

I Pledge Allegiance: Make Your Own Class Book



These photos feature Kathie Bridges' kinders as experts at signing The Pledge of Allegiance.

- **Teach *The Pledge of Allegiance*** by having children repeat each phrase after you. Add the American Sign Language for as many key concepts as are appropriate for your children's age and experience. Discuss the new vocabulary.
- In your weekly newsletter invite the parents to encourage each child to practice reciting and signing *The Pledge of Allegiance* at home. **Send home the ASL guide sheet.**
- **Use the pocket chart** to carefully focus children's attention to print: track the words, match individual word cards, sequence words in phrases, and highlight high-frequency words.
- Use **I pledge allegiance to the flag** as a cut apart, word matching, paste and read activity on a child's drawing of the flag. (See pages 90 and 91.)
- **Create a class book or poetry poster** of *The Pledge of Allegiance* for children's guided and independent reading practice. Include pictures of children signing.
- **Read and discuss the information picture book *I pledge allegiance***, by Bill Martin, Jr. and Michael Simpson and/or *The Pledge of Allegiance* (special commemorative edition, Scholastic/Cartwheel Books, ISBN:0-439-39962-9.)
- **Talk about the United States flag** and look at one closely. Explore different artists' interpretations of the flag. Discuss techniques for creating a realistic flag or an impressionistic looking flag.
- **Ask the children to draw a picture of themselves and/or the flag** on the printed anthology page for their "I Can Read" notebook.
- **Support each child in oral reading practice to build fluency.** Invite 4th grade reading buddies, trained reading tutors and parents to use the Neurological Impress Method.
- **Perform *The Pledge of Allegiance* with sign language for your next school assembly or parent program.** Let children experience the pleasure of expressing beautiful language and turning that pleasure over to an appreciative audience.