

Strand: Government/Authority

Theme: Flags

Purpose for Reading: To understand that the countries of the world have their own symbols.

Comprehension Strategies: Making inferences, synthesizing information.

Vocabulary

Dictionary Words: circle, crescent, diamond, rectangle, star, triangle

High-Frequency Words: at, look, this

Before Reading

- Talk about flags and shapes. Ask questions, such as *What is a flag? Where have you seen flags flying? What colours, shapes, and patterns are on your country's flag?*
- Read the title *Flags and Shapes*. Talk about the photo. *What colour is the flag? What shapes can you see?* Turn to the title page and ask the same questions.

Introduce the Picture Dictionary

- Ask the students to turn to the picture dictionary. Read the picture dictionary with the students. Discuss each photo. Identify the part of each flag that is the shape identified in the label. Talk with the students about where else they have seen any of these shapes.

Take a Photo Walk

- Pages 4–5: Say to the students, *Look at this flag*. Ask them what the dictionary word is. Read page 4 together. Discuss the colours of the flag. Tell the students that this is the Japanese flag. Read the word *Japan*.

- Pages 6–7: Say to the students, *Look at this flag*. Read the dictionary word. Discuss the number of stars on the flag. Read the word *Australia*.
- Pages 8–9: Point to the words on page 8 as you read them. Then ask the students to read the page with you. Invite the students to find the rectangle on this flag. Ask if the students know which country this flag belongs to.
- Pages 10–11: Invite the students to find the triangles on this flag. Ask how many triangles they can find. Tell them that this flag is called the Union Jack. It is the flag of the United Kingdom.
- Pages 12–13: Have the students read the label on this page. Invite them to say what the crescent reminds them of. Tell them that this is the Turkish flag. Read the label *Turkey*.
- Pages 14–15: Invite the students to identify the diamond on this flag. Ask them what other shapes they can see. Tell them it is the Brazilian flag.

Read the Book

- Ask the students to return to the title. Read the title together, encouraging the students to point to the words as they read.
- Turn to pages 2–3. Have the students point to the dictionary words as they read them independently.
- Turn to pages 4–5. Read this page with the students. Remind them to point to the words as they read.
- Ask the students to continue reading the book independently. Remind the students to check the photos as they read. Provide support where necessary.

After Reading

Comprehension

- Return to the book to identify the countries which have flags with stars on them. Discuss the number, the size, and how they are arranged. Ask the students to make an inference about stars on flags. Explain what an inference is and use a think-aloud to model how to make an inference about stars on flags.
- Have the students return to the book. Revisit the country names and locate each country on a world map or globe.
- Make a chart to show which shapes are on the flags.

	crescent	diamond	rectangle	star	circle
Japan					✓
USA				✓	

Vocabulary and Word Recognition

- Have the students find the high-frequency word *look* on each page in the text. Invite the students to write the word *look* until they can write it fluently. Add the word *look* to a high-frequency word chart or word wall.
- Return to the book and ask the students to name the colours on each flag. Then have them put the colour together with the shape, e.g. *white circle*.

Oral Language

- Have the students work with a partner. Choose the flag they like best and describe it to the partner. The partner has to guess which country the flag belongs to.

Writing

- Have the students draw a flag with one shape on it. Have them copy and complete the sentences. Look at this flag.
It has a ___ on it.

Creative Extension Activities

- Have individual students find the country their family came from originally and identify its flag.
- Paint or draw the flags. Display the flags around the world map with a string attached from each flag to the country.
- Have the students make a flag. Play marching music for the students to march to as they wave their flags, pretending they are at the Olympic Games.

Independent Follow-Up Activities

- Reread the book to improve fluency.
- Complete the activities on page 16.
- Complete the photocopiable activities.

Name: _____

In the flag shape below, draw:

1. red triangle
2. yellow stars
3. blue circles

Copy the sentence.

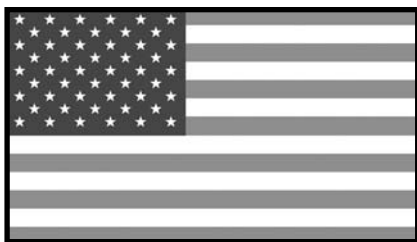
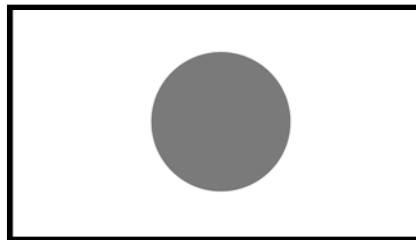
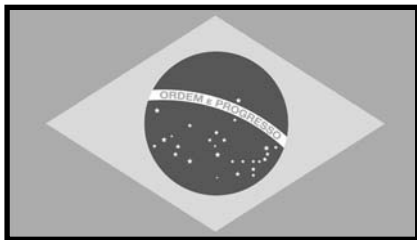


Look at this flag.

Name: _____

Look at the flags.

Draw a line from the country name to the correct flag.



Australia

Turkey

Brazil

Japan

USA

United Kingdom