

# Foundations of Citizenship

## Enduring Understanding

People practice effective citizenship by understanding the history of national and state symbols, the purpose of founding documents, and the role of the Founding Fathers.

## Essential Questions

What were the purposes of the founding documents?

What were the roles of the Founding Fathers in writing these documents?

What does the Pledge of Allegiance mean?

What is the importance of a state motto and a state seal?

## Students will be able to:

C.5.4.1 — Identify and explain the role of the Founding Fathers in writing the founding documents:

- *Benjamin Franklin*
- *John Hancock*
- *Thomas Jefferson*
- *James Madison*
- *George Washington*

C.5.4.2 — Identify and explain the purpose of the founding documents:

- *Declaration of Independence*
- *Articles of Confederation*
- *United States Constitution*

C.5.4.3 — Examine the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance

C.5.4.6 — Demonstrate the proper flag etiquette for the American flag

H.6.4.1 — Discuss the meaning of the state motto of Arkansas

H.6.4.2 — Examine the history of the State Seal of Arkansas and its components

## Materials Needed/Attachments

- *art supplies*

Attachment 1: The Great Seal of Arkansas

## Vocabulary

*motto*

*seal*

*founding father*

*founding document*

*United States Constitution*

*Declaration of Independence*

*Articles of Confederation*

## Teaching Strategies

1. Students re-write the Pledge of Allegiance in their own words. Share with the class.
2. Teacher identifies displaying the American and Arkansas flags. Use a local trainer if available. **Note:** *Protocol for the State Flag* booklets, in classroom sets, are available from the Secretary of State's office. Train rotating flag teams to properly care and display your school or classroom American and state flags.
3. Discuss the state motto and seal (*Attachment 1*). Write an essay describing the state seal. Include the following information in the essay: a definition of the motto (*regnat populus*, The People Rule) and a description of the eight symbols.
4. Using available resources in the school library locate and research the Founding Fathers (teacher may decide whether to have students work independently or in collaborative groups). Present student's research findings. Again this may be accomplished in a variety of ways: power point, book talks, poster, essay, pamphlet, and so on.
5. Identify and explain the purpose of the founding documents using available resources in the school library.

## Assessments/Rubrics

Teacher-created paragraph rubric or state one page writing rubric

# The Great Seal of Arkansas


 **Steamboat**
 **Plow**
 **Beehive**
 **Sheaf of Wheat**

## GREAT SEAL OF ARKANSAS

 **Angel of Mercy**
 **Sword of Justice**
 **Goddess of Liberty**
 **Bald Eagle**

On the shield of the Arkansas state seal are a steamboat, plow, beehive and sheaf of wheat — symbols of Arkansas’s industrial and agricultural wealth. The Angel of Mercy, Sword of Justice and Goddess of Liberty surround a bald eagle. The Eagle holds a ribbon inscribed with the state’s motto, “Regnat Populus,” a Latin phrase that means “The People Rule.” The seal was adopted in its basic form in 1864 and in its present form in 1907.