 19. Complete a See, Think, Wonder (STW) activity. The			
	directions can be found here			
	(https://pz.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/See%20Think%20Wonder_3.pdf) after			
	revealing the first box. This can be done on paper or Padlet.Once the students			
	have completed STW, slowly reveal the rest of the image. Reveal box 2 last.			
15-20 Minutes	Students write down the words to the Pledge of Allegiance from memory. Give			
	the students a copy of or display on board the original pledge written in 1892 by			
	Francis Bellamy. "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which			
	it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Highlight			
	changes (paper copy). Make a T-Chart identifying the original Pledge (words)			
	and the changes made to the Pledge. Discuss the meaning of Pledge and			
	brainstorm possible reasons for the changes.			
5-10 Minutes	Class discussion - How do we salute the flag today? Those not in uniform			
	salute the flag by standing at attention, tall and straight with the left arm at			
	the side, and placing the right hand over the heart. Men who are wearing a			
	hat should remove the hat with their right hand and hold it over their			
	shoulder. The right hand, not the hat, should rest over the heart. (Display			
	picture from image reveal again. You may opt to show other pictures of students			
	in a classroom using the Bellamy Salute. LOC has other images.) Ask: Why do			
	you think we changed the way we salute the flag during World War II?			
30-45 Minutes	Give the students a timeline of the changes made to the Pledge of Allegiance.			
	(https://www.gilderlehrman.org/news/pledge-allegiance-adopted-congress-day-			
	june-22) Have students explain, based on what they have learned in US History			
	(continuity and changes), the changes made to the pledge in 1923, 1942, and			
	1954. They are to include what was happening in the US during those years. (ie.			
	Xenophobia/immigration, rise of US patriotism, rise of Nazism/Hitler,			
	emphasize distinctions between US and the officially atheist Soviet Union)			

	1892 - Pledge written by Francis Bellamy, a Baptist minister and Christian			
	Socialist.			
	1923 - The National Flag Conference changes "my flag" to "the flag of the			
	United States of America."			
	1942 - (June) - Congress formally recognizes the pledge and includes it in the			
	federal Flag Code.			
	1942 - (December) - Congress changes the official manner of delivery to placing			
	the right hand over the heart. (from "BellamySalute")			
	1954 - President Eisenhower approves the congressional resolution adding the			
	words "under God" to the pledge.			
5 Minutes	Exit Slip: Quick Write - Do you think that there will be changes to the Pledge,			
	the salute to the flag or the national anthem in the future? If so, what changes do			
	you foresee?			
	If not, why do you feel that no changes will be made?			

Assessments:	 Oral questioning Class discussion Completing Comparison T-Chart, STW, TPE Students can link changes to specific events in US History. Explain how circumstances at the time influenced changes. Feedback given through grades and written comments on students' work.
Learning Extensions:	 The lesson can be extended to include Supreme Court rulings on pledge. (Free Speech Handbook, pp. 31-68) Examine Court rulings on use of "under God" in the pledge. Explore kneeling of Colin Kaepernick and others during the playing of the national anthem. Read the news article linked in resources relating to Jehovah's Witness students and the Pledge of Allegiance.