

Grade 2

Knowledge 8

Take-Home Pages

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Knowledge 8

Journeys to America: Immigration

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

1.1

Take-Home

Dear Caregiver,

During the next several days, your student will begin learning about some of the pivotal years in U.S. immigration history, the mid-1800s to the early 1900s. They will learn about some of the groups that immigrated to America during that time, some of the reasons why people immigrate to other countries, and why people immigrate to the United States in particular. They will also learn about the national motto, *e pluribus unum* (out of many, one), why many immigrants chose to settle in cities, and what life was like for those immigrants.

Below are some suggestions for activities that you may do at home to reinforce what your student is learning about U.S. immigration in the late nineteenth century.

1. Statue of Liberty

Talk with your student about this famous statue. Discuss the history of the Statue of Liberty and any personal experiences you have with it. You may also wish to have your student draw and/or write about the Statue of Liberty. Ask questions to encourage your student to use the vocabulary learned at school as they draw or write.

2. Song: "America the Beautiful"

Listen to the song "America the Beautiful" with your student. Discuss what this song means and how it can relate to immigration.

3. Read Aloud Each Day

Reading to your student every day is very beneficial to their literacy development.

Celebrate times when your student shares what they have learned at school.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

8.1

Take-Home

Dear Caregiver,

Today your student learned how an immigrant can become a naturalized citizen. This read-aloud is the first of three read-alouds that discuss citizenship in the United States and what it means to be a citizen. They will learn some basic facts about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, some basic functions of the government, and about the “Father of the Constitution,” James Madison. They will also learn about the rights the Constitution gives U.S. citizens and the responsibilities that come with those rights. Below are some suggestions for activities that you may do at home to reinforce what your student is learning about U.S. citizenship.

1. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights

Have your student share with you what they have learned about the Constitution, the highest law of the United States, and the Bill of Rights. Have your student tell you why these documents are so important to the United States. You may wish to discuss with your student what the United States might be like if these documents did not exist.

2. James Madison

Talk with your student about this important historical figure. Ask your student what role Madison had in creating the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Have your student share what other roles James Madison played in the U.S. government.

3. Song: “The Star-Spangled Banner”

Listen to the song “The Star-Spangled Banner” with your student. Discuss why this song is the national anthem of the United States. Together, share what you both know about the meaning and history of this song. You may also want to share with your student any memorable experiences you have had singing or listening to “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

4. Words to Use

Below is a list of some of the words that your student will be learning about and using. Try to use these words as they come up in everyday speech with your student.

- *responsibilities*—Responsibilities are things a person is in charge of doing and depended on to carry out.
- *amendments*—Americans have added amendments, or additions, to the Constitution.
- *consent*—In return for the power to change the government, the people agree to live according to the laws. This is called “the consent of the governed.”

5. Read Aloud Each Day

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Celebrate times when your student shares what they have learned at school.

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