

TEACHER CRITICAL CONTENT NOTES

BENCHMARK
SS.1.CG.2.4 <i>Recognize symbols and individuals that represent the United States.</i>
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Students will recognize the national motto (“In God We Trust”) and “We the People” as symbols that represent the United States. ■ Students will recognize Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Daniel Webster, and Martin Luther King Jr. as individuals who represent the United States.

WHERE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN	
Kindergarten	<p>SS.K.CG.2.4 Recognize symbols that represent the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will recognize the American flag, the bald eagle, and the U.S. President as symbols that represent the United States.
WHERE STUDENTS ARE GOING	
2nd Grade	<p>SS.2.CG.2.4 Recognize symbols, individuals, and documents that represent the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will recognize the U.S. Capitol, the White House, the U.S. Supreme Court building, and the Statue of Liberty as symbols representing the United States. ● Students will recognize Rosa Parks and Thomas Jefferson as individuals who represent the United States. ● Students will recognize the Declaration of Independence as a document that represents the United States.

TIMING/PACING NOTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This benchmark may be taught at any time during the school year. ● Every benchmark clarification does not need to be taught at the same time. They may be broken up and taught over the course of the school year. ● “We the People” may be taught with SS.1.CG.3.1, which addresses rules/laws in the constitutions of Florida and the United States. ● “In God We Trust” may be taught with SS.1.CG.2.5, which addresses symbols associated with Florida. ● Some of the individuals listed in the benchmark clarifications may be taught with SS.1.CG.2.3 as they overlap with patriotic holidays/observances.

UNDERSTANDING THE BENCHMARK

→ Things to know:

- ◆ Recognize can mean: identify, retell, match, name, recall
- ◆ U.S. symbols are things that have special meaning to the United States
- ◆ Symbols help students visualize important representations associated with the United States
- ◆ Recognizing historical figures requires students to have a generalized understanding of the individuals and their significance in U.S. history
- ◆ As it is not the demand of the benchmark, avoid historical fallacy (e.g., Franklin and the kite, Washington and the cherry tree and wooden teeth, etc.)

→ Main concepts to teach:

- ◆ The definition/meaning of a symbol
- ◆ “In God We Trust” is the U.S. motto
- ◆ “We the People” are the first three words of the U.S. Constitution
- ◆ Brief biographical information that focuses on the historical contributions of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Daniel Webster, and Martin Luther King Jr.

→ Examples:

- ◆ “In God We Trust”
 - Coins and bills containing the motto
 - In schools and some government buildings
- ◆ “We the People”
 - U.S. Constitution
- ◆ Benjamin Franklin
 - Inventor, Founding Father, helped draft the Declaration of Independence, writer, publisher, politician, on the \$100 bill
- ◆ George Washington
 - U.S. General, first U.S. President, Founding Father, on the \$1 bill
- ◆ Martin Luther King Jr.
 - Civil rights leader, speaker, helped end segregation, peaceful protestor
- ◆ Daniel Webster
 - Secretary of State, accomplished orator, lawyer
 - Not to be mistaken for the American Dictionary author Noah Webster or the current Florida Congressman Daniel Webster

CONTENT BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Information on individuals who represent the United States:

1. [Kids Britannica: Benjamin Franklin](#)
2. [Kids Britannica: George Washington](#)
3. [Kids Britannica: Daniel Webster](#)
4. [Kids Britannica: Martin Luther King Jr.](#)

Information on the national motto:

1. [House of Representatives: In God We Trust](#)

Information on “We the People”:

1. [U.S. Courts: The U.S. Constitution-Preamble](#)

Information on laws/statutes regarding the teaching of diverse individuals and groups:

1. [Florida State Statute 1003.42: Required Instruction](#)