



WELCOME TO WASHINGTON (SONG LESSON)

INTRO:

*Welcome to Washington
Come one and all
Welcome to the District
Of Columbia*

*We'll enter the heart of our nation
We'll see where our bills become law
We'll visit the site of the White House
And monuments that bring awe*

CHORUS:

*Welcome to Washington, DC, this is the place
Where dreams come true, yes the capital of the United States
We'll enter the heart of our nation
We'll see where our bills become law
We'll visit the site of the White House
And monuments that bring awe*

VERSE 3: (JEFF)

There are many monuments so that we always will remember
Through the summer sun and in the dark of December
The people and events which have shaped our lives
Ensuring we have freedom and our country thrives
Five hundred fifty-five feet into the skies
A monument to George Washington we recognize
What lies across the way is the Jefferson Memorial
Sits inside a bay, reminds us of a man historical
Who toiled over the Declaration of Independence
With columns and a dome, his monument brings resplendence
Then it's to the Lincoln Memorial, there's a statue
Of Abraham Lincoln in chair, staring at you
Have you ever seen the V-shaped black marble wall?
Soldiers who did fall in Vietnam, it names them all
There's a long pool of water to reflect the view
And a monument to those who fought in WWII

VERSE 1: (JEFF)

Well the national capital is not in any state
No favorites are made, no state can overtake
Located on the banks where the Potomac River flows
Between Maryland and Virginia, Congress chose
To be the spot for the country's headquarters
President Washington mapped out the borders
Formed the new district, it was 1790
68 square miles, you can say it's tiny
It's one of the most important places on the whole earth
America's three government branches on the same turf
A sure way to go when you arrive inside the capital:
Take the metro to Pennsylvania Avenue
The home of the president, the most famous resident
The White House, number 1600, it's elegant
Walking around inside it, in a room called the East
You might hear a speech by the Commander and Chief

*Welcome to Washington, DC, this is the place
Where dreams come true, yes the capital of the United States*

VERSE 4: (SCOTT)

As we continue to walk through the National Mall
Take a glance and see where many did hear the call
Of voices in rallies, people demonstrating
Where "I have a Dream" said Martin Luther King
It's not a mall to shop, but a large green park
Outside, nearby, DC's widest streets
Look up, no skyscrapers for the eyes to meet
The Washington Monument's the highest peak
But then believe that a rule was put in writing:
Nothing shall be taller than the capitol building
Travel up its steps, like dreams and thoughts
See what resembles a Greek temple: The Supreme Court
And the Smithsonian destination for your travel
World's biggest museum, looks like a castle
Or there's art to see in the National Gallery
There are many great sites in Washington DC

*Welcome to Washington, DC, this is the place
Where dreams come true, yes the capital of the United States*

VERSE 2: (SCOTT)

Originally, our nation's capital
Was usually called "Federal City"
George Washington had a lot of modesty
He never referred to it as Washington DC
DC means District of Columbia
"Columbia's" poetic, stands for America
Derived from the name Christopher Columbus
A prideful time was the 1800's
It's when the Capitol building would rise
The house of Congress, rests on a hillside
Two chambers to separate its members
The House of Representatives from the Senators
It's large round dome catches all eyes
Atop, there, standing against the sunrise
The Statute of Freedom, symbol for all people
Reminds everyone that we are all equal

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Where dreams come true, yes the capital of the United States
We'll enter the heart of our nation
We'll see where our bills become law
We'll visit the site of the White House
And monuments that bring awe*



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3 BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT (SONG LESSON)

INTRO:

In the United States of America, government is divided into not one, not two, but three branches of power

CHORUS:

*One, Two, Three Branches
Who's got the power, but who's got the power?(x4)*

VERSE 1:

SCOTT:

Who's got the power? Tell me who's in charge
Of this country that's so vast and large

JEFF:

Come on man, it's the president, in the White House
Making sure the country's rules are carried out

SCOTT:

Nah, it's gotta be Congress on Capitol Hill
They make the laws and they make the bills

MARC:

Well, what about the Court, the Supreme Court?
Gets rid of any law if it seems out of sort

SCOTT:

Then who's got the power? Tell me who's in charge
Of this country, that's so vast and large

JEFF:

I just said the prez tops the other two
Get a sense of what the president can do:
He can take any bill that Congress wrote up
And veto that bill to say "hold up"
And the president gets to be the one who picks
The new Supreme Court justices

One, Two, Three Branches

Who's got the power, but who's got the power?(x4)

VERSE 2:

SCOTT:

No way, no way, no way, man, you're wrong
Congress is the branch that's mighty and strong
Even if a president's veto blocks a bill
Congress can vote again and pass it still
So what the Court can say a law is worthless?
Congress can impeach a judge if he deserves this

MARC:

Hey, wait a minute, whoa, don't cut the debate short
Thinking you can just forget the Supreme Court
Judges of the court, yeah the president hire
But then they get to serve until they die or retire
And if branches can't agree on fair play
The Supreme Court always has final say

SCOTT:

So who's got the power? Tell me who's in charge
Of this country that's so vast and large

JEFF:

Well, as you see, the three give each other challenges

MARC:

They check on each other: che-che-checks and balances

One, Two, Three Branches

Who's got the power, but who's got the power?(x4)



PRESIDENTS (SONG LESSON)

1. George Washington is called the "Father of the Nation"
2. John Adams passed treachery legislation
3. The famous Thomas Jefferson bought Louisiana
4. Under James Madison, War of 1812 began-a
5. And the Monroe Doctrine was by James Monroe
6. John Quincy Adams built canals that flow
7. Know that Andrew Jackson led the common man's cause
8. Martin van Buren shunned war at all cost
9. Lost William Harrison, he died in bed
10. So then John Tyler filled in instead

Presidents, Presidents

Whom have we picked to be Presidents, Presidents?

Let's See...

Throughout America's history, who's made into the Presidency?

11. James Polk was an underdog, first "Dark Horse"
12. Zachary Taylor elected 'cause he fought in wars
13. California admitted by Millard Fillmore
14. Franklin Pierce on a law book, his oath he swore
15. Moreover, James Buchanan saw the states seceding
16. Abraham Lincoln brought slaves to freedom
17. Believe Andrew Johnson bought Alaskan land
18. Ulysses Grant granted votes to every last good man
19. Disbanded post-war Reconstruction, Rutherford Hayes
20. James Garfield assassinated after ninety days

Presidents, Presidents

Whom have we picked to be Presidents, Presidents?

Let's See...

Throughout America's history, who's made into the Presidency?

The song continues on, did you think that it was over?

21. Chester Arthur, postal service bribery he smoldered
22. Grover Cleveland vetoed more bills than most
23. Benjamin Harrison narrowly won his votes
24. Throw a toast to Grover, he gained victory again
25. William McKinley killed by a gunman
26. One friend of the environment was Teddy Roosevelt
27. William Taft, income tax, what he most developed
28. Hoped to build a League of Nations, that was Woodrow Wilson
29. Warren Harding had a cabinet that scandal spilled from

Presidents, Presidents

Whom have we picked to be Presidents, Presidents?

Let's See...

Throughout America's history, who's made into the Presidency?

30. Calvin Coolidge wiped away the nation's debt
31. But then came depression much to Herbert Hoover's fret
32. Yet, Franklin D. Roosevelt—new jobs he created
33. Harry Truman's usage of the bomb was much debated
34. An interstate highway system made by Dwight Eisenhower
35. John Kennedy defied Soviet missile power
36. For our Civil rights Act, we can thank Lyndon Johnson
37. Richard Nixon resigned due to Watergate involvement
38. Onto Gerald Ford, the appointee to replace him
39. Jimmy Carter pardoned those accused of draft evasion

Presidents, Presidents

Whom have we picked to be Presidents, Presidents?

Let's See...

Throughout America's history, who's made into the Presidency?

40. When Ronald Reagan spoke, he restored the nation's pride
41. George H. Bush, in the Gulf War he thrived
42. To the sky, under Bill Clinton, surged the economy
43. George W. Bush formed homeland security
44. You see, Barack Obama wants change to come along
But maybe one day, it'll be your name in the song

Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe
Adams, Jackson, van Buren, Harrison, Tyler, Polk
Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, Lincoln
Johnson, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland
Harrison, Cleveland, McKinley, Roosevelt
Taft, Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover, Roosevelt
Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon
Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and then Clinton
George W. Bush and Barack Obama

Presidents, Presidents

Whom have we picked to be Presidents, Presidents?

Let's See...

Throughout America's history, who's made into the Presidency?



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VOTING RIGHTS (SONG LESSON)

CHORUS:

*Every other year when November is near
A national election is drawing very near
Put up bumper stickers, posters, and signs
For your candidates, it's voting time*

*Every other year when November is near
A national election is drawing very near
We will get to pick who our leaders will be
Aren't you glad we have democracy?*

BACKGROUND:

1. Every other year, in November, there's Election Day
2. Everyone will hear loud and clear what the People say
3. We live in a land that was founded on democracy
4. This was an idea from the Ancient Greek philosophy
5. Voting can help people bring about what they want to see
6. They can pick the leaders that they think will act responsibly
7. Used to be that voting only was for those with property
8. Then only for white men, there wasn't much equality

RACE AND VOTING:

1. Though history, initially, our country did begin
2. Refusing voters who were African-American
3. But voting shouldn't focus on the color of your skin
4. So 1870 brought the first correction
5. It came in the form of the 15th Amendment
6. The proud, for years, had to fight and defend it
7. Some states found ways to keep prejudice alive
8. Until the Civil Rights Act: 1965

WOMEN AND VOTING:

1. Women who wanted to vote were called suffragettes
2. 1848, at Seneca Falls, they met
3. Supporters faced arrest, riots, even death
4. But the suffragettes stood tall and kept planning
5. Led by Lucretia Mott and Liz Stanton
6. World War I, a lot of men crossed the sea
7. Women took on a lot of responsibility
8. Leading to their right to vote in 1920

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

1. Now you're probably wondering if you can vote
2. Well the minimum age is 18 years old
3. And you need to be a valid resident and citizen
4. But could lose your right if a convicted felon
5. If you meet the requirements, it's now that time
6. To vote, you need register, so get in line
7. You can choose a party, something to keep in mind
8. But just get on the list, because there are deadlines

CHORUS

VERSE 2 -- ELECTION PROCESS:

1. Check it, every four years we elect a president
2. Six years for senators, two for congressmen
3. But before we can elect them on that Tuesday in November
4. We often have to narrow down the candidates that enter
5. People from the same party often want to run
6. But the party says, "No guys, we only pick one"
7. So then the party holds a primary
8. A mini-election to see who will compete

1. When we know the candidates from each party
2. We need to stop – and listen closely
3. To what they have to offer and often say
4. The message they relay, and the ads they play
5. Listen because their causes are their platforms
6. A foundation that they hang their hats on
7. But get excited and support campaigns
8. Wear buttons, hang banners, you can make a change

1. Then finally, Election Day, the moment of truth
2. Voters 'round the country at the voting booth
3. They might use an open room at your school or your church
4. Add up all the votes, how much are they worth?
5. It depends on the size of the state you live in
6. Each state has a set number of votes they're given
7. Small states have fewer, big states have more
8. These votes are cast by people called electors

1. When the polls close, the votes get tallied up
2. 270 Elector Votes, that's enough
3. Normally followed by a victory speech
4. By the newly chosen president-to-be
5. There's another name for the person we select
6. Initially referred to as the president-elect
7. Then he or she enters officially
8. When inaugurated in January

CHORUS



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POLITICAL PARTIES (SONG LESSON)

CHORUS:

*Hey Hey, Whoa, Whoa
Start the Party, Get Down, Everybody Now*

*(Listen Up Now, Party Means Dance,
Time to Get in Your Political Stance)*

*Hey Hey, Democrats, Republicans
It's Time to Party, Everybody Now*

*(Listen Up Now, Parties are Fun
Democrats or Republicans)*

VERSE 1:

In our country, we are called Americans
And we can agree with each other on many things
But not on everything, there's lots of issues
Parties challenge each other with different views
Join with a party where your values are respected
Power in numbers to get your candidates elected

One of the two largest groups, the Democratic Party
Traditional symbol is the patriotic donkey
Generally, viewed to be those who think liberally
Figuratively, said to be on the left politically
Party believes government should be large in size
And nationally protect the well-being of our lives

Why how about the Republican Party?
The Grand Old Party, it's the GOP
Many from this party want the country more conservative
Believing government should remain small and be reserved a bit
And do things only that citizens on their own cannot
The elephant is the party symbol and mascot

Do you who you support yet? "Hardly"
Well maybe consider voting for a third party
Usually the underdog, and it's evident
No third party candidate has ever been president
Some voters won't let that change what they decide
Start up the campaign; you're in for a ride

CHORUS

VERSE 2:

Well, the very first party in this country to exist
Was the party that was known as the Federalists
It was started by the man Alexander Hamilton
Wanted strong central government, that was his plan

Thomas Jefferson and James Madison did begin
A group called Democratic-Republicans
They cut spending and made state powers strong
Appealed to farmers who labored all year long

But in the 1800's, those parties fell apart
And the Democrats that we know today had their start
At their heart was Andrew Jackson who wanted social action
The vote of farmers and workers is what he was attracting

The faction that opposed them were Democratic foes and
Were known as the Whigs, a British name chosen
No, not those that you wear on your head
But those that said the government is limited

But then the Whigs began bickering before the Civil War
Some formed the Republicans in 1854
And the one to represent them: Abraham Lincoln
The first president to be a Republican

And though they've been changing, still change along the way
Republicans and Democrats are what we have today

They each hold primaries, party elections
And nominate the winners at the party conventions

CHORUS



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THE CONSTITUTION (SONG LESSON)

CHORUS:

Constitution, Constitution
The law that's supreme all across the Union
Constitution, Constitution
The founders agreed we would need a solution
It's a great work, the framework of our nation
It's a great work, one of the greatest on paper
Constitution, Constitution
The law that's supreme all across the Union

INTRO

September 17, 1787
In the Pennsylvania statehouse, a meeting was ending
A secret convention, delegates from twelve states
Here's what they came up with after months of debate:

PREAMBLE

We the people of the United States
Claim justice, liberty, all that relates
In the Preamble, lots of pride you'll find
The mission statement of what the founders designed

ARTICLE I

Following the Preamble, there are seven articles
First one says who makes the laws and rules
It's the legislative branch, that's what their job is
House and Senate both, known as the Congress

ARTICLE II

The leader we choose through Article II
Is the president, executive power ensues
As Commander in Chief, with the ability
To the guide the country through war and treaty

ARTICLE III

You'll see from Article III, we have Judiciary
That means the courts that can punish or set free
And if there's ever the question: "Is this law constitutional?"
Well, ask the Supreme Court, it should know

CHORUS

ARTICLE IV

To create a new state in the land we adore
Congress must agree, reads Article IV
All these states work together, yes the Union is one
A brotherhood to protect from invasion

ARTICLE V

Article Five could be why this work has survived
It says we can change it to keep with the times
2/3 of the House and of the Senate
Plus approval from the states makes a new amendment

ARTICLE VI

Every judge and every court must understand
Constitution is supreme law of the land
And elected officials must agree with this list
Vowing to an oath, part of Article VI

ARTICLE VII

Well, the seventh and the last of the articles we sing about
Is about how the Constitution came about
When nine states signed it and were satisfied
That's when it could take effect, what we call ratified

OUTRO

These seven articles are the foundation
Layers of guidelines that help build our nation
First Congress meeting would lead to something bright
The ten amendments, known as the Bills of Rights

CHORUS



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THE BILL OF RIGHTS (SONG LESSON)

CHORUS:

*Well, the Constitution took days and nights
But the writers still had to go look at it twice
'Cause the states that reviewed it said: Here's some advice
It should guarantee freedom, yeah that would be nice
So the founders said alright and wrote the Bill of Rights
Yup, the first Ten Amendments are the Bill of Rights*

*Well, the Constitution took days and nights
But the writers still had to go look at it twice
'Cause the people reviewed it, said: Here's some advice
It should guarantee freedom, yeah that would be nice
So the founders said alright and wrote the Bill of Rights
Yup, the first Ten Amendments are the Bill of Rights*

AMENDMENT I

Number one says we can worship as we please
We can have meetings, large assemblies
We can write what we want, it's called the Freedom of Press
What we feel, we can say out loud, we can express

AMENDMENT II

Yes, concerned about securing your house or your farm?
Through Amendment II, you have the right to bear arms
In order to be free, do you get the picture?
Each state has the right to its own militia

AMENDMENT III

Number Three says "No soldiers in homes"
The government can't just force you to loan
Your own private house so their soldiers can sleep
Especially not in times of peace

AMENDMENT IV

The Fourth Amendment is sure to get applause
No searches or seizures without probable cause
But when there is belief that a crime has been done
A warrant can be ordered, then to search someone

AMENDMENT V

Then on to the Fifth Amendment, no need to tell
The government things that might send you to jail
You cannot be accused of the same crime twice
That would put you in a double jeopardy, it's not right

CHORUS

AMENDMENT VI

Number six gives six rights to the accused
Like the right to know which law you might have abused
It gives the right to a fair and public trial
Your own defense counsel, you know there's no denial

AMENDMENT VII

I'll tell you seven is simple: when trial is civil
(Meaning that no one in the dispute is a criminal)
You can ask for a jury in these cases too
Usually they're over money, somebody wants to sue

AMENDMENT VIII

For the Eighth Amendment, we compliment our government
It won't allow cruel or unusual punishment
Face the judge's hammer and end up in the slammer,
You won't pay excessive bail in any given manner

AMENDMENT IX

All the rights that we have, says Amendment Nine
Cannot be confined only to these written lines
Just because a freedom isn't here on this list
The government cannot say it does not exist

AMENDMENT X

What was meant when the last of the ten was written?
Government only has power it is given
In order to be equal,
Powers not listed in the Constitution shall be given to the People

CHORUS



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FIFTY STATES: PART I (SONG LESSON)

VERSE 1 -- NEW ENGLAND AND MID-ATLANTIC:

Here is a song that we hope you'll sing along to
Capital names and the states they belong to

Listen to the track and then facts you'll be skilled in
These are the states to locate in New England

Have you heard of Maine's claim to fame? You musta
Pine Tree State, ate lobsters in **Augusta**

New Hampshire's white granite mountains I've wandered
"Live free or Die" is the motto in **Concord**

We go on to Vermont, maple syrup got stickier
Crossed Lake Champlain into **Montpellier**

Massachusetts has a rich history to get lost in
The Party with the Tea, see it took place in **Boston**

Crossing down into Connecticut where nutmeg was bartered
And the famous writer Mark Twain resided in **Hartford**

Though Rhode Island is the smallest, gotta lotta heart and
confidence
It's the Ocean State, with a harbor right in **Providence**

Onwards to the mid-Atlantic, New York is callin' me
The Big Apple to Niagra Falls to **Albany**

In New Jersey, gardens grow, home of Edison's inventions
Yup, and the government is run up in **Trenton**

And then Pennsylvania's "The Keystone," have ya heard?
Ruffed grouse birds are found near **Harrisburg**

I'm sure you're well aware Delaware crossed over
Into the Union first, they have their capital in **Dover**

Maryland, where the Star-Spangled Banner was scratched on this
Back of a letter, capital is **Annapolis**

CHORUS:

*Fifty (Fifty States Song!) Fifty (The Fifty States Song!)
States In (Fifty States Song!) This Land (Fifty, Fifty, Fifty)
There is something quite unique about each and every state
And they all contribute something to make the country great
Fifty (Fifty States Song!) Fifty (The Fifty States Song!)*

VERSE 2 -- THE SOUTH

Down south to Virginia, known as "Old Dominion"
The dogwood, a flowering tree, grows in **Richmond**

West Virginia, Mountain State, black bears (don't startle them)
You can take a hike or go rafting right around **Charleston**

To my Old Kentucky Home, just how do we thank her?
For the beautiful blue grass hills surrounding **Frankfurt**

A volunteer from Tennessee is never bashful
Performing at the Grand Ol' Opry in **Nashville**

North Carolina, Wright Brothers learned to fly the
Very first plane, capital in **Raleigh**

South Carolina, where you'll find in front of ya
Palmetto palm trees as you breeze through **Columbia**

In Georgia where they plant the peaches I sang the
"Georgia on My Mind" state song in **Atlanta**

In Florida, you're gonna want sunglasses to see
'Cause you're gonna find sunshine in **Tallahassee**

Alabama, Yellowhammer State, the Heart of Dixie
Proudly remember civil rights were fought for in **Montgomery**

Hop to the Mississippi Delta, known for jazz and relaxin'
Lots of Magnolias grow, Gulf of Mexico to **Jackson**

Want some Natural beauty? Well, Arkansas' got a lot
It's called the Natural State, the capital's **Little Rock**

Louisiana, wade the bayou, eat some Cajun food
Mardi Gras in New Orleans, catch shrimp in **Baton Rouge**

True, Texas was its own republic up until it crossed in
That's why it's the Lone Star, capital's in **Austin**

CHORUS



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FIFTY STATES: PART II (SONG LESSON)

VERSE 1 -- THE MIDWEST:

In the Midwest, see Ohio, Buckeyes are from this
One was Neil Armstrong, capital is **Columbus**

Humming "Michigan, my Michigan"—state song to sing
Great Lakes do surround it; the state house is in **Lansing**

In the Hoosier State, Indiana, you can find happiness
500 laps 'round **Indianapolis**

Badgers burrowed in the Badger State Wisconsin
Have you ever drunk a bunch of milk in **Madison**

The Illinois, Golden Prairies and Plains yeild:
Beans of soy, wheat and hay in **Springfield**

Minnesota, over 10,000 lakes in all
Called the North Star State, centered in **St. Paul**

We go to Iowa, the Hawkeye, 29th to join
Rows of tall corn grow in **Des Moines**

Ya know Missouri is the Show Me State, a waltz is their diddy
Go make your way through the gateway to **Jefferson City**

The North Dakota state bird, the Western Meadowlark
Watch it peacefully emerge from elms in **Bismarck**

South Dakota, Mount Rushmore was carved right here
Beware the coyote call Sioux Falls to **Pierre**

There in Nebraska, it's so plentiful, the crops aren't shrinkin'
Huskin' corn in the city named for Abraham **Lincoln**

Then to Kansas, Sunflower State, come take a peaka
Home on the Range on the plains of **Topeka**

The Panhandle Oklahoma, the shape, ya know it's nifty
The mistletoe grows in **Oklahoma City**

CHORUS:

*Fifty, Fifty States in This Land
Fifty, Fifty Capitals (All the capitals!)
Fifty, Fifty States in This Land
Something Unique
'Bout them all (About them all!)*

*Fifty, Fifty States in This Land
Fifty, Fifty Capitals (All the capitals!)
Fifty, Fifty States in This Land
Something Unique
'Bout them all (About them all!)*

VERSE 2 -- THE WEST:

To the west, Montana, Treasure State, it's great, I'm tellin' ya
'Cause silver and gold were found buried right in **Helena**

Wyoming known by the Cowboy State—watch them ride, man
When they cross on horse the Great Divide right into **Cheyenne**

Colorado, you'll want to remember
Rocky Mountains—Aspen to **Denver**

Let's go to the Northwest: Washington peninsula
Seattle Space Needle or a play in **Olympia**

In Oregon, the Beaver State, went fishin' for salmon
Settlers in wagons took the Oregon Trail on right through **Salem**

Idaho, the gem state, its deep gorge is noisy
A yell into Hell's Canyon reaches **Boise**

In the Gold Rush Californians stackin' up gold,
It's the Golden State, home of **Sacramento**

Go to the Southwest, in Arizona—see this?
Red desert and the Grand Canyon in **Phoenix**

“Oh Fair New Mexico,” enchanting land they say
The oldest state capital, known as **Santa Fe**

Beneath Nevada desert skies, where the stars are pretty
Its always dry, find the sagebrush in **Carson City**

Utah, the Beehive, the bees all stay busy
Watch the Tabernacle Choir sing in **Salt Lake City**

Alaska's vast, it's is the Last Frontier, did you know?
You can trek the tundra plain all the way to **Juneau**

Hawaii, Islands where they like to say “aloha” like they knew you
Why, you might see a volcano burst outside **Honolulu**

CHORUS



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THE FLAG (SONG LESSON)

CHORUS:

*This goes out to Old Glory
And all her proud history
Flown through victory, hard times too
She stays true, Red, White, and Blue*

*This goes out to Old Glory
Her every stitch reflects our story
Upon her bright colors, we are setting our sights
As we raise and salute her—the Stars and Stripes*

VERSE 1:

Are you proud of your country when you see the flag fly?
Waving high in the sky on the Fourth of July
It's a symbol for which many have been willing to die
Because it represents what we try to live by
Like all the freedoms that are listed in the Bill of Rights
And all our culture and traditions and our way of life

Look up deep into the night and ask yourself this
What do the fifty white stars on our flag depict?
There's one for each state, outlined in blue
The red and white stripes, they have meaning too
They represented the original thirteen colonies
Today, they remind us of our nation's history

Who designed our first flag? Nobody knows for sure
The story goes Betsy Ross sewed it in her store
As more and more states joined the country, the flag changed
Every state, another star and stripe to arrange
It became, after 20 stripes, hard to fit them all
So the number of rows returned to the original

In the War of 1812, the flag showed its strength
30 feet high, 42 feet in length
Was its size as it flew over the Chesapeake Bay
Through the battle of war, it continued to sway
The sight inspired our anthem, as it came to be
The Star-Spangled Banner, by Francis Scott Key

CHORUS

VERSE 2:

To guide you and me in treating flags properly
A flag code was drawn up in 1923
Flags shouldn't touch the ground, try not to drop them
They're never flown at night, unless lights are on them
Raise them up briskly and lower them slow
Next to any other flag, they should never stand below

We pay respect to what good etiquette would say
Like when some in the government passes away
We raise the flag up, then down halfway
That's called half-staff flown the proper way
You have to fold the flag like a triangle hat
Symbolizing many of the soldiers past

For flags that are old and are torn and tattered
The way we dispose of the flag, it matters
Respectfully burned in the glowing light
Of a campfire ceremony held at night
Did you know astronauts have put the flag on the Moon?
Did you know Flag Day is the 14th of June?

Through the history of time, crossing enemy lines
Flags of all nations, you'd often find
On display powerfully, for all men to see
Not just practically, but used symbolically
In times of need, it can boost our pride
To remind us of America where we reside

CHORUS

VERSE 3:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States
Of America and to the Republic for which it stands
One nation, under God, indivisible
With liberty and justice for all

Oh say can you see, by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there
Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

CHORUS