

1. **Madelyn G:** Good Afternoon (evening) the students of -----fourth-grade classes would like to present to you; through words, a musical celebration of our great country.
2. **Eli K:** A dream of Bounty and Hope brought people from many nations to America. Some came for the adventure and excitement this new land offered. It became a haven for those who yearned for a place where they could live and worship as they pleased
3. **Amelia K:** Condoleezza Rice once said, "The essence of America — that which really unites us — is not ethnicity, or nationality or religion — it is an idea — and what an idea it is: That you can come from humble circumstances and do great things."
4. **Joseph A:** As Americans started to build their nation; they knew they wanted to be free of British Rule and Taxes. They were also living in America without representation in Britain's Parliament. Their way out of these injustices was through a revolution, which was the Revolutionary War.

5. **LuLu J:** "Yankee Doodle" is a well-known American song. The song was a pre-Revolutionary War song originally sung by British military officers to mock the disheveled, disorganized colonial "Yankees" with whom they served in the French and Indian War.
6. **Mia T:** It was written around 1755 by British Army surgeon Dr. Richard Shuckburgh while campaigning in upper New York, and the British troops sang it to make fun of their stereotype of the American soldier as a Yankee simpleton who thought that he was stylish if he simply stuck a feather in his cap.
7. **Ava P:** It was also popular among the Americans as a song of defiance, and they added verses to it that mocked the British troops and hailed George Washington as the Commander of the Continental army. By 1781, Yankee Doodle had turned from being an insult to being a song of national pride that is often sung patriotically in the United States today, and is the state anthem of Connecticut.

Yankee Doodle Boy

8. **Kevisha A:** In May of 1776, George Washington and other members of the Continental Congress paid a visit to a local seamstress. Her name was Betsy Ross. Betsy Ross was asked to take the sketch that George Washington had drawn and create a flag. The only thing different between her flag and the flags you see today is that it had 13 stars in a circle to represent the 13 original colonies.
9. **Eve C:** George Washington is credited for saying “we take the stars from heaven, the red from our mother country, separating it by white stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her, and the white stripes shall go down to posterity representing liberty.” We will now play for you, You’re a Grand Old Flag.

You’re a Grand Ol Flag

10. **Aden C:** As America started to grow, many immigrants continued to come to America. In the 19th century, the United States received some 5 million German immigrants. Many of them journeyed to the present-day Midwest to buy farms. Others congregated in such cities as Milwaukee, St. Louis, and Cincinnati.

11. **Rhayna D:** The Statue of Liberty in New York City is a symbol of immigration, hope, and a better life. When immigrants came over to the U.S. from the east, one of the first things they saw was Lady Liberty with her torch held high in the air.
12. **Clementine C:** It was given to the U.S. from France as a gift of friendship, but it has come to represent an international symbol of democracy and freedom. This monument was dedicated in 1886 and became a national monument in 1924.
13. **Kayla J:** Here is a quote by our 32nd President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt. “Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.” Celebrating our culture is what is so wonderful about this Land of Freedom.
14. **Star S:** Between 1880 and 1920, a time of rapid industrialization and urbanization, America received more than 20 million immigrants. Beginning in the 1890s, the majority of arrivals were from Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe

15. **Rylee S:** In that decade alone, some 600,000 Italians migrated to America, and by 1920 more than 4 million had entered the United States. Jewish people from Eastern Europe were fleeing religious persecution and arrived in large numbers; over 2 million entered the United States between 1880 and 1920.

16. **Hattie:** Our next song, titled “American Song!”, celebrates what America is all about. We are a melting pot of people from all over the world, and we are proud to be Americans.

American Song!

17. **Maja G:** "The Stars and Stripes Forever" is a patriotic American march written and composed by John Philip Sousa. By a 1987 act of the U.S. Congress, it is the official National March of the United States of America.

18. **Makinley K:** In his 1928 autobiography, *Marching Along*, Sousa wrote that he composed the march on Christmas Day, 1896. He was on board an ocean liner on his way home from a vacation with his wife in Europe. He composed the march in his head and committed the notes to paper on arrival in the United States

19. **Lily C:** It was first performed at Willow Grove Park, just outside Philadelphia, on May 14, 1897, and was immediately greeted with enthusiasm. Here is our Next song on Bucket drums, Stars and Stripes Forever.

Stars and Stripes Forever

20. **Liam M:** The Liberty Bell inscription bears a timeless message: "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants thereof." The State House bell, now known as the Liberty Bell, rang in the tower of the Pennsylvania State House. Today, we call that building **Independence Hall**.
21. **Molly S:** Speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly, Isaac Norris, first ordered a bell for the bell tower in 1751 from the Whitechapel Foundry in London. No one recorded when or why the Liberty Bell first cracked, but the most likely explanation is that a narrow split developed in the early 1840s after nearly 90 years of hard use.
22. **Jackson L:** In 1846, when the city decided to repair the bell prior to George Washington's birthday holiday, metal workers widened the thin crack to prevent its further spread and restored the tone of the bell using a technique called "stop drilling". The wide "crack" in the Liberty Bell is actually the repair job! Look carefully and you'll see over 40 drill bit marks in that wide "crack".

23. **Audrey C:** The bell's inscription provided a rallying cry for abolitionists wishing to end slavery. The Anti-Slavery Record, an abolitionist publication, first referred to the bell as the Liberty Bell in 1835.
24. **Teddy M:** Beginning in the late 1800s, the Liberty Bell traveled across the country for display at expositions and fairs, stopping in towns small and large along the way. For a nation recovering from the wounds of the Civil War, the bell served to remind Americans of a time when they fought together for independence.
25. **Lleyton T:** Movements from Women's Suffrage to Civil Rights embraced the Liberty Bell for both protest and celebration. Pennsylvania suffragists commissioned a replica of the Liberty Bell. Their "Justice Bell" traveled across Pennsylvania in 1915 to encourage support for women's Right to vote.
26. **Landon K:** The Liberty Bell then sat chained in silence until the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920. Now a worldwide symbol, the bell's message of liberty remains just as relevant and powerful today. Here is Liberty Bell March on bucket drums.

Liberty Bell March

27. **Mariah P:** In the early 1800s many Americans were anxious to explore westward of the Mississippi River but France owned this land. In a surprising move, Napoleon of France offered the United States over 800,000 Square Miles of land Known as the Louisiana Territory.

28. **Madelyn G:** This land included Louisiana and almost all the land west of the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains, much of this territory being unexplored. President Thomas Jefferson decided to put together an expedition team that included Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

29. **Eli K:** They were set out across this land to see what resources this land could offer the country while trying to find a northwest passage. A bilingual Shoshone woman, Sacagawea, accompanied them and was a major help to Lewis and Clark.

30. **Amelia K:** Lewis and Clarke were on this expedition from the northern plains through the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean and back. In the song "This Land is Your Land" it talks about the beautiful land of our country.

31. **Joseph A:** Our last song tonight is our Patriotic Medley including You're a Grand Old Flag, This Land is Your Land, and America the Beautiful. We hope you have enjoyed our tribute to our great Country through singing and drumming.

32. **LuLu J:** So I leave you with this quote..."My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country". - John F. Kennedy.
Thank you for attending our 4th-grade performance.

***Patriotic Medley**