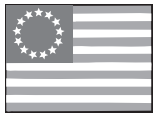
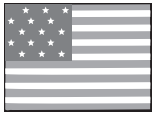
American Flag Time Line

1777: The first official American flag, with 13 stars and 13 stripes, is approved by the Continental Congress.



1795: After Vermont and Kentucky join the Union, two stars and two stripes are added to the flag.

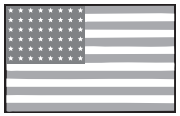


1818: As more and more states join the Union, adding a stripe for each one becomes impractical. Congress decides that the number of stripes should always remain 13, while one star will be added for each new state.

1861: When the South secedes from the Union during the Civil War, the Confederate government creates its own flag. In the North, the American flag flies unchanged with 34 stars.

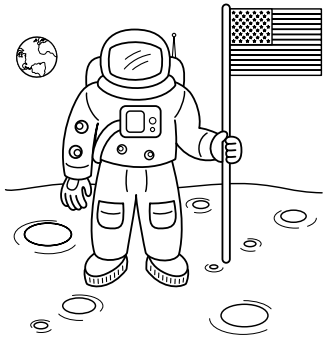
1892: Francis Bellamy. a Boston educator and minister, writes the Pledge of Allegiance and distributes it to millions of American schoolchildren.

1912: Arizona and New Mexico become states, bringing the number of stars on the flag to 48.



1959: Alaska and Hawaii become states. The flag now has 50 stars, the same number as today.

1969: Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, Jr., plant an American flag on the moon.



Look at the time line about the American flag. Then answer the following questions.

1. The first official American Flag was created

__ a. in 1776.

__ b. in 1777.

__ c. in 1818.

2. New Mexico became a state

__ a. the same year that Hawaii became a state.

__ b. the same year that Kentucky became a state.

__ c. the same year that Arizona became a state.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was written by

__ a. Francis Bellamy.

__ b. Betsy Ross.

__ c. Francis Scott Key.

4. The flag with 48 stars was in use longer than any other flag in American history. For how many years did the flag have 48 stars?_____

5. How many stripes were on the flag in 1795?_____

6. How many stripes were on the American flag during the Civil War? _____

7. How many stars were on American flags flown during World War I (1914-1918)? _____

8. How many stars were on the first American flag planted on the moon?_____

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