

Signs of Our Nation

Identify people, symbols, documents, and events that represent the United States.

SS.3.CG.2.4 "Recognize symbols, individuals, documents, and events that represent the United States."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each name of a symbol, individual, document, or event that represents the United States. In the margin, write S, I, D, or E beside each underlined name to show its kind.

United States Representatives

- ① Many things can stand for the United States. The flag has fifty stars for the states and thirteen stripes for the original colonies. People often see the flag outside schools, post offices, and homes. The bald eagle is another national symbol. Its image appears on the Great Seal of the United States, an official mark used by the government.
- ② Documents also represent the nation. The Declaration of Independence announced that the thirteen colonies were free from Great Britain in 1776. The Constitution explains how the United States government works. It begins with the words "We the People." Both documents are kept at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Visitors learn about the nation's past there.
- ③ Some individuals and events represent the United States, too. George Washington was the first president of the United States. His face is on the one-dollar bill. Independence Day is celebrated on July 4 because the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776. Parades, music, and fireworks help many communities remember this important event each year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which symbol has fifty stars?

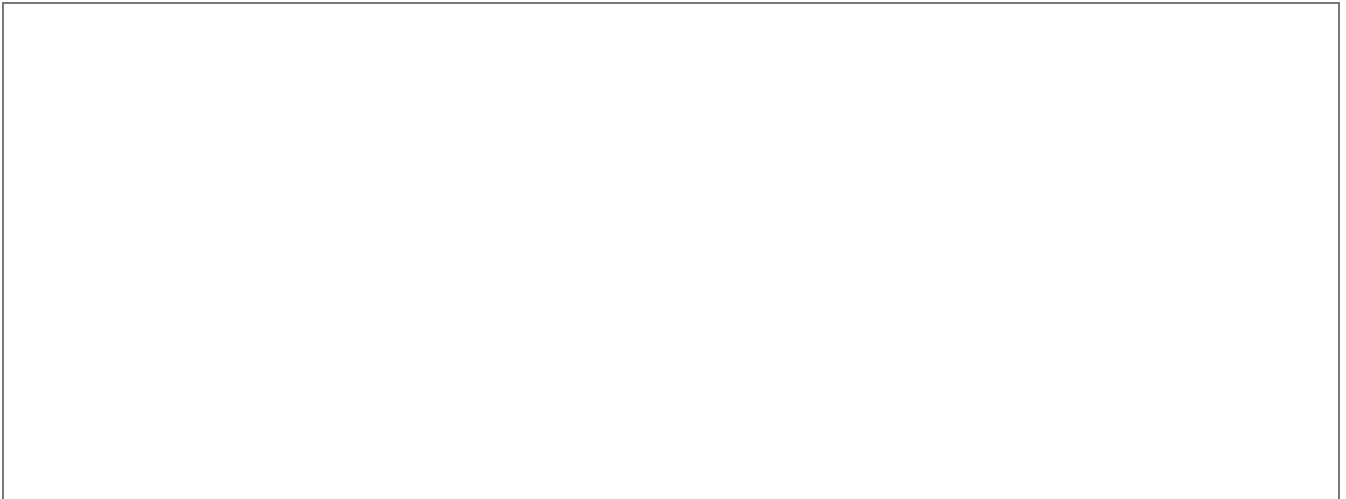
2 Which document explains how the United States government works?

3 Who was the first president of the United States?

4 What event is celebrated on July 4, and what does it remember?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose one United States symbol, individual, document, or event that is not named in the passage. Draw it in the box, then write two sentences that explain what it represents and give one true fact about it.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each name of a symbol, individual, document, or event that represents the United States. In the margin, write S, I, D, or E beside each underlined name to show its kind. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which symbol has fifty stars?	The United States flag.
2	Which document explains how the United States government works?	The Constitution.
3	Who was the first president of the United States?	George Washington.
4	What event is celebrated on July 4, and what does it remember?	Independence Day. It remembers the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom in the United States. It was a gift from France and was dedicated in 1886.

Accept any accurate United States representative that is not named in the passage. The drawing and two sentences should match, explain what the choice represents, and include one accurate fact.