Let's Visit the Statue of Liberty | Lesson Plan



What does the Statue of Liberty teach us about freedom?

Students will understand the symbolic elements of the Statue of Liberty and how these elements represent the ideals of freedom and liberty.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the key parts of the Statue of Liberty and explain their significance.
- Reflect on the concept of liberty and how it has shaped America's identity.
- Discuss the significance of gifts between countries, focusing on the Statue of Liberty as a gift from France to the USA.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Freedom**: The right of each person to act, speak, or think without being restrained by the government or another person.
- **Liberty Island**: The island in New York Harbor where the Statue of Liberty and the Statue of Liberty Museum are located.
- Liberty: The freedom to live, believe what you want, and pursue happiness.

Educational Standards: CCRA.L.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.L.4

Academic Topics: America, Freedom, Liberty

What You'll Need

- Video: Otto's Tales: Let's Visit the Statue of Liberty (Watch here)
- Book (Optional): Otto's Tales: Let's Visit the Statue of Liberty (Purchase here)
- Worksheet: Otto's Tales: Let's Visit the Statue of Liberty (Click here)

Lesson Plan (45 mins.)

Warm-Up: (10 mins.)

- 1. Begin with a discussion about the symbols that represent America to the students. Guide them to think about the concepts of freedom and liberty. Take this opportunity to define the terms for the students.
- 2. Introduce the enduring question: What does the Statue of Liberty teach us about freedom? And explain that today's lesson will explore how the Statue of Liberty represents these ideas.
- 3. Show images of the Statue of Liberty and ask students what they already know about it.

Watch and Discuss: (25 mins.)

- 1. Play the video Otto's Tales: Let's Visit the Statue of Liberty for the students.
- 2. Pause at opportune moments in the video to ask questions and check for understanding of key vocabulary words and objectives from the lesson:

- o Identify reasons people immigrate to America.
- Analyze what makes America different from other countries.
- Point out the meaning behind the parts of the Statue of Liberty.
- 3. After the video, initiate an interactive discussion with the students. Ask questions to check for understanding:
 - Why is the Statue of Liberty a symbol of freedom?
 - Who gave the statue to the U.S.?
 - What are the different parts of the statue, and what do they represent?
- 4. If the book is available, use it to reinforce the scenes from the video depicting liberty and freedom.

Wrap-Up: (15 mins.)

- 1. Distribute the worksheet to the students. Ask them to correctly label each part of the statue and discuss with a partner what each represents.
- 2. Review the answers as a class.
- 3. Have a closing discussion about the importance of liberty.

Optional Extension Activity:

- Art Extension Activity: Craftory: Statue of Liberty Hat (Watch here)
- 1. Provide the materials needed for the craft.
- 2. Play the video, and have students follow along with the video.
- 3. Have students proudly wear their new liberty hats.

Don't have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15 mins.)

Watch the video and complete the worksheet as a class, OR do the art activity and have students make the Statue of Liberty Hat.