"America's Flags"

**Suggestions for** leading a class:

Each class is based on the concept of providing a positive and meaningful experience for the participant.

- Focus on what the participant is experiencing and feeling during the time spent.
- Your job as the leader is to encourage curiosity and conversation.





The national flag of the United States of America consists of thirteen stripes of red alternating with white and a blue rectangle in the canton bearing fifty small, white, fivepointed stars.

Our national flag didn't always look like this and in addition to 'The Stars & Stripes', America has other important flags; flags that represent our branches of the armed service. From 1776 to present day the national flag has been challenged both physically and legally. Painting, songs, poetry and writing about the flag are ways that Americans show their patriotism to their country.

## **Extra Questions for Discussion**

- How do you feel when you see an American flag?
  - Seeing the flag makes me feel good; it reminds me of serving in the military and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at school
- When is lawful to burn the flag?
  - If a flag is tattered, torn or shredded the flag should be burned
  - If a flag is burned during a protest against America then the person is breaking the law
- Why is a flag flown at "half staff?"
  - Flying a flag at half staff is showing respect for an important or brave person who has died
- Why do countries plant their flags on new territory or even planets in outer space?
  - To stake their claim to the territory

Most slides have a question for you to ask the participant. The question is either at the top of the page or in a tan colored speech balloon at the side of the slide. The answers to the questions pop up by "paging down."

The questions will help you navigate through the slides and promote conversation with the participant

Use the questions in a friendly and comfortable way

There is no right or wrong answer; if the participant gives you an incorrect response do not correct but instead reinforce their participation. Pat their hand or touch their shoulder and say something like, "great point," "very interesting," or "I hear what you are saying." Another option is to "reframe" their answer using different words. Remember to smile.