#9437 IMAGES OF LIBERTY

FILM IDEAS, INC. 2002

Grade Levels: 3-8

13 minutes





DESCRIPTION

Two symbols of America had their beginnings in Europe: the Liberty Bell was made by an English bellmaker; and Bartholdi, a Frenchman, conceptualized and completed Liberty Enlightening the World, more familiarly known as the Statue of Liberty. Reviews the history and significance of both of these well-known symbols.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Civics

- Standard: Understands the importance of Americans sharing and supporting certain values, beliefs, and principles of American constitutional democracy
 - Benchmark: Knows how various symbols are used to depict Americans' shared values, principles, and beliefs and explain their meaning (e.g., the flag, Statue of Liberty, Statue of Justice, Uncle Sam, great seal, national anthem, oaths of office, mottoes such as E Pluribus Unum)

Subject Area: Historical Understanding

- Standard: Understands the historical perspective
 - Benchmark: Understands that specific individuals had a great impact on history
 - Benchmark: Understands that specific ideas had an impact on history

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

- 1. To define what *symbols* are and what the Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty represent.
- 2. To review the history of the Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty.
- 3. To observe how the Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty originated.
- 4. To present the different people and events associated with the Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Two famous American symbols synonymous with freedom, and both made of steel and copper, proudly share liberty as part of their name. One made by a bellmaker in England while the other was created by a young sculptor from France.

A chime that changed the world occurred on July 8, 1776, when the Liberty Bell rang out from the tower of Independence Hall summoning citizens to hear the first public reading of the

Declaration of Independence. One hundred and ten years later, the French, as a gift of friendship, gave the Statue of Liberty to the United States. Since its unveiling in 1886, this grandiose American symbol has greeted freedom seeking immigrants from around the world. Today, both of these European-made relics continue to faithfully celebrate the principles of American freedom and liberty.

Offers a unique perspective into the historic origins and symbolic relevance of two of America's most prominent images. While blending storytelling narration with interesting facts, this presentation helps students learn about the importance of symbols and the profound impact they have had on American history and culture.

VOCABULARY

- 1. Abolitionist Movement
- 2. Declaration of Independence
- 3. Frederic Auguste Bartholdi
- 4. Gustave Eiffel
- 5. John Pass & John Snow
- 6. Liberty Bell
- 7. New Colossus
- 8. Statue of Liberty
- 9. symbol

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

- 1. What was the first name given to the Liberty Bell?
- 2. Name the two men who were hired to fix the crack on the Liberty Bell.
- 3. What document was publicly read when the Liberty Bell was rung on July 8, 1776?
- 4. What country gave the Statue of Liberty to the United States as a gift of friendship?
- 5. Where is the Statue of Liberty located?
- 6. What material was used for making both the Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty?

Applications and Activities

- 1. Assign students to stage a play which illustrates how the Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty has influenced American history.
- 2. Tour your school or community and document the symbols students see. After writing them down on a piece of paper, have them research they symbol using resources to describe what each symbol represents. During their research, perhaps have them write a short historical perspective on the origins of the symbol.
- 3. The Liberty Bell and the Statue of Liberty are extraordinary images made by dedicated artists. Have the students explore their own artistic talents by sculpting an image from clay, plaster or any other safe material which would help them create a symbolic image. Then have them explain their created images to the rest of the class.
- 4. If possible, have the class visit the Liberty Bell and/or the Statue of Liberty. Otherwise, visit monuments or landmarks in your own community. What do these community monuments represent? What are their historic origins? Who constructed the monuments, etc.?



RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- American Bald Eagle #9436
- Old Glory #3277
- A Pledge Is a Promise #3397
- The Story of the National Anthem #3413
- Uncle Sam #9441
- The U.S. Flag #9438
- The White House #9439



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/jun19.html

A page from the Library of Congress' site, view pictures of the Statue of Liberty, find out of what it is made, read the inscription on the pedestal, and other facts.

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

http://www.nps.gov/stli/prod02.htm

A page from the National Park Service site, explains the history of the Statue of Liberty and other information.

STATUE OF LIBERTY

http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/statue_of_liberty.html

Provides facts on this symbol of America, such as building type, construction system, climate, style, and more. View photos from different angles as well.

SYMBOLS OF AMERICA

http://www.kidport.com/gradek/socialstudies/americansymbols.htm

Read about the symbols of America in the Reference Library category under "American Icons" by clicking on the link provided. Test your knowledge by answering questions on this page; one example is "Which of the following is NOT a symbol of America?"

LIBERTY BELL

http://www.ushistory.org/libertybell/

Why is "Pennsylvania" misspelled on the bell? What's the story of the crack? Read on to find answers to these questions! View 1915 photos, follow the time line, and much more.