Amanda Clark

Literacy Bag

**The Declaration of Independence**

**Grade:** 4th grade

**Standard:**

SS4H4: The student will explain the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution.

b. Explain the writing of the Declaration of Independence; include who wrote it, how it was written, why it was necessary, and how it was a response to tyranny and the abuse of power.

**Objective:**

For this assignment, you use will be using The Declaration of Independence, written by Elaine Landau, to discover who wrote The Declaration of Independence, how it was written, why it was necessary, and how it was a response to tyranny and the abuse of power. This assignment is meant to help enrich your knowledge of The Declaration of Independence. This assignment does **not** have to be completed in one night, but should be completed within two or three days. This assignment will count towards your required reading time for the week.

**Checklist of Materials Included**

**\* Use this checklist to ensure that all of the materials listed are returned in the literacy bag upon completion of the task.**

**\_\_\_\_**  1. Objective sheet

\_\_\_\_ 2. Checklist

\_\_\_\_3. Instruction sheet

\_\_\_\_ 4. The Declaration of Independence by Elaine Landau

\_\_\_\_ 5. KWL chart

\_\_\_\_ 6. Parent/ Family Member Evaluation Form

\_\_\_\_ 7. Student Evaluation Form

**Instructions**

1. With a parent or family member, discuss what you each know about The Declaration of Independence. Fill out the “K” portion of the KWL chart as you discuss what you each already know.
2. Then, discuss what you would each like to know about The Declaration of Independence. As you discuss what you would each like to discover about The Declaration of Independence, fill out the “W” portion of the KWL chart.
3. After you have filled out the “K” and “W” portions of the KWL chart, open The Declaration of Independence book written by Elaine Landau. Together, read the book. Remember, as you read the book, stop and consider questions such as: Who wrote The Declaration of Independence? Why was The Declaration of Independence written? Why was The Declaration of Independence necessary? How was The Declaration of Independence a response to tyranny and the abuse of power? Also, remember to consider any questions you had about The Declaration of Independence that you wrote in the “W” part of the KWL chart.
4. After reading The Declaration of Independence, you and your parent or family member fill out the “L” portion of the KWL chart with what you learned. Make sure to answer the questions you were supposed to consider as you read the book as well as your own.
5. Once you have completed the KWL chart, please fill out the student evaluation form, and ask your parent or family member to fill out the parent/family member evaluation form.
6. Place all materials back in the literacy bag and return to school. Use the checklist, provided in the literacy bag, to help you ensure that all of the materials included in the literacy bag are returned together.

**KWL Chart**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **K** | **W** | **L** |
|  |  |  |

**Parent/ Family Member Evaluation Form**

1. How did you feel about having to complete this task with your child?
2. Do you feel that this task was appropriate to help your child learn about The Declaration of Independence? Why or why not?
3. How do you think your child responded to the task? Was your child able to easily complete the task? Did your child have a difficult time completing the task?
4. How would you change the task to best meet the learning needs of your child? How would you change the task to better raise your child’s interest about The Declaration of Independence?
5. Was there anything you would have liked to receive to help you complete the task with your child?
6. Do you have any additional comments or feedback?

**Student Evaluation Form**

1. What did you like about this task?
2. How do you feel the task helped you to learn about The Declaration of Independence?
3. If you had a choice, how would you like to learn about The Declaration of Independence? Would you do the same task again, or would you choose to do a different task? Briefly explain.
4. What would you change about the task?
5. Do you have any additional feedback?