

Craft for Independence Day

The Making of an American Flag (or “I doubt Betsy Ross did it this way!”)

PRIOR TO CLASS:

- Cut out construction paper pieces for each child as directed below. (Using a paper cutter will help in the process, especially in cutting the stripes!)
- Obtain white star stickers (50 per child)

DURING CLASS:

- Give each child one piece of red paper, six white stripes, and one blue sheet
- Have glue available
- Lay out the stripes on the red paper – LEAVE SPACE FOR RED STRIPES ON TOP AND BOTTOM (HINT: Putting the first white stripe just under where the blue section will go helps – then just put 2 below and 3 above that stripe.)
- Glue all 6 white stripes lengthwise across the red paper
- Put glue on the back of the blue sheet
- Glue the blue sheet to the upper left corner of the red paper with the stripes.
- Use white star stickers to make the star field.
- Put child’s name on artwork.

Here is what a real US Flag looks like:



NOTE: You will HAVE TO CUT all these pieces... even the red background!

Red Section – one piece
Length 11.5” Width 6.5”

Blue Section – one piece
Length 5” Width 3.5”

White Stripes – six pieces
Length 11.5” Width 0.5”

*Suggestion – Use a paper cutter... it works better than scissors!

Hints for Sanity during Arts and Crafts

- 1.) **Glue happens.** Remember that. Stay calm. Have wet wipes available for sticky fingers. Most glue will wash out of any kid clothes’ fabric. Wipe down tables at end of craft.
- 2.) **This is art, not science.** Kids will not have their stripes straight or spaced correctly... especially the little ones. Don’t say anything.
- 3.) **How many Stars?** Some kids will have 6 stars, others will have 65. Let them put the stars on until they are happy with their artwork. Encourage them just to put the stars on the blue part. Some may want you to help them count. Count slowly and out loud with the child.