

Flags with Stars

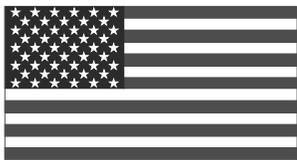
Read the article about flags.

Language Objective
Answer questions about a reading.

Every country has a flag. A flag is designed to give a message about a country. Flags may have stripes, circles, crescents, objects, and stars.

The flag of the United States has fifty stars on it. It has more stars than any other country's flag. Every star represents a state. The flag of Ghana has one black star. Some people say this black star means that Ghana was the first African

country to become independent. The flag of Australia has a group of five stars and one large star separate from them. The five stars are in the shape of a constellation called the Southern Cross. The Southern Cross is seen only in countries far south of the Equator. People in Australia can see the Southern Cross. The big star in the flag stands for Australia itself.



United States



Ghana



Australia

A Now answer the following questions in your notebook.

1. How are the flags of Australia and the United States similar?
2. How many stars are in the flag of the United States?
3. Which country's flag has stars in the shape of a constellation?
4. Which country's flag has more stars than any other country's flag?
5. What does the big star on Ghana's flag stand for?
6. What is the purpose of a flag?

B Write how many stars each country's flag has. Use an atlas, an encyclopedia, or the Internet to find the answers.

Senegal	Honduras	Singapore	Morocco	Panama
1 star				

C Name other flags that have stars on them. Use an encyclopedia or the Internet to find your answer.

SKILL OBJECTIVES: Reading to find facts; making a chart to organize information. If you have an American flag in the room, have students count its stars. If possible, show pictures of other flags with stars and ask students to describe them. Read the article aloud. *Part A:* Work through several items as a class. Then have students complete the part. *Part B:* Have students research each country's flag. Then have them complete the chart, perhaps as homework. *Part C:* Have volunteers suggest other countries with stars on their flags, using the reference materials.

Source: Judy DeFilippo and Charles Skidmore, *Skill Sharpeners 1*