

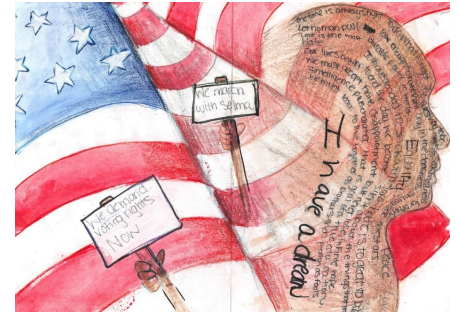
Protecting Freedom and Independence

Appreciating Others



RESPOND to the ideals of freedom and independence by reflecting on what these words mean to you. How are these founding principles treasured and celebrated? Why do they need to be protected?

What are some essential freedoms you enjoy? Consider a time when you expressed thoughts without fear of being punished for an unpopular point of view. Why is it important for everyone to have freedom of religion? How does it feel to be able to move freely across state lines? How does the legal system uphold the societal goal of treating each person equally and settling grievances fairly?



Adriana O., Ellaville, GA



CREATE a scene that shows appreciation for freedom and independence. You might draw a veteran and express gratitude for how that individual protected freedom in the United States or abroad. You might draw an Independence Day celebration that shows a community celebrating joyously.



Josiah P., Greenville, SC



CONNECT the ways Memorial Day, Independence Day, and other national celebrations can include both fun activities and more serious commemorations of the holiday. Beyond enjoying food and music at picnics and parades, how are national independence and freedom addressed on these holidays? How are heroes honored at the events? In what ways do community leaders' speeches inspire people to get involved? Is there time for people to share personal memories or stories of where they came from, especially those who have lived in other countries? Do event participants discuss the responsibilities and privileges that are associated with their rights and freedom?



PRESENT your art while you share thoughts about freedom, independence, rights, and responsibilities. Ask elders why each generation should not take freedom for granted. Discuss ways you and others your age can help defend the country's founding principles.