

## HOW I CAN MAKE AMERICA GREAT

Learning Objectives: Students will:

1. Identify ways that ordinary citizens can help shape our nation.
2. Decide how they can exhibit good citizenship.
3. Communicate their thoughts in verbal, written, and visual forms.

TEKS: SS 3.14B, 15A, 4.12A, 17B, 18B, 5.12B, 13A, 18B, 19B

Materials: *Arthur Meets the President* by Marc Brown, copies of the “I Can Make America Great By” attachment for each student, crayons

Vocabulary: capitol, ceremony, contest, congress, conclusion, essay, guides, memorial, memorize, monument, national, president, recite, speech, White House

Teaching Strategy:

1. Introduce the lesson asking students if they know the name of the President of the United States. Ask students the following questions:
  - Where does the President live?
  - What does the President do?
  - What would you do if you had a chance to meet the President of the United States?
  - What would you say to him/her?
  - What question would you ask him/her?
2. Tell students that you are going to read a book to them about Arthur and how he gets the opportunity to meet the President of the United States. Read *Arthur Meets the President* by Marc Brown to the class.
3. Review Arthur’s conclusion that “we can all help make America great by helping others.” Tell students that the story didn’t include Arthur’s whole speech. Have students brainstorm other ways Arthur might have mentioned that we can help make America great. Student responses should be recorded on the board or overhead transparency.
4. Give each student a copy of the “I Can Make America Great By” attachment. Have students complete the stem sentence by stating a way they think they can exhibit good citizenship and make our

country great. Below their completed statement, students should draw a picture that represents their idea and color it with crayons.

5. Display students' completed products on the wall or bulletin board.

Extension for Gifted/talented: Have students conduct research and collect 3 to 5 new facts about the Jefferson Memorial, White House, Washington Monument, Capitol Building, or the National Museum of Natural History. Students should then incorporate the facts in a newspaper advertisement, tourist brochure, or a 15 or 30 second television commercial.



I can make America great by

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