

Wonders Unit 6, week 5

"Celebrate America"

This week's Essential Question: why do we celebrate holidays?

This week's vocabulary words:

design, display, pride, purpose,
represent, nation, unite

Spelling Words

fair

pair

bear

wear

spare

share



Sight Words

favorite

few

gone

surprise

wonder

young

*comprehension skill: read to find the author's purpose, or information he/she is wanting to give the reader

*comprehension strategy: good readers go back and reread parts of the text that they do not understand

FAST & FLUENT

- 1 My family went to the fair.
- 2 I lost a pair of shoes.
- 3 We saw a big, black bear.
- 4 What should I wear today?
- 5 Do you have a spare key?
- 6 Let's share a cookie.
- 7 I stacked three boxes.
- 8 Let's splash in the lake.
- 9 Vanilla is my favorite flavor.
- 10 It is her surprise party!

SPELLING WORDS

fair
pair
bear
wear
spare
share
three
splash
favorite
surprise

	1st try	2nd try	3rd try
Mon.	:	:	:
Tues.	:	:	:
Wed.	:	:	:
Thur.	:	:	:



Wonders Unit 6 Week 5: Happy Birthday, U.S.A.! by *TIME* Magazine for Kids

Why do we celebrate the Fourth of July?

Whiz! Boom! Bang! That's the sound of fireworks that tear through the air. Colors light up the sky. Bands play and crowds roar. It's the Fourth of July!

Each year, people celebrate the birthday of the United States. It is a day for us all to share. We enjoy favorite things such as fireworks, parades, and picnics. This kind of party has gone on for over two hundred years. But how did this holiday begin?

In 1775, our nation was small. It had just 13 colonies. A colony is like a state, but ruled by a leader far away. This ruler was the king of England. The people in the colonies did not like this. They felt the king's rules were not fair. They felt he did not care if they were happy.

On June 11, 1776, leaders of the young colonies met as a group called Congress. The people of the colonies wanted to split away from England. And the leaders wanted to unite to make new rules and write their own laws.

Thomas Jefferson led the team that wrote the Declaration of Independence. They wrote it in just a few weeks! It declares that people should be free to be happy and that they should be free from rulers far away. The writers wanted to choose their own kind of government.

Leaders started to sign the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. They sent it to the king of England. He was surprised the colonies dared to do this. He did not want the colonies to be free.

The Declaration of Independence was first read out loud on July 4. Music blared and bells rang. One year later, fireworks lit up the sky on July 4.

This was just beginning. It was a long fight for everyone in our nation to get freedom. But it would not have happened without the Declaration of Independence.

We celebrate our freedom and the declaration every year on the 4th of July. It's no wonder it is our nation's favorite holiday!