

TEACHER CRITICAL CONTENT NOTES

BENCHMARK

SS.2.CG.2.3 *Explain how citizens demonstrate patriotism.*

BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS

- Students will explain why reciting the Pledge of Allegiance daily is an act of patriotism.
- Students will explain the importance of recognizing patriotic holidays or observances (e.g., American Founders Month, Celebrate Freedom Week, Constitution Day, Independence Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Medal of Honor Day, Memorial Day, Patriot Day, Veterans Day).

WHERE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN

1st Grade	<p>SS.1.CG.2.3 Recognize ways citizens can demonstrate patriotism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will discuss appropriate ways to show respect during the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem (e.g., stand at attention, face the flag, pause conversations). ● Students will discuss how to show respect for the American flag (e.g., how to properly display and dispose of the American flag). ● Students will discuss how to demonstrate patriotism during patriotic holidays and observances (e.g., American Founders Month, Celebrate Freedom Week, Constitution Day, Independence Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Medal of Honor Day, Memorial Day, Patriot Day, Veterans Day).
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WHERE STUDENTS ARE GOING

3rd Grade	<p>SS.3.CG.2.3 Explain the history and meaning behind patriotic holidays and observances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will identify patriotic holidays and observances to include, but not limited to, American Founders Month, Celebrate Freedom Week, Constitution Day, Independence Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Medal of Honor Day, Memorial Day, Patriot Day, Veterans Day.
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TIMING/PACING NOTES

- Every benchmark clarification does not need to be taught at the same time. They may be separated and taught over the course of the school year.
- Addressing and discussing why reciting the Pledge of Allegiance daily is an act of patriotism may start at the beginning of the school year as the teacher establishes routines and may be reinforced as needed in later instructional units.
- As each holiday/observance occurs, teachers may use a mini-lesson about their significance and connect to the importance of recognizing patriotic holidays and

observances. All holidays and observances listed in the benchmark are expected to be addressed per Florida state statute.

UNDERSTANDING THE BENCHMARK

→ What to know:

- ◆ Explain can mean: write, tell, name, identify, or compare
- ◆ A pledge is a promise (oath is a synonym)
- ◆ Allegiance is loyalty to and respect for one's country
- ◆ Patriotism is defined as love and respect for, and devotion to one's country
- ◆ Requirements to recite the Pledge of Allegiance daily comes from Florida state statute (see content background knowledge section below)
- ◆ Explaining the importance of patriotic holidays and observances requires students to not just recognize the existence of the holiday/observance but understand why the United States recognizes these are patriotic days to honor

→ Main concepts to teach:

- ◆ The definition/concept of patriotism
- ◆ Why reciting the Pledge of Allegiance daily is an act of patriotism
- ◆ The importance of recognizing patriotic holidays and observances

→ Examples:

- ◆ Holidays/Observances
 - Examples provided in benchmark clarifications
 - Additional holidays/observances: Labor Day, Hispanic Heritage Month, Election Day, Victims of Communism Day, Holocaust Education Week, Thanksgiving Day, Bill of Rights Day, Black History Month, Women's History Month, Financial Literacy Month, Armed Forces Week, Florida Emancipation Day, Pascua Florida Day

CONTENT BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Information on the holidays/observances:

1. [Archives: Patriotic Holidays](#)
2. [Florida DOE: American Founders Month & Celebrate Freedom Week](#)
3. [Florida DOE: Constitution Day](#)
4. [Florida DOE: Medal of Honor Day](#)
5. [Florida DOE: Patriots Day](#)

Information on the history and significance of the Pledge of Allegiance:

1. [Kids Britannica: Pledge of Allegiance](#)
2. [Britannica: Pledge of Allegiance](#)
3. [The American Presidency Project](#)

Information on laws and statutes regarding the Pledge and Allegiance recitation and etiquette:

1. [Florida State Statute: Patriotic Programs](#)
2. [United States Code, 2006 Edition, Supplement 5, Title 4 - FLAG AND SEAL, SEAT OF GOVERNMENT, AND THE STATES](#)

