



CLOVIS
VETERANS
MEMORIAL DISTRICT

2021 Veterans Day Art Contest Teacher's Guide- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2021: "1776: The American Dream"

The mission of the Clovis Veterans Memorial District (CVMD) is to 'Provide a permanent living memorial honoring U.S. Military and Veterans; provide facilities and support programs to promote a legacy of service for preserving our community's and country's foundational ideals. Veterans Day is an opportunity to honor and give thanks to those who have served or are serving in the military, those who preserve the American way of life.

The resources included in this Teacher's Guide can be used to talk to your class about the history of Veterans Day and introduce them to this year's theme: "1776: The American Dream."

History of Veterans Day:

Veterans Day is held on November 11th, which began as a celebration of peace after World War I ended. It was originally called Armistice Day, to celebrate the truce signed between America and Germany during World War I. In 1954 the name was changed to Veterans Day, to honor all veterans.

Resources for teaching your students about Veterans Day:

The Veterans Day Visitor by Peter Catalanotto

Veterans: Heroes in Our Neighborhood by Valeri Pfundstein

Bet You Didn't Know: Veterans Day- History Channel

History of 1776

In 1776, the Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress, when the 13 American colonies severed their connection to Great Britain. The Declaration summarized the colonist's motivations for seeking independence. As the colonies grew, the people who lived there thought the British government treated them unfairly. The colonists how to follow the rules set by the British government but could not do anything to change them. The colonists rebelled and as a result the Revolutionary War between the colonists and Great Britain began in 1775.

Declaration of Independence

The original Declaration of Independence is held today in the National Archives Museum, alongside the Bill of Rights and Constitution. The document proclaimed that the 13 original colonies of American were "free and independent states." At the time of the American Revolution in 1775, most of the colonist were not seeking independence but to be heard by the

British government. The ongoing war persuaded colonists that independence was the best option and on June 7th a small committee was created to write the formal declaration that we know now as the Declaration of Independence.

What is the American Dream?

The American Dream is a set of ideals (democracy, rights, liberty, opportunity, equality) in which freedom includes the opportunity for prosperity and success. It is said to be rooted in the Declaration of Independence which states, “all men are created equal” with the right to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

Starting a conversation...

Introduce Veterans Day to your students, and the reason why we celebrate our Veterans as heroes. Review the history of 1776 and the Declaration of Independence.

Discuss with the students

- What events occurred in 1776?
- What is the duty of a citizen?
- What is the American Dream?
- What is the responsibility of every generation to realize the American?

Resources

If You Were a Kid During the American Revolution by Wil Mara

[The Declaration of Independence for Kids](#)

[Why the Declaration of Independence?](#)

[School House Rock- Fireworks](#)

“1776: The American Dream” Prompt:

Create an illustration/drawing around the theme “1776: The American Dream.”

How to Enter:

Submit your artwork with Entry Form to the Visual & Performing Arts Department- 1690 David E. Cook Way, Clovis, CA 93611. If you have any questions regarding the contest please call the Clovis Veterans Memorial District at (559) 299-0471.

Related History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools & Common Core Standards:

Kindergarten:

K.2 Student recognize national and state symbols and icons such as the national and state flags, the bald eagle, and the Statue of Liberty.

K.6 1. Identify the purpose of, and the people and events honored in, commemorative holidays, including the human struggles that were the basis for the events (e.g., Veteran's Day...)

1st Grade:

1.3 2. Understand the significance of our national holidays and the heroism and achievements of the people associated with them.

2nd Grade

2.1 1. Trace the history of a family through the use of primary and secondary sources, including artifacts, photographs, interviews, and documents.

3rd Grade

3.3 Students draw from historical and community resources to organize the sequence of local historical events.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.7: Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

4th Grade

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.7: Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

5th Grade

CCSS-ELA-Literacy.RI.5.9: Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.7: Conduct short research projects that that uses several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.