INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM

TOOL KIT

TEA PARTY PATRIOTS
www.teapartypatriots.org

This Tea Party Patriots Independence Day Tool Kit will help you organize a fun, meaningful program for your celebration of freedom. Make adjustments to fit your family's traditions and needs. Smaller families may want to invite another family to join them.

"The [fourth] day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever."

-John Adams

SUGGESTED PROGRAM OUTLINE

Welcome: Welcome your family and friends to your Independence Day Program. Explain that the reason for this program is to participate in our civic duty by educating ourselves about American history and the principles of our republic.

Quote: Select one of the quotes on the quotes page and read it, or have someone else read it. Add comments of your own regarding the quote.

Open: Begin the lesson with an opening that best fits your traditions. For example: Start with the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer, a song, etc.

Quote: Select another one of the quotes on the quotes page and read it, or have someone else read it. Add comments of your own regarding the quote.

Lesson Options: Choose one or more from the following materials and present. Make adjustments as needed.

1. **Read the Declaration of Independence.** For younger audiences or for sake of time, you may choose to read only the first, second, and last paragraphs. Give each attendee a copy of The Declaration of Independence to follow along and take home with them.

2. **Unite or Die reader's theater.** Make adjustments for your family as needed.

3. **Read the 4th of July message** by Earl Taylor, president of the National Center for Constitutional Studies (NCCS).

4. **Read stories from The Miracle of America.** Choose one or more stories from The Miracle of America to read. If you have the book, show the pictures to your participants. Make copies of the coloring pages for younger children to color while you read the stories.

Activity/Game: Use a suggested activity included or choose one of your own.

Closing: End the lesson with an ending that best fits your family's traditions. For example: have an open discussion about freedom and Independence Day, a prayer, a song, etc.

Refreshments: Enjoy a suggested refreshment or choose one of your own.

Have fun and enjoy your Independence Day!

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Quotes

"Posterity! You will never know how much it cost the present generation to preserve your freedom! I hope you will make a good use of it. If you do not, I shall repent in Heaven that I ever took half the pains to preserve it."

-John Adams

"The American Revolution was not a common event...But what do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war? The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments of their duties and obligations... when they saw [the king and royal ministers] renouncing all the principles of authority, and bent upon the destruction of all the securities of their lives, liberties, and properties, they thought it their duty to pray for the continental congress and all the thirteen State congresses."

-John Adams

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever."

-John Adams

"But a Constitution of Government once changed from Freedom, can never be restored. Liberty, once lost, is lost forever."

-John Adams

"

He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from opposition; for if he violates this duty he establishes a precedent that will reach himself."

-Thomas Paine

"The preservation of the sacred fire of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government are justly considered... deeply, ...finally, staked on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people."

-George Washington

"Under the law of nature, all men are born free, every one comes into the world with a right to his own person, which includes the liberty of moving and using it at his own will. This is what is called personal liberty, and is given him by the Author"

-Thomas Jefferson

"My God! How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!"

-Thomas Jefferson

"The natural liberty of man is to be free from any superior power on Earth, and not to be under the will or legislative authority of man, but only to have the law of nature for his rule."

-Samuel Adams

"Courage, then, my countrymen, our contest is not only whether we ourselves shall be free, but whether there shall be left to mankind an asylum on earth for civil and religious liberty."

-Samuel Adams

"Our cause is the cause of all mankind, and that we are fighting for their liberty in defending our own. It is a glorious task assigned us by Providence, which has, I trust, given us spirit and virtue equal to it, and will at last crown it with success."

-Benjamin Franklin

"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel."

-Patrick Henry