

Home Visit Notes

Lesson: Patriotism

Objectives:

- Help provide children with an early basic understanding of what it means to be an American.
- Encourage reading in the home and model reading skills.
- Foster fun learning interaction between parent and child.
- Provide hands-on activities.
- Provide and encourage healthy snacks.

Activities:

1. Encourage reading by using the provided book list featuring "patriotism" and stories about the U.S.A. Three books about patriotism on varying levels are included with this kit.
2. A template for a patriotic bookmark (adapted from www.first-school.ws/t/craft/esbookmark_usa_cl.html) is included to make with older children or to simply make and give to younger children to reinforce "reading about my home U.S.A."
3. Have parents and children create and enjoy a snack together. Star-shaped Jell-O jigglers are one easy snack to make and to reinforce one of the symbols of our country. Star shaped cookie cutters can be used to cut shapes from hard cheese for a healthy snack. Included are some other "patriotic" snack recipes.
4. Most children love to march and sing. Several popular children's songs have been adapted to incorporate patriotic themes. Making a drum or shaker instrument to use in conjunction with the songs will give an additional craft and add fun to the activity. If working with a baby or toddler, say the words while moving your fingers around the tummy. Remember even though the words are way beyond the baby's or toddler's understanding, the parent's learning is being reinforced.

5. Encourage children to practice the fine motor skill of coloring while they learn patriotism. Color sheets have been provided for duplicating. Reinforcing color names such as red, white, and blue will also be valuable in this lesson.
6. Understanding our national symbols is important to develop an important character trait -- citizenship. Make an eagle puppet to introduce a very special animal, the bald eagle, a United States national symbol. The eagle is also wearing another American symbol, the Uncle Sam hat. Use the puppet to act out different patriotic scenarios or read a book from the book list provided. (*There is a coordinating activity about symbols in the Instructor's Manual for the GED classroom.*)
7. "My First Flag" is included in this packet (found at www.first-school.ws/t/ap/usa_fingerprint_flag_c.html). Ask children to finish the flag by placing star stickers on the blue portion. Discuss how our first flag started with 13 stars for the thirteen original states and has now grown to 50.
8. Use star stampers and a washable stamp pad for the child to stamp stars onto plain paper. Most children love to stamp and even very small children can participate in this activity.
9. Make a Lincoln Penny Pendant that you can wear to celebrate President's Day, Veteran's Day, July 4th, or any patriotic US holiday.
10. Make an Uncle Sam hat. Glue or staple a piece of construction along the shorter side to form a tube. Cut out the center of a large paper plate and tape the tube to the inside of the plate to make a hat. Decorate the hat with markers and stickers and wear your Uncle Sam hat with pride.
11. You can't see wind but you can see the effects of wind by making a patriotic windsock. In the same way, we can't see our votes but when combined with other votes, it makes a difference.

Activity #11

Patriotic Windsock

Materials:

- Blue construction paper
- Red and white crepe paper
- Markers, crayons, and/or paint
- Stapler
- Glue
- Hole punch
- Yarn or lanyard
- Stickers (optional)



Procedure:

1. Decorate one side of a piece of blue construction paper with stars. You can use crayons, markers, or star stickers.
2. Staple the paper into a tube going the short way.
3. Punch one hole in the top of the tube and another on the opposite side.
4. String a piece of lanyard or yarn and tie off the ends. This will be the handle to hang it.
5. Glue or staple 12" strips of red and white crepe paper on the bottom. *Discuss 12" equals one foot.*
6. Hang it up and when someone walks by creating enough breeze, the windsock will move up and down and side to side.

Musical Bottles

Materials:

- Water or soda bottles (20 oz)
- Rice or noodles
- Glitter or Sequins
- Tape or Glue
- Ribbon
- Stickers (optional)

Procedure:

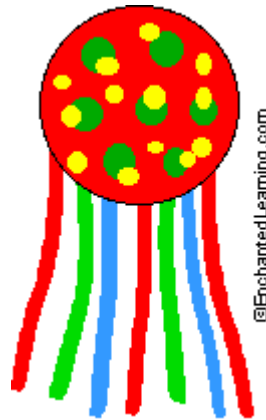
1. Fill a clean, dry bottle 1/4 - 1/2 full with noodles or rice. Add glitter, sequins, and or paper punches to add color.
2. Tape (or glue) the lid on and then tie a ribbon around the neck of the bottle.
3. Decorate the outside of the bottle with stickers if desired.
4. Turn on the music, dance, and make lots of wonderful noise!

Paper Plate Maracas

A maraca is a Latin American and Tupi rattle. The original maracas were made from hollow gourds filled with pebbles or seeds.

Materials:

- Two paper plates
- Dried beans, rice, or popcorn
- Stapler
- Paint, markers, or crayons
- Crepe paper streamers



Procedure:

1. Decorate the outside of both plates using crayons, markers, crayons, and or stickers.
2. Staple crepe paper streamers to the inside of one of the plates.
3. Add dried beans, rice or unpopped popcorn to the plate.
4. Cover with the other plate and staple around the edges so that the beans don't fall out.
5. These are fun because you can make a lot of noise!

Red and Blue Fruit Salad

A great salad to take along on a picnic or to a potluck!

Ingredients:

- 2 cups seedless watermelon, cut into bite-sized chunks
- 1 cup blueberries
- 1 cup strawberries, cored and sliced in half
- ¼ cup honey

Directions:

Dump fruit into large bowl.

Add honey; mix carefully to avoid mashing fruit.

Suggestion:

Raspberries are also a great addition to this salad!

July 4th Easy Snackin' Mix

Ingredients:

- 2 cups dried cranberries
- 1 large package candy-coated chocolates (Separate out red, blue and brown. Save other colors for another use.)
- 2 cups nuts

Directions:

Mix all ingredients together.

By: Kendeyl Johansen

From: <http://recipestoday.com/recipes/salads/redbluefruitsalad.htm>

4th of July Smoothies

from Colleen's Kitchen

Ingredients:

- 1 cup each of bananas, strawberries, & blueberries
- 8 oz. carton yogurt (any flavor)
- 1 cup of milk
- 1 cup of ice

Directions:

Put in blender and let it mix until smooth.

Red, White, & Blue Pops

from Colleen's Kitchen

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup blueberry yogurt
- ¼ cup vanilla yogurt
- ¼ cup strawberry yogurt

Directions:

1. Set out six small paper cups.
2. Spoon a generous spoonful of blueberry yogurt into each.
3. Repeat with vanilla yogurt, then strawberry.
4. Put in freezer until partially frozen about 20 minutes.
5. Insert a popsicle stick or plastic spoon into each cup.
6. Freeze until solid. (Frozen pop molds may also be used.)

American Veggie Plate

Ingredients:

- Cherry tomatoes
- Cauliflower
- Ranch dressing
- Blue food coloring

Directions:

1. Have the children help you wash the cherry tomatoes and cauliflower stalks.
2. Have the children place the vegetables around a plate, alternating colors.
3. Pour about 1/2 cup ranch dressing into a dish and combine with about 10 drops of blue food coloring - mix well.
4. Chill and serve!



From: <http://www.theideabox.com>

Activity #4 (Page 2 of 3)

Sarah's Patriotic Songs and Finger Plays

Even very young children can have an early start in patriotism with these simple songs and finger plays. Marching, waving, and saluting motions will add some fun.

Red, White, and Blue

(sung to "Row, Row Your Boat")

Wave, wave, wave our flag
It stands for U.S A.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily
We'll wave and wave all day

A Marching We Will Go

(sung to the tune of "A Marching We Will Go")

A marching we will go, a marching we will go
Heigh ho, the dairy-o, a marching we will go
A marching we will go, a marching we will go
We'll wave our flag and salute with a grin
And then we'll march again

Red, White, and Blue

(sung to the tune of "Three Blind Mice")

Red, white, and blue
Red, white, and blue
These are the colors
Of the U.S.A.
We wave our flag and march around
We wave our flag and salute our troops
Did you ever see such a beautiful sight as
Red, white, and blue

Patriots In A Tree

(use the finger play "Monkeys in a Tree")

Five little patriots sitting in a tree
Teasing King George
"You can't tax me."
Along come the Redcoats

Activity #4 (Page 3 of 3)

As quiet as can be--
SNAP!!!

Four little patriots sitting in a tree
(continue on until they are none left)

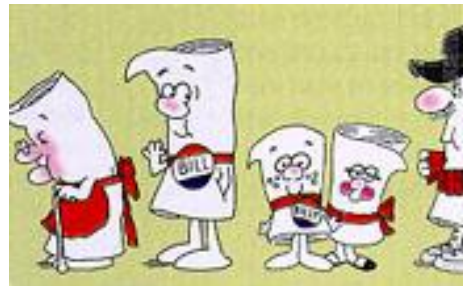
No more little patriots sitting in a tree
But the joke's on King George
"We have our own country!"

I'M JUST A BILL

From School House Rock

Music & Lyrics: Dave Frishberg
Sung by: Jack Sheldon

I'm just a bill.
Yes, I'm only a bill.
And I'm sitting here on Capitol Hill.
Well, it's a long, long journey
To the capital city.
It's a long, long wait
While I'm sitting in committee,
But I know I'll be a law some day
At least I hope and pray that I will



To listen to the song go to: <http://www.school-house-rock.com/Bill.html>

Lincoln Penny Pendant

From: KinderCrafts.com

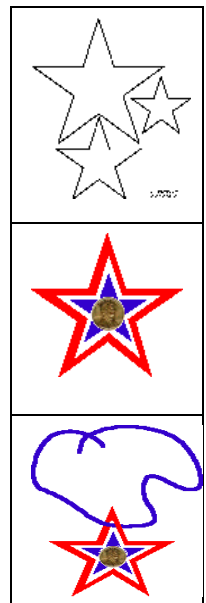
Make a Lincoln Penny Pendant that you can wear to celebrate President's Day, Veteran's Day, July 4th, or any patriotic US holiday.

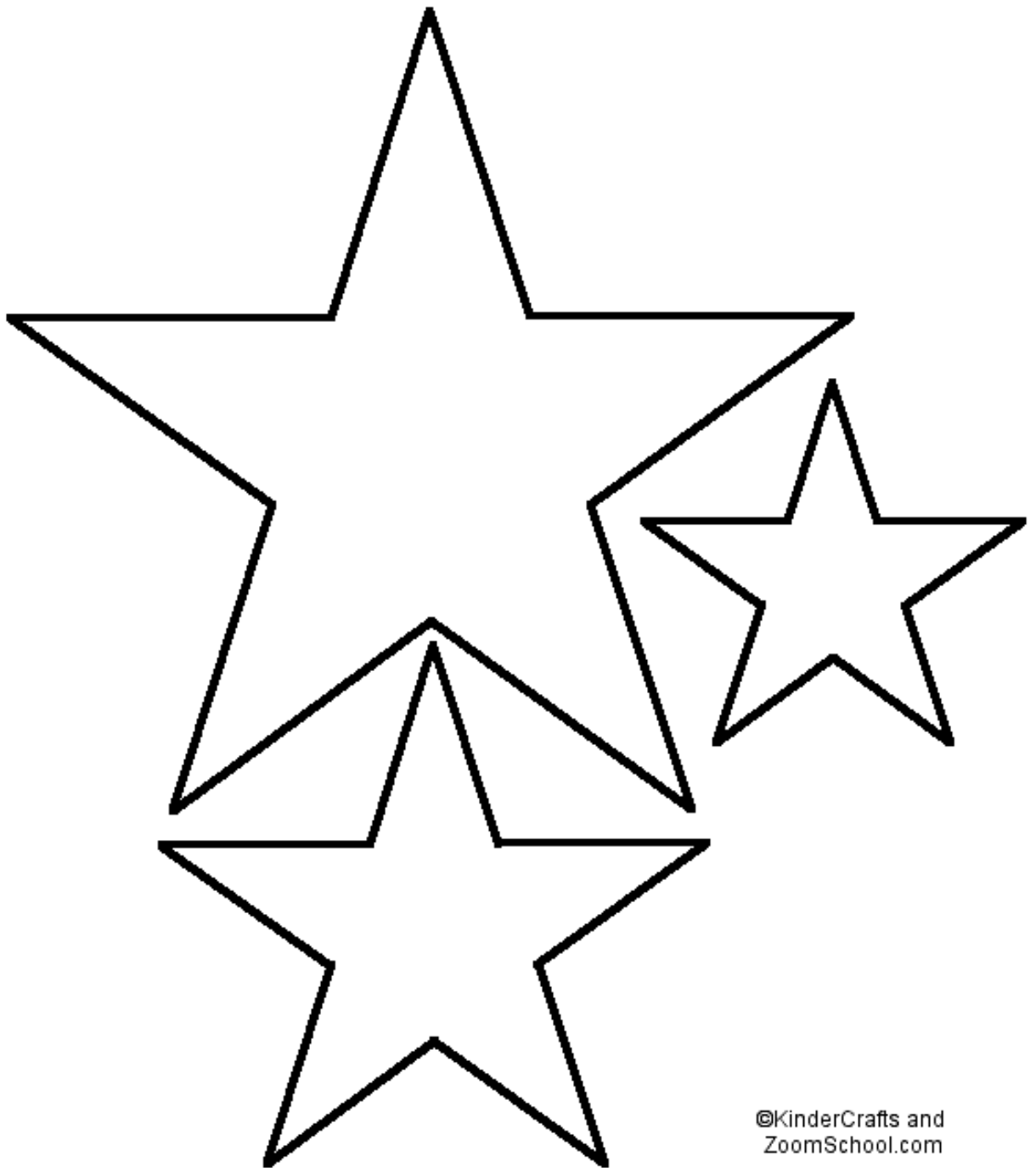
Materials:

- Construction paper (red, white and blue)
- White glue or a glue stick
- Scissors
- A hole punch
- String or yarn (red, white or blue)
- A penny

Procedure:

1. For each pendant, cut out 3 stars, one red, one white, and one blue. The white looks best in the middle. (See template)
2. Glue the white star onto the biggest star, and then glue the smallest star on the white star. Glue a penny (Lincoln side up) in the middle of the stars.
3. Have the child write his or her name on the back of the stars.
4. Punch a hole near the top of the stars. Thread a few feet of yarn through the pendant and wear it to celebrate Lincoln's birthday or any patriotic holiday.





Activity #1

Family Education **Books about U.S.A./Patriotism**

Baby & Preschool

<u>Fourth of July, Sparkly Sky</u>	Amanda Hailey (Illustrator)
<u>Hurrah for the Fourth of July</u>	Wendy Watson
<u>I Want to be President</u>	<u>Micheala Muntean</u>
<u>Meet Our Flag, Old Glory</u>	<u>April Prince</u>
<u>Story of America's Birthday</u>	<u>Patricia A. Pingry</u>
<u>Story of George Washington</u>	<u>Patricia A. Pingry,</u> <u>Stephanie McFetridge Britt</u>

Ages 4-10

<u>America the Beautiful: A Pop-up Book</u>	Robert Sabuda (Illustrator)
<u>America Votes: How Our President is Elected</u>	<u>Linda Granfield</u>
<u>House Mouse Senate Mouse</u>	Peter W. Barnes & Cheryl Shaw Barnes
<u>Marshall the Courthouse Mouse</u>	Peter W. Barnes & Cheryl Shaw Barnes
<u>Shh! We're Writing the Constitution</u>	Jean Fritz
<u>So You Want to Be President?</u>	Judith St. George
<u>This Land is Your Land</u>	Woody Guthrie, Kathy Jakobsen
<u>Vote!</u>	Eileen Christelow
<u>We, the Kids: The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States</u>	David Katrow
<u>Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?</u>	Jean Fritz
<u>Woodrow, the White House Mouse</u>	Peter W. Barnes & Cheryl Shaw Barnes

Bald Eagle Paper Bag Puppet

Materials:

- Standard lunch paper bag 10 ½" X 5 ¼"
- Eagle template
- Black or dark brown construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue or glue stick

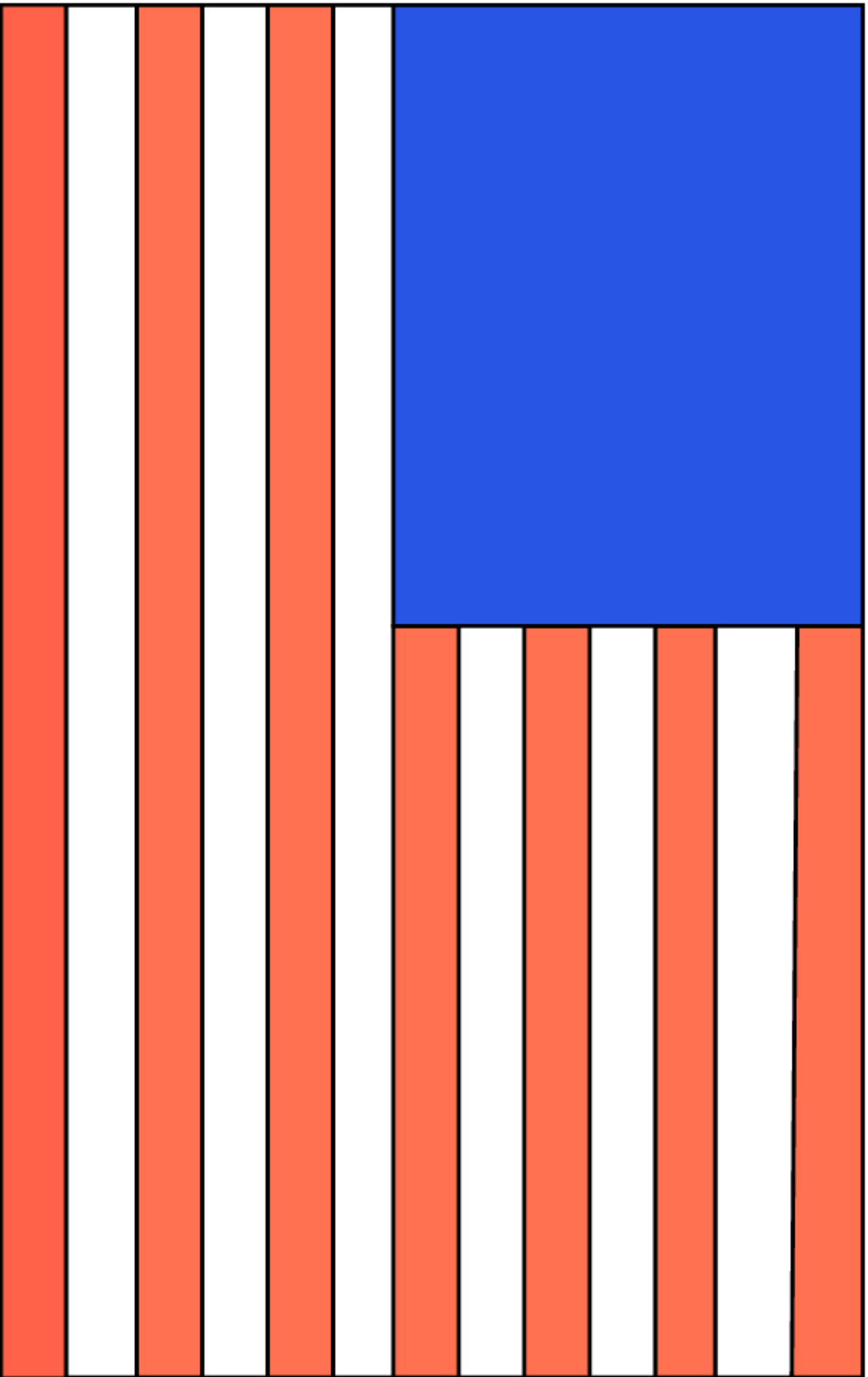


Directions:

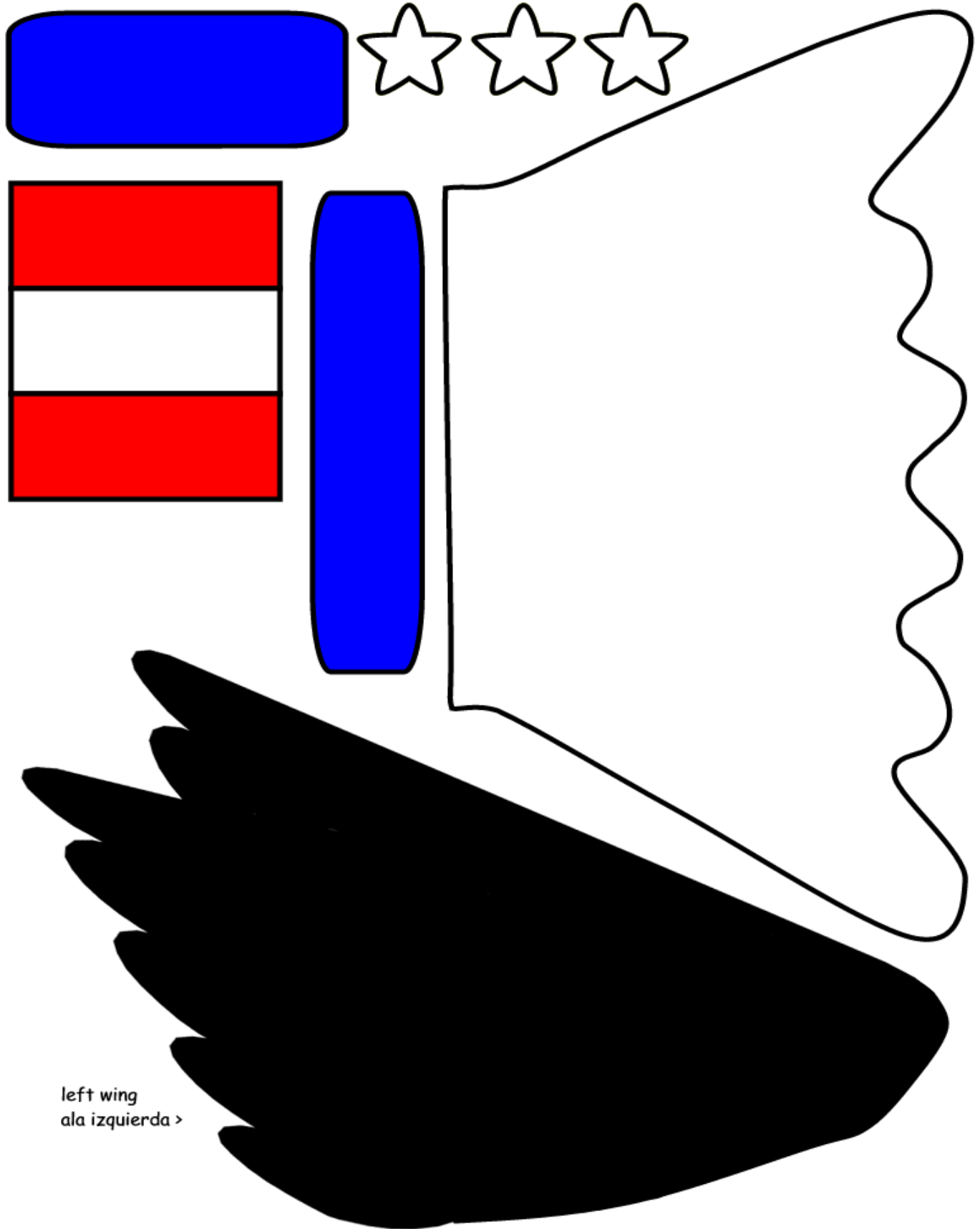
1. Ahead of time, cut a piece of black or dark brown construction paper to cover the front of the paper bag, glue and fit **under the flap**.
2. Have the children cut out the pieces. If the children are younger, you may want to cut out the pieces ahead of time.
3. Lay the paper bag flat and closed on a flat surface.
4. Lift the flap and glue the body template close to the edge underneath the flap.
5. Distribute Uncle Sam hat. Have the children identify the recognizable **shapes**: stars, rectangles, etc. Discuss the national colors of the United States (red, blue and white as depicted in the hat).
6. Distribute head piece. Have the children glue the Uncle Sam hat onto the head.
7. Glue the finished head with the hat over the edge of the front flap of bag.
8. Glue the wings, tail and feet.

From: adapted from an activity at first-school.com

My First United States Flag



Discuss the elements of the flag. Identify colors. Count the white and red stripes. Young children can make white fingerprint "stars" or use star stickers to decorate.



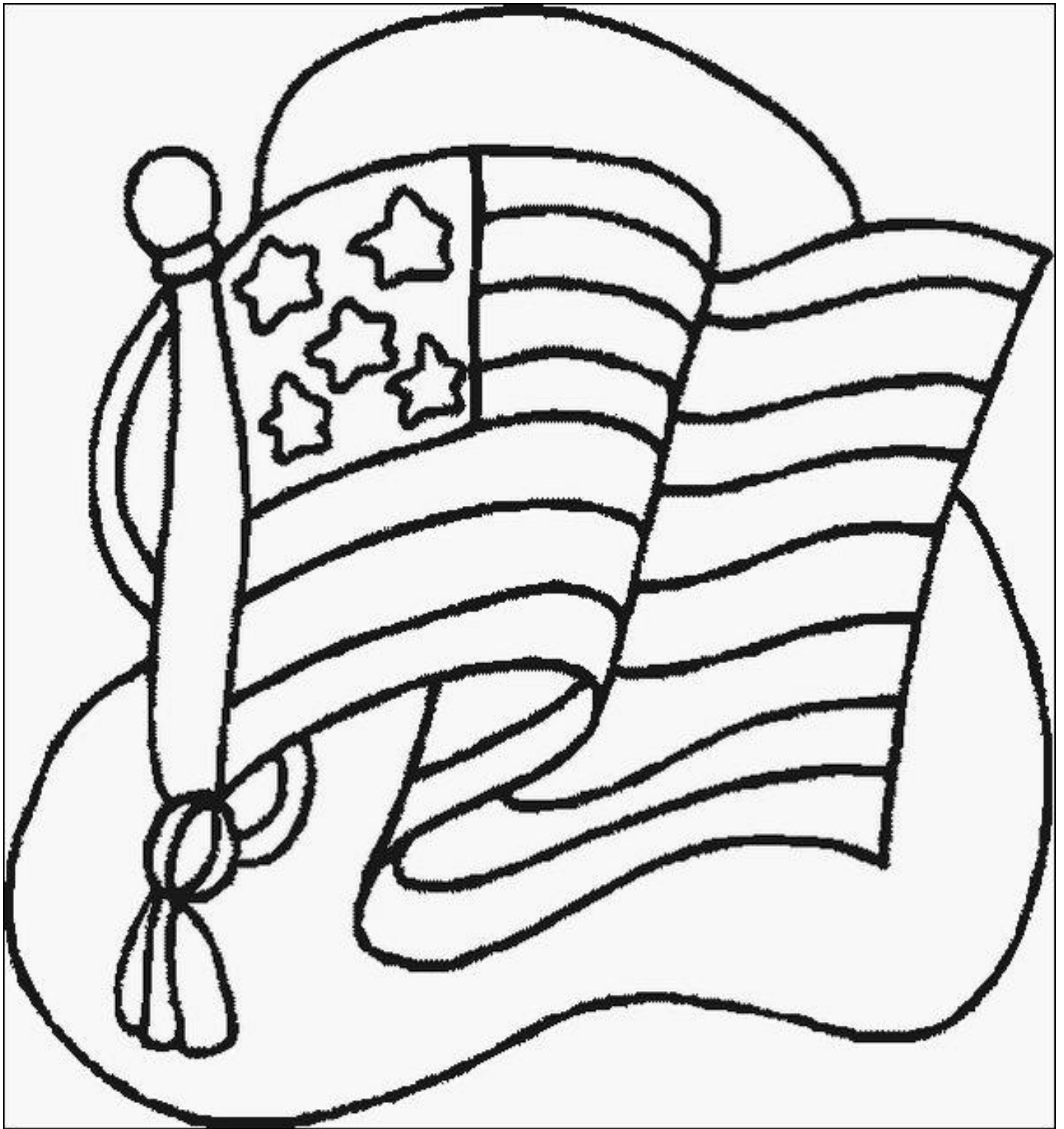
My First United States Flag

Materials:

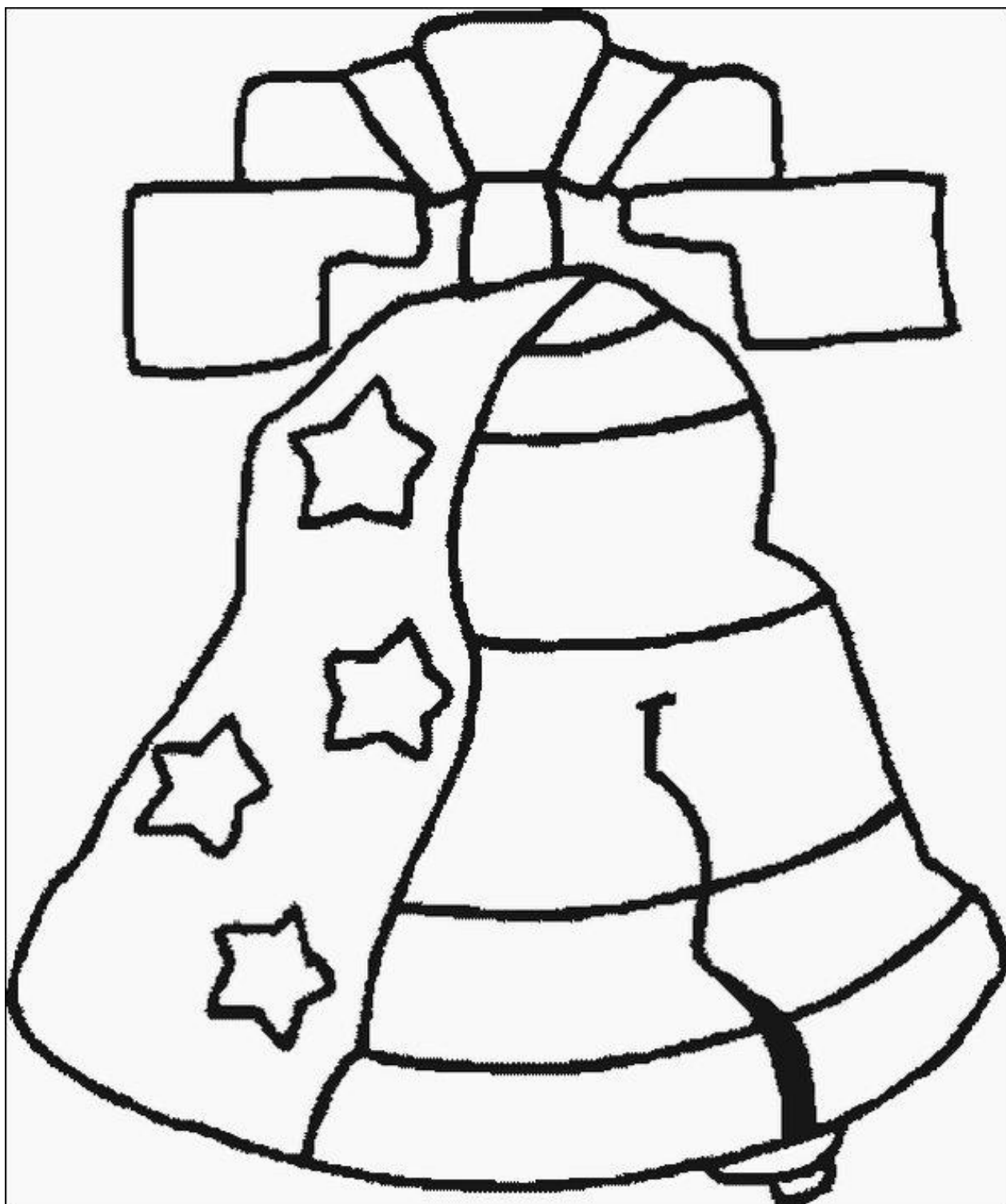
- Copy of American flag (template in packet)
- Star stickers or finger paint

Directions:

1. Discuss the elements of the flag.
2. Identify colors and shapes.
3. Count the white and red stripes.
4. Allow child to make white fingerprint “stars” or use star stickers to decorate.



Activity #5 (Page 2 of 2)



Red and Blue Fruit Salad

A great salad to take along on a picnic or to a potluck!

Ingredients:

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