

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Learning Objective(s): The students will:

1. Develop an understanding of the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Increase their appreciation for the importance of the Pledge of Allegiance and the U.S. Flag and how they represent our American beliefs.

TEKS: SS K10.B, 1.14B, 2.14A

Materials Needed: I Pledge Allegiance by June Swanson or any other children's literature book about the Pledge of Allegiance, sets of the Pledge of Allegiance Rebus Cards, sets of Definition Match Cards, overhead transparency of "What the Pledge of Allegiance Means"

Vocabulary: Pledge, allegiance, republic, nation, indivisible, liberty, justice

Teaching Strategy:

1. Explain to students that one of the most important American patriotic symbols is the flag of our country. The Pledge of Allegiance expresses our feelings for the flag, so it is important that we understand what the words in the pledge mean. Present background information about the Pledge of Allegiance by reading the book I Pledge Allegiance by June Swanson to the class.
2. Divide students into groups of 2-4 students. Give each group an envelope containing a set of the Pledge of Allegiance Rebus Cards. Tell students to create the Pledge of Allegiance by arranging the picture cards in the correct order. Check for accuracy.

Alternative Teaching Strategy: Divide students into groups of 2-4 students. Give each group an envelope containing color-coded Definition Match Cards. Tell students that the cards containing the words to the Pledge of Allegiance are one color and the meanings (definitions) of the words in the Pledge of Allegiance are another color. Instruct them to create the Pledge of Allegiance by arranging the words and their definitions in the correct order. After the students have finished matching the cards, show an overhead of "What the Pledge of Allegiance Means," so students can check their arrangement and answers.



Evaluation:

Have students discuss or write responses to the following questions:

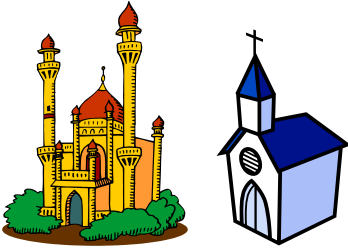
- Write the Pledge of Allegiance in your own words.
- What are you promising to do when you say the Pledge of Allegiance?
- What kind of feeling do you get when you look at the flag and say the Pledge of Allegiance?
- Why do you think the flag, Pledge of Allegiance, and/or the National Anthem make people feel a certain way?
- In 1943 the Supreme Court ruled that people should not be required to salute the flag if it interferes with their religious beliefs. How do you feel about this ruling? Explain why?

Extension for Gifted/Talented: Have students, individually or in groups, compare and contrast the United States Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Pledge of Allegiance using a Venn Diagram or chart. After the analysis has been completed, ask students which pledge they like the best. Have each student defend his or her decision. In addition, ask students if they could change either pledge, what would they change and why.

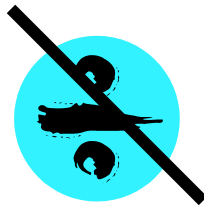
The Pledge of Allegiance

<p>I</p> 	<p>pledge allegiance</p> 	<p>to</p> 
<p>the flag of</p> 	<p>the United States</p> 	<p>of America</p> 
<p>and</p> 	<p>to the Republic</p> 	<p>for</p> 
<p>which it stands</p> 	<p>one</p> 	<p>nation</p> 

under God



indivisible



with liberty



and



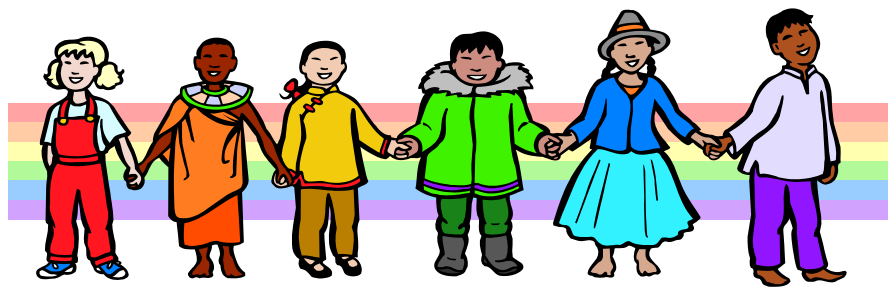
justice

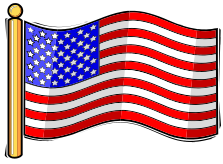


for



all.





WHAT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MEANS?

I	me, myself, an individual, a committee of one
pledge	promise, guarantee
allegiance	my loyalty, my support, my love, my devotion
to the flag	the stars and stripes, "Old Glory," symbol of freedom
of the United States of America	my country, fifty states
and to the republic	a nation in which supreme power rests in representatives chosen by the people they govern, no dictators
for which it stands	which the flag symbolizes
one nation	fifty separate and unique states sharing equally the rights and responsibilities of one nation
under God	the right of freedom of religion
indivisible	can't be divided
with liberty	freedom
and justice	dealing fairly with others
for all	everyone, citizens and immigrants, boys and girls, men and women, you and me