

Over the past few weeks, we have been reading books about a variety of American experiences. We've been looking at the following BIG IDEAS:

- Americans come from different backgrounds, geographic regions, and groups
- Many people coming to America face challenges when they first immigrate
- Many Americans have been affected by prejudice
- Americans value freedom and fairness

Quilt researcher Laurel Horton once said, "We Americans have adopted quilts as a symbol of what we value about ourselves and our national history." Americans have made quilts for many reasons: to keep warm, to decorate their homes, to express political views, to remember a loved one and, especially, to tell stories about themselves and the cultural history of a place or time. People of many cultures and time periods have used quilts to pass down their traditions and history.

Over the next two weeks, you are going to interview and work with your family to design a quilt patch to represent your family's history.

To look at how these values affect your life, you are going to design your own quilt block. You will have a few jobs.

- Design a fabric that represents you or your family (pgs. 3 & 4)
- Design a patch based on a family artifact you have researched (pgs. 5 & 6)
- Choose two of the following to design a patch around (pgs. 7 & 9)
 - a. A story of how my family came to America
 - b. A challenge my family faced
 - c. A family/cultural tradition
 - d. Where my family is from

Once all the patches are done, we will assemble them in school. We can't wait to learn more about everyone's family!

Name: _____

MB #: _____

Due Date: _____

Patch #1: Pattern Design

Many people have used different types of fabric to represent their families or cultures, for example, different plaids and tartans represent different families. Fabric patterns can simply be shapes and stripes in different colors, or even a repeated drawing. Today you are going to design a pattern and color in a block with your repeated design.

Color Symbolism:

Red	warmth, love, anger, danger, excitement, speed, strength, energy, determination
Pink	love, caring, nurture
Orange	cheerfulness, enthusiasm, creativity, food
Yellow	comfort, hunger, optimism, Summer, comfort, happiness, energy
Green	luxury, healthy, nature, calm, relaxation, Spring, honesty, optimism, harmony
Blue:	peace, loyalty, honor, trust, boredom, coldness, Winter
Purple:	power, royalty, luxury, mystery, elegance, magic
Gray:	intelligence, serious
Brown:	relaxing, confident, casual, nature, earthy, Autumn
Black:	Elegance, sophistication, power, strength, night
White:	Peace, simplicity, snow, ice, cold

Shape Symbolism:

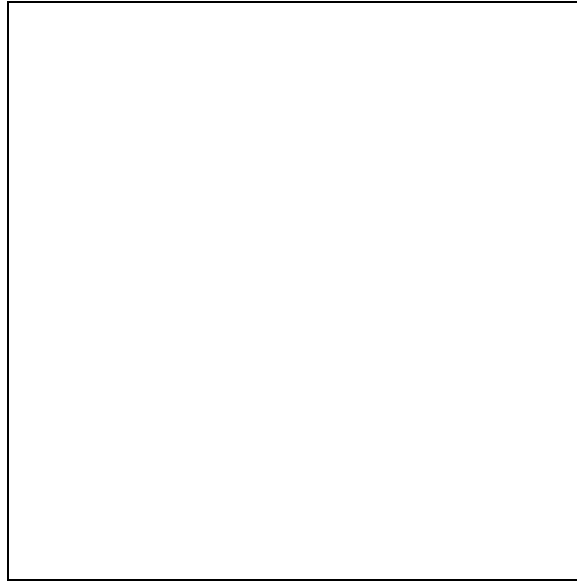
Square:	structure, stability, dependable, safe
Triangle:	going up, equality, action, power
Circle:	movement, action, timelessness, unity
Xs:	Health, balance, hope
Spiral:	growth, life, transformation, learning, nature
Curve:	fun, generosity, comfort

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Draw your design. Make sure all white space is filled unless it is part of your design. Use the symbolism of shapes and colors or make up your own.



Write 2-3 sentences describing your design and the meaning behind your pattern.

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Patch #2: Family Artifact

By interviewing a family member, or researching an artifact or story, you are going to write 1-2 sentences for each question about your family's heritage.

Items could include: family heirlooms, a special story of an older relative, a story of your family's life before they moved to America, a modern-day item (artifact) that is special to your family or your culture.

Step 1: Talk to your family about a story or item.

Step 2: Once you have decided on the item, interview a family member or ask a family member to help research to answer the questions in the packet.

#1 What is your artifact? How long has it been in your family? Take a picture of your artifact.

#2 Why is the artifact important to your family?

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#3 Where did the artifact come from? How did it end up with you? Or who told you the story and where did he or she hear of it?

Step 3: Print a copy of your picture that is about 3 inches x 3 inches or ask a parent to email it to a teacher.

Step 4: Write 2-3 sentences summarizing what you learned in your interview.

Name: _____

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Due Date: _____

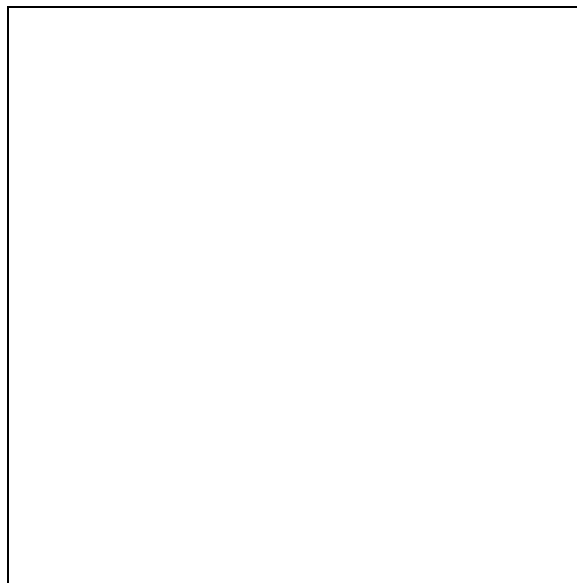
Patch #3: Choice

Step 1: Choose a prompt from page 2.

I am going to design a patch about _____

Step 2: Interview a family member about the prompt. Write 2-3 sentences about what you learned.

Draw a picture to match your response. Make sure all white space is filled unless it is part of your design.



Name: _____

MB #: _____

Due Date: _____

Name: _____

MB #: _____

Due Date: _____

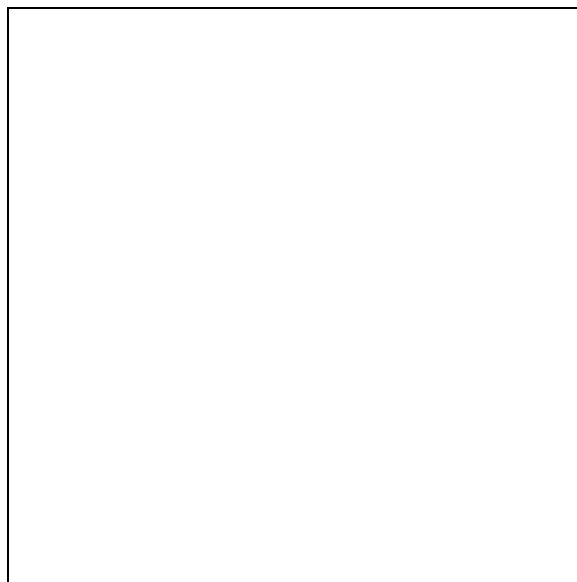
Patch #4: Choice

Step 1: Choose a prompt from page 2.

I am going to design a patch about _____

Step 2: Interview a family member about the prompt. Write 2-3 sentences about what you learned.

Draw a picture to match your response. Make sure all white space is filled unless it is part of your design.



Name: _____

MB #: _____

Due Date: _____