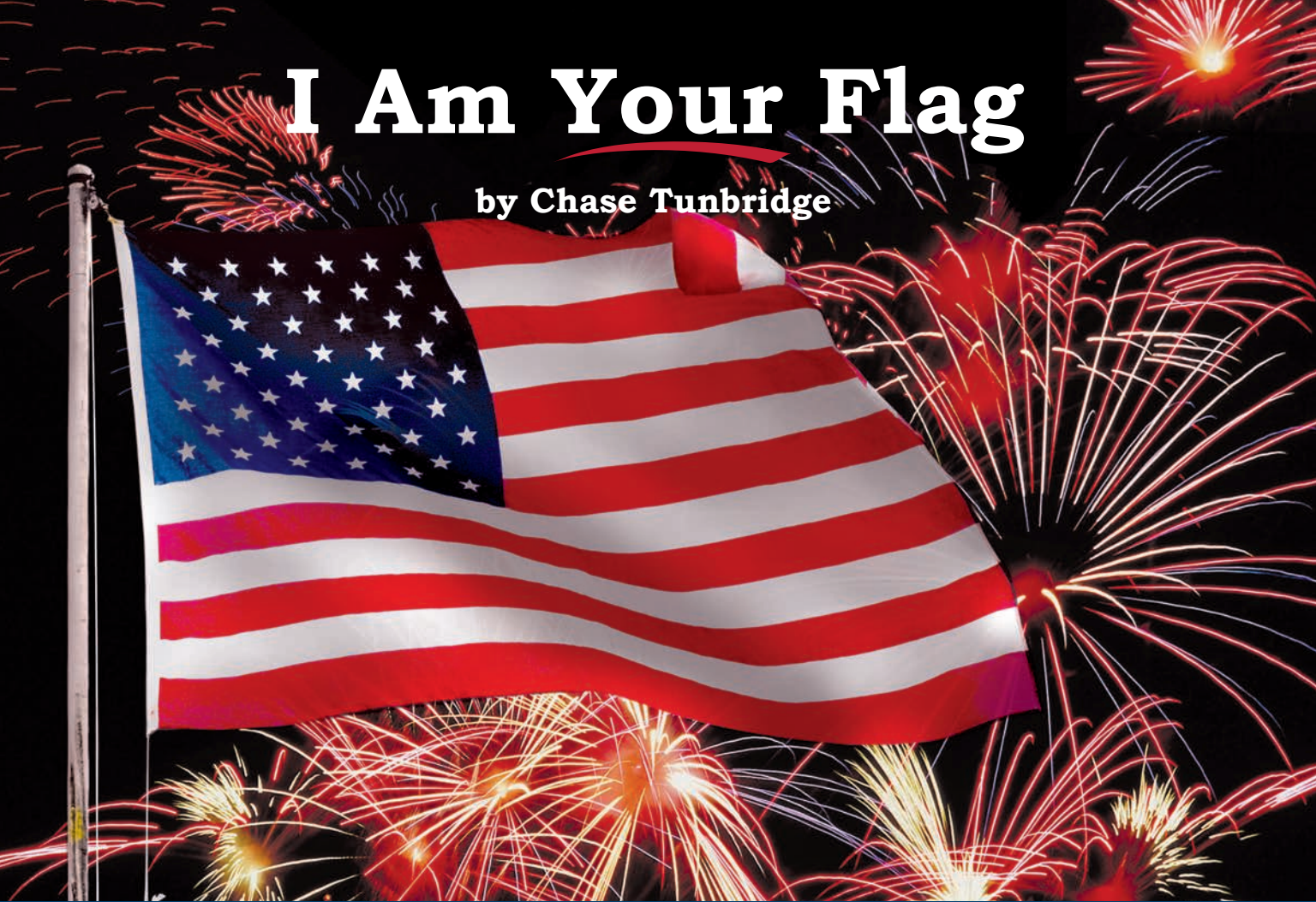


I Am Your Flag

by Chase Tunbridge





Stars and stripes – red, white, and blue – our flag is a symbol of the people of the United States of America. It is your flag.

Starfall.com[®]

I Am Your Flag

by Chase Tunbridge



Copyright © 2025 by Starfall Education. All rights reserved. Starfall® and Starfall.com® are registered trademarks in the U.S., the European Union, and various other countries. This document may be reproduced by individuals for non-commercial use in their own school or home, but any other reproduction is not allowed without written permission from the publisher. Starfall Education Foundation is a publicly supported nonprofit organization, 501(c)(3).

ISBN: 978-1-59577-080-6

Starfall Education Foundation
P.O. Box 359, Boulder, Colorado 80306



I am the flag of the United **States** of America. I belong to every American.



The Birth of Old Glory, Percy Moran

I was born June 14, 1777, in Philadelphia.



You celebrate my birthday every year,
on Flag Day.



When I was young I had thirteen white stars, one for each of the first thirteen colonies, in a field of blue.

The color blue stands for the **union** of the thirteen states.



Today I have fifty stars! One star for
each state in the union.

I have grown with our **nation**.



Washington Crossing the Delaware, Emanuel Leutze

My red stripes stand for **courage**.



My white stripes stand for **liberty**.



I love to fly. You'll see me outside
of your school and the post office.



I am here to remind you of your freedom.



I am a **symbol** of the people of
the United States of America.

I am your flag.

Glossary

Courage: Able to face a challenge without letting fear stop you

Liberty: Freedom to choose

Nation: A large group of people with a single national government

State: A piece of land within a nation that has borders, people, and government

Symbol: A picture that stands for an idea: for example, a heart is a symbol for love

Union: A group of states united or joined together to form a nation: for example, The United States of America

The History of *The Pledge of Allegiance*

1892

Francis Bellamy wrote the original Pledge of Allegiance for a magazine advertising campaign celebrating the 400th anniversary of Columbus arriving in the Americas. The original Pledge read:

*I Pledge allegiance to my Flag
and the Republic for which it stands:
one Nation indivisible, with
Liberty and Justice for all.*

The Pledge was first recited in public schools in 1892 during Columbus Day observances.

1945

The Pledge was not adopted by the U.S. Congress as our official national pledge until December 28, 1945. The first adopted Pledge read:

*I Pledge allegiance to the Flag,
of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it stands:
one Nation indivisible, with
Liberty and Justice for all.*

Although it is our national pledge, no one is required to say it.

1954

In 1954 President Eisenhower heard a sermon that emphasized adding the words “under God” to the Pledge. President Eisenhower was so moved by the sermon that he successfully urged Congress to change the Pledge to the one we know today:

*I Pledge allegiance to the Flag,
of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it stands:
one Nation, under God, indivisible,
with Liberty and Justice for all.*

Can you find your state flag?



Alabama



Arizona



Florida



Iowa



Massachusetts



Nebraska



North Carolina



Rhode Island



Vermont



Arkansas



Georgia



Kansas



Michigan



Nevada



North Dakota



South Carolina



Virginia



California



Hawaii



Kentucky



Minnesota



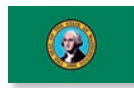
New Hampshire



Ohio



South Dakota



Washington



Colorado



Idaho



Louisiana



Mississippi



New Jersey



Oklahoma



Tennessee



West Virginia



Connecticut



Illinois



Maine



Missouri



New Mexico



Oregon



Texas



Wisconsin



Alaska



Delaware



Indiana



Maryland



Montana



New York



Pennsylvania



Utah



Wyoming