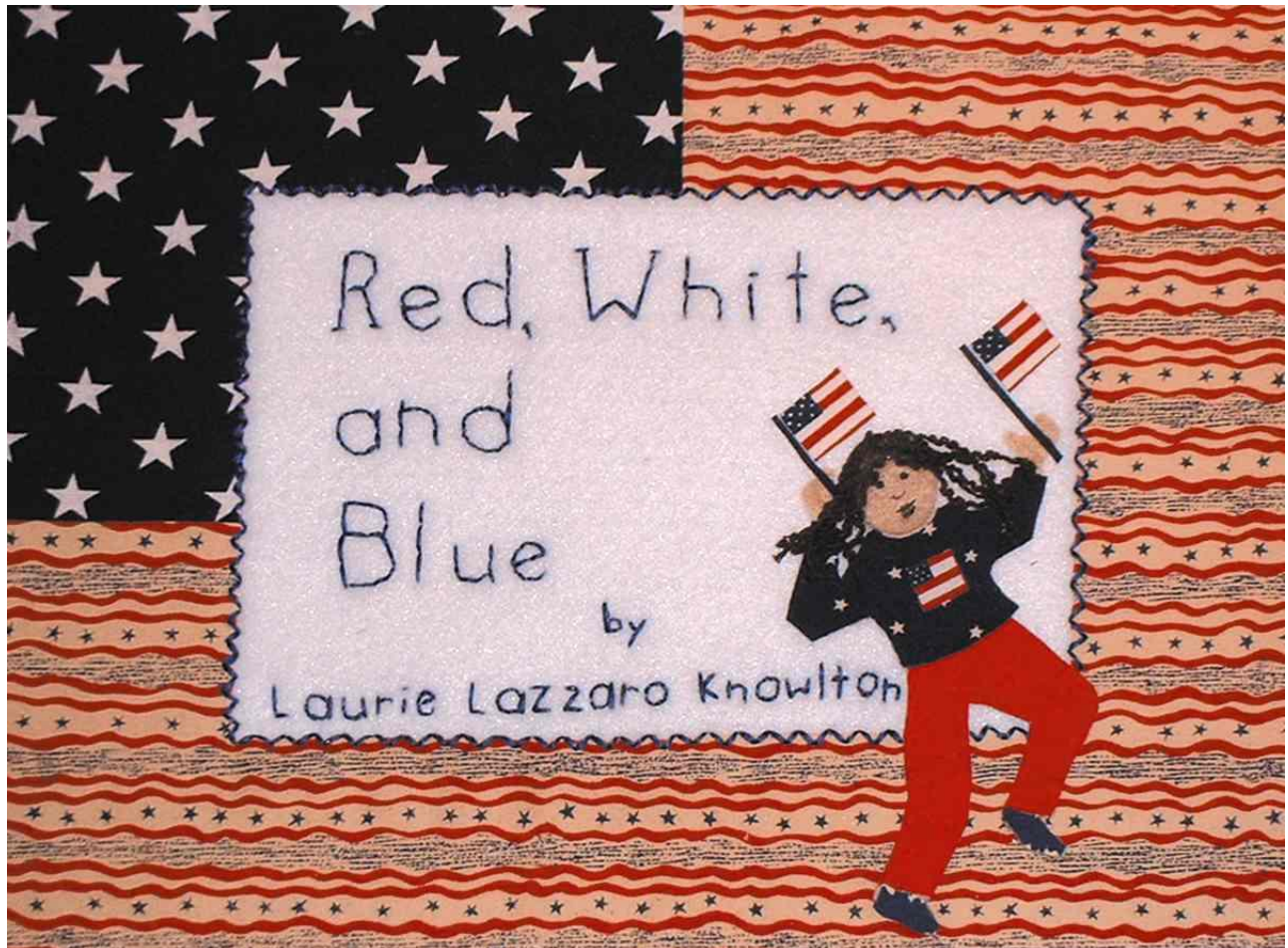


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## Study Guide For



### RED, WHITE, AND BLUE

By Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton

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Guide created by  
Laurie L. Knowlton

Reproducible  
Worksheets

**“I see you, Red, White, and Blue...”**

Activity: What is the meaning of the colors?

Activity: What do the stars stand for? Why Stars?

Activity: What do the stripes stand for?

**GO TO: <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/3-5/symbols/flag.html>**

*The U.S. flag has undergone many changes since the first official flag of 1777. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act, which said that the flag would be made up of thirteen alternating red and white stripes and thirteen white stars on a blue field. Stars have been added to the flag as new states join the union. Currently, the flag contains 50 stars.*

*Ever wonder why the flag is red, white, and blue? While the flag's colors did not have a specific meaning at the time, the colors were significant for the Great Seal of 1782.*

- *White: Signifies purity and innocence*
- *Red: Signifies valor and bravery*
- *Blue: Signifies Vigilance, perseverance, and justice*

*Why stars and stripes? Stars are considered a symbol of the heavens and the divine goal to which man has aspired from time immemorial; the stripe is symbolic of the rays of light emanating from the sun.*

**“... pointing to the heavens announcing, ‘One nation under God!’”**

**GO TO: <http://www.ushistory.org/documents/pledge.htm>**

*Activity: Francis Bellamy wrote the Pledge of Allegiance for school children in 1892.*

*Original text: “I pledge allegiance to my flag and the republic, for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”*

*1923 the words. “the flag of the United States of America” replaced “my flag”.*

*1954 President Eisenhower, encouraged Congress to add, “under God” creating the 31 word pledge we say today.*

**“I see you, Red, White, and Blue, blowing in the breeze, whispering ‘Sacrifice’...”**

Activity: What does sacrifice mean?

Have students look up *sacrifice* and discuss meaning.

Why do you think the word “whisper” is written like that?

Discussion of this is open to opinion.

Activity: Where is the statue in the background from?

Go To: <http://www.iwojima.com/>

Where did we see a more recent photo similar to this?

<http://www.groundzerospirit.org/about.asp>

### **“Loyalty”**

Activity: What does loyalty mean?

Have students look up loyalty and discuss meaning.

### **“Pride”**

Activity: What does pride mean?

Have students look up pride and discuss meaning.

### **“I see you, Red, White, and Blue...”**

Activity: History of the flag from 1776 to the present.

GO TO: <http://www.usa-flag-site.org/history.shtml>

*On January 1, 1776, the Continental Army was reorganized in accordance with a Congressional resolution which placed American forces under George Washington's control. On that New Year's Day the Continental Army was laying siege to Boston which had been taken over by the British Army. Washington ordered the Grand Union flag hoisted above his base at Prospect Hill. It had 13 alternate red and white stripes and the British Union Jack in the upper left-hand corner (the canton).*

*In May of 1776, Betsy Ross reported that she sewed the first American flag.*

*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."*

*Between 1777 and 1960, Congress passed several acts that changed the shape, design and arrangement of the flag and allowed for additional stars and stripes to be added to reflect the admission of each new state.*

- *Act of January 13, 1794 - provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.*
- *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 Monroe.*
- *Executive Order of President Taft 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.*
- *Executive Order of President Eisenhower dated January 3, 1959 - provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.*

- *Executive Order of President Eisenhower 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.*

*Today the flag consists of thirteen horizontal stripes, seven red alternating with 6 white. The stripes represent the original 13 colonies; the stars represent the 50 states of the Union. The colors of the flag are symbolic as well: Red symbolizes Hardiness and Valor, White symbolizes Purity and Innocence and Blue represents Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice.*

**“...Waving at your people as they pledge themselves to you.”**

Activity: Read I PLEDGE ALEGIANCE, by Bill Martin, Jr. Discuss each page.

**“Our people may be of every color, but we are united by the Red, White, and Blue.”**

Activities: Discuss nationalities, pride in our heritage, and how USA is a melting pot.

Activities: Discuss tolerance. Tolerance activity

**GO TO: [www.pbs.org/americaresponds/tolerance.html](http://www.pbs.org/americaresponds/tolerance.html)**

**“From North to South, East to West...”**

Activity: Use a blank map, Name that state.

Activity: Have each child write their name on the states they have been to then graph names/states.

**GO TO: [www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/usa\\_map.htm](http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/usa_map.htm)**

**“...Your colors snap freedom:”**

Activity: What does freedom mean?

Use dictionary to look up freedom: Discuss what it means to each child.

Why do you think the word “Snap” is written like that?

Discuss opinions.

What document spells out our freedoms?

**Go To: <http://www.usconstitution.net/const.html#Am1>**

Read the Bill of Rights

**“Freedom to Worship”**

Activities: Make a list of the different faiths.

There are over 300 different faiths attended to in the United States

**Go To:** [http://www.adherents.com/Religions\\_By\\_Adherents.html](http://www.adherents.com/Religions_By_Adherents.html)

### **“Freedom to Assemble”**

Activities: What does assemble mean?

How many places can you name that you are allowed to assemble?

Look up the word Assemble. Discuss possibilities.

### **“Freedom of Speech”**

Activities: What kinds of things are we allowed to say in the USA that would not be tolerated in some countries?

### **“Freedom”**

Activity: What is going on in the background?

Have you ever been to a parade?

Where is Statue of Liberty found? What is the saying on the base of the Statue of liberty?

History of the Statue of Liberty.

"The New Colossus," written in 1883 by Emma Lazarus, appears on the Statue's pedestal.

Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

**Go To:** <http://library.thinkquest.org/20619/Sthist.html>

<http://www.lightomega.org/worldwatch/StatueofLiberty.html>

### **“My flag answers to many names: ‘Old Glory’...”**

Activity: When and why was the name “Old Glory,” given to our flag?

*This famous name was coined by Captain William Driver, a shipmaster of Salem, Massachusetts, in 1831. As he was leaving on one of his many voyages aboard the brig CHARLES DOGGETT - and this one would climax with the rescue of the mutineers of the **BOUNTY** - some friends presented him with a beautiful flag of twenty four stars. As the banner opened to the ocean breeze for the first time, he exclaimed "Old Glory!"*

**Go To:** <http://www.usflag.org/history/oldglorystory.html>

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### **“...‘The Stars and Stripes’...”**

Activity: When and why was the name “The Stars and Stripes,” given to our flag?

Go To: <http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/us-ststr.html> from 13 stars to 50 stars

<http://www.dws.org/sousa/articles/stars-and-stripes-forever.htm> song and march

### **“...‘Star Spangled Banner’...”**

Activity: When and why was the name the “Star Spangled Banner” given to our flag?

Activity: Sing the Star Spangled Banner

Go To: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/SSB/>

### **“But to me you will forever be my Red, White and Blue.”**

Activity: What does the flag mean to you?

Make a word list and then have students write a poem.

Activity: Make a fabric collage to go with the poem.

## **ABOUT THE BOOK**

***RED, WHITE, AND BLUE*, Written and illustrated by Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton**

### **ACCELERATED READER PROGRAM SELECTION**

*Red, White, and Blue* celebrates the American flag by describing what it means to one small child. Using innovative textile artwork, Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton illustrates the poetic text as she explains what the flag’s three colors represent, “sacrifice, loyalty, pride.” As the young heroine pedals her bike under a rippling flag, she declares, “Our people may be of every color, but we are united by the Red, White, and Blue.” This historically rich book will be a great addition to any child’s library.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton is an Ohio native who taught elementary school for fifteen years. Her book, *Why Cowboys Sleep with Their Boots On*, currently has more than 30,000 copies in print. She is also the author of *Why Cowgirls Are Such Sweet Talkers*, *Why Cowboys Need a Brand*, *Why Cowboys Need a Pardner*, and *Nana’s Rice Pie*, all published by Pelican.

### **RED, WHITE, AND BLUE**

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