

# OCTOBER FLAG CLUB

- Video your F.L.A.G. Crew Flying, Lowering and Gathering your school's flags. Share those videos on your school's website and other social media. (Signed photo release form is needed.)
- Select one day each week or months to wear red, white and blue.
- Coordinate with your school to lead the Pledge of Allegiance during announcements with a short statement of what being an American means for Veterans Day in November.
- Work with your school to plan a Veterans Day Celebration in November.
- Practice Correctly Folding the US Flag. (see page 24 in your Campus Leaders Handbook)

## Flag Trivia

13. What does a Blue Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent?
14. What does a Gold Star displayed on the window of a family's home represent?
15. What is the name of the organization that the Gold Star is named in honor of?
16. What day is the national observance of this Gold Star organization?
17. What date was this Gold Star organization created?
18. After what war was this Gold Star organization created?

## Special Days in October to discuss:

October 12 - Columbus Day is a national holiday in many countries of the Americas and elsewhere which officially celebrates the anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492. Observed Annually in the Americas, Spain and Italy.

Columbus Day is traditionally observed in the United States on October 12, or the second Monday in October.

## TEACHING OBJECTIVE: Help students understand WHY the flag is worthy of our respect, and HOW we show respect for the flag.

Talking Points and Discussion Questions:

- What does the United States flag mean to you?
- What do you think the flag might mean to someone who has served in the United States military services? (Perhaps invite a veteran to attend and let him or her answer that question.)
- What do you think the flag might mean to someone who was born in another country and has become a United State citizen? (Perhaps invite a naturalized citizen to attend and let him or her answer that question.)
- Why is the United States flag worthy of our respect?
- How does it make you feel when you see someone disrespecting the flag (stomping on it, burning it, dragging it on the ground, etc.)?
- Section 8 of the U.S. Flag Code is entitled, "Respect for flag." Spend some time reading it and discussing the content of each subsection. Most of the things listed are prohibitions,

things you cannot do to the flag or ways in which you cannot use or display the flag. For each of these, ask, “Why do you think that prohibition is there? Why would that be considered disrespectful to the flag?” (See Flag Code links on F.L.A.G. Program website under Resources > Downloads.)

- Are there any other prohibitions that you would add to the Flag Code to keep people from disrespecting the American flag? Why? (If they come up with something that they feel strongly about, help them write a letter to their Congressman or Senator suggesting the addition to the Flag Code, and explaining why it is important.)
- Make plans to attend a local flag retirement ceremony as a group.
- Read “I am the Flag” by Ruth Apperson Rous (see page 28). Or, have one of the students read it, or have students take turns reading one paragraph each. Ask, “What stood out to you the most from that reading?”
- Watch the movie “Taking Chance” the story of how when one soldier falls, another brings them home. A moving story that all Americans should see. Watch it free on Amazon Prime or order a DVD from Amazon.

**Fun extra projects for your club** - Create posters to hang around your school that answer the questions in this handbook to help others in the school have more respect for our U.S. Flag.