

Great American Award Program

September 2008

Dear Parents,

All Fifth Graders will be participating in the “Great American Award” program this year. The “Great American Award” program fits into our curriculum beautifully because so many of our Social Studies objectives relate to American history. This program was established by a teacher at Andrew J. Mitchell Elementary School in Boulder City in 1989, and it is very popular with the students, parents and teachers. This award will be given to all fifth graders who successfully complete the following requirements:

1. Recite the **Gettysburg Address** (3 helps)
2. Recite the names of the **43 Presidents** in order (3 helps, initials only)
3. Recite the **States and Capitals** in alphabetical order (2 helps)
4. Recite or sing the **National Anthem**—“The Star Spangled Banner”
5. Recite the **Preamble to the Constitution of the United States** (no helps)
6. Write the **Pledge of Allegiance** with no spelling or punctuation errors.

The students in **Tracks 1, 2, 4 & 5** have from now until **May 29, 2009**, to complete these requirements, and **Track 3** has until **June 19, 2009**.

Individual classroom teachers will let their students know when they can sign-up and complete any of the requirements. Students may attempt the requirements in any order, and there is no limit on the number of tries to complete each item.

We will honor the students who achieve the “Great American Award” at their end-of-the-year awards program. Parents will be notified in advance.

Attached you will find a packet of materials so that you, the parents, can begin working with your child. We encourage all Fifth Graders to take this opportunity to expand their “Great American” knowledge!

Thank you,

Mrs. Crawford

Mrs. Osterhout

Ms. Schnurpel

Mrs. Walsh

Ms. Weston

The Star Spangled Banner

Our National Anthem

Written by: Francis Scott Key



**Sing or recite from memory the first verse of the Star-Spangled Banner* (no-helps)*

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 rocket's 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?

The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States

**Recite from memory the Preamble of the Constitution* (no helps)*

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Write the Pledge of Allegiance with no spelling or punctuation errors



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.

The Gettysburg Address

by Abraham Lincoln

**Recite from memory the Gettysburg Address* (3 helps)*



“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that this nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate... we cannot consecrate... we cannot hallow... this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us... that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that this government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from this earth.”

November 19, 1863



United States Presidents

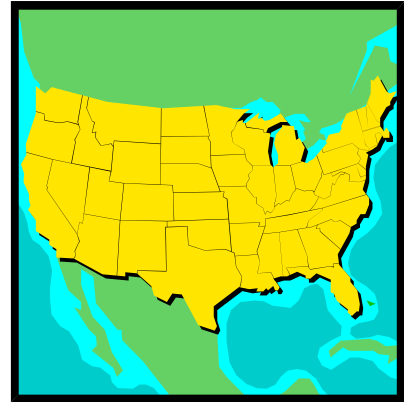
**Recite the names of the 43 Presidents in order* (3 helps-initials only)*

1. George Washington
2. John Adams
3. Thomas Jefferson
4. James Madison
5. James Monroe
6. John Quincy Adams
7. Andrew Jackson
8. Martin Van Buren
9. William Henry Harrison
10. John Tyler
11. James K. Polk
12. Zachary Taylor
13. Millard Fillmore
14. Franklin Pierce
15. James Buchanan
16. Abraham Lincoln
17. Andrew Johnson
18. Ulysses S. Grant
19. Rutherford B. Hayes
20. James Garfield
21. Chester Arthur
22. Grover Cleveland
23. Benjamin Harrison
24. Grover Cleveland
25. William McKinley
26. Theodore Roosevelt
27. William Howard Taft
28. Woodrow Wilson
29. Warren G. Harding
30. Calvin Coolidge
31. Herbert Hoover
32. Franklin D. Roosevelt
33. Harry S. Truman
34. Dwight D. Eisenhower
35. John F. Kennedy
36. Lyndon B. Johnson
37. Richard M. Nixon
38. Gerald R. Ford
39. Jimmy Carter
40. Ronald Reagan
41. George Bush
42. William J. Clinton
43. George W. Bush

50 States and Capitals

**Recite from memory the 50 states in alphabetical order and their capitals * (2 helps)*

The abbreviations are given just for your information and are not part of the requirement.



1. Montgomery, Alabama (AL)
2. Juneau, Alaska (AK)
3. Phoenix, Arizona (AZ)
4. Little Rock, Arkansas (AR)
5. Sacramento, California (CA)
6. Denver, Colorado (CO)
7. Hartford, Connecticut (CT)
8. Dover, Delaware (DE)
9. Tallahassee, Florida (FL)
10. Atlanta, Georgia (GA)
11. Honolulu, Hawaii (HI)
12. Boise, Idaho (ID)
13. Springfield, Illinois (IL)
14. Indianapolis, Indiana (IN)
15. Des Moines, Iowa (IA)
16. Topeka, Kansas (KS)
17. Frankfort, Kentucky (KY)
18. Baton Rouge, Louisiana (LA)
19. Augusta, Maine (ME)
20. Annapolis, Maryland (MD)
21. Boston, Massachusetts (MA)
22. Lansing, Michigan (MI)
23. Saint Paul, Minnesota (MN)
24. Jackson, Mississippi (MS)
25. Jefferson City, Missouri (MO)
26. Helena, Montana (MT)
27. Lincoln, Nebraska (NE)
28. Carson City, Nevada (NV)
29. Concord, New Hampshire (NH)
30. Trenton, New Jersey (NJ)
31. Santa Fe, New Mexico (NM)
32. Albany, New York (NY)
33. Raleigh, North Carolina (NC)
34. Bismarck, North Dakota (ND)
35. Columbus, Ohio (OH)
36. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (OK)
37. Salem, Oregon (OR)
38. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (PA)
39. Providence, Rhode Island (RI)
40. Columbia, South Carolina (SC)
41. Pierre, South Dakota (SD)
42. Nashville, Tennessee (TN)
43. Austin, Texas (TX)
44. Salt Lake City, Utah (UT)
45. Montpelier, Vermont (VT)
46. Richmond, Virginia (VA)
47. Olympia, Washington (WA)
48. Charleston, West Virginia (WV)
49. Madison, Wisconsin (WI)
50. Cheyenne, Wyoming (WY)