

# Daily Comprehension

# JANUARY

REM 1105

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## A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM



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## INTRODUCTION

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Daily Comprehension is a 12-book series with each volume covering a single month from September through May. The format features an "on-this-day-in-history" approach. A short, factual story about a person, place, or event is presented for each day of the month and was chosen because of its particular significance on that certain date.

Each story is accompanied by an activity page, which tests the student's comprehension of the article's content. Activities include questions, crossword puzzles, fill-in-the-blanks, and more. A related research project for each story requires the use of a dictionary, an almanac, an encyclopedia, or an atlas.

The books are designed for use in grades 5-12. Readability is on a 3rd-4th grade level.

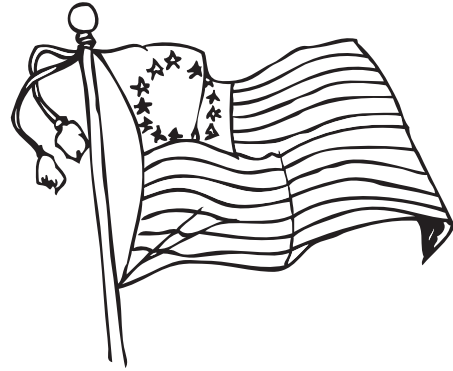
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# BETSY ROSS (1752-1836)



On January 1, 1752, Betsy Ross was born in Philadelphia. There are people who have said that it was she who made the first United States flag. There are also people who have said she didn't. There is no way of knowing if the story is true.

What we do know is that there was a Betsy Ross. She was a seamstress who made flags in Philadelphia during the American Revolutionary War. What we don't know is whether she did indeed make the first United States flag.

Not everyone believed the story of Betsy Ross and the flag. The story was not told for almost 100 years after the event was supposed to have happened.

In 1870, William Canby, Betsy's grandson, wrote a paper about his grandmother. He said she told him the story about how she had made the first United States flag.

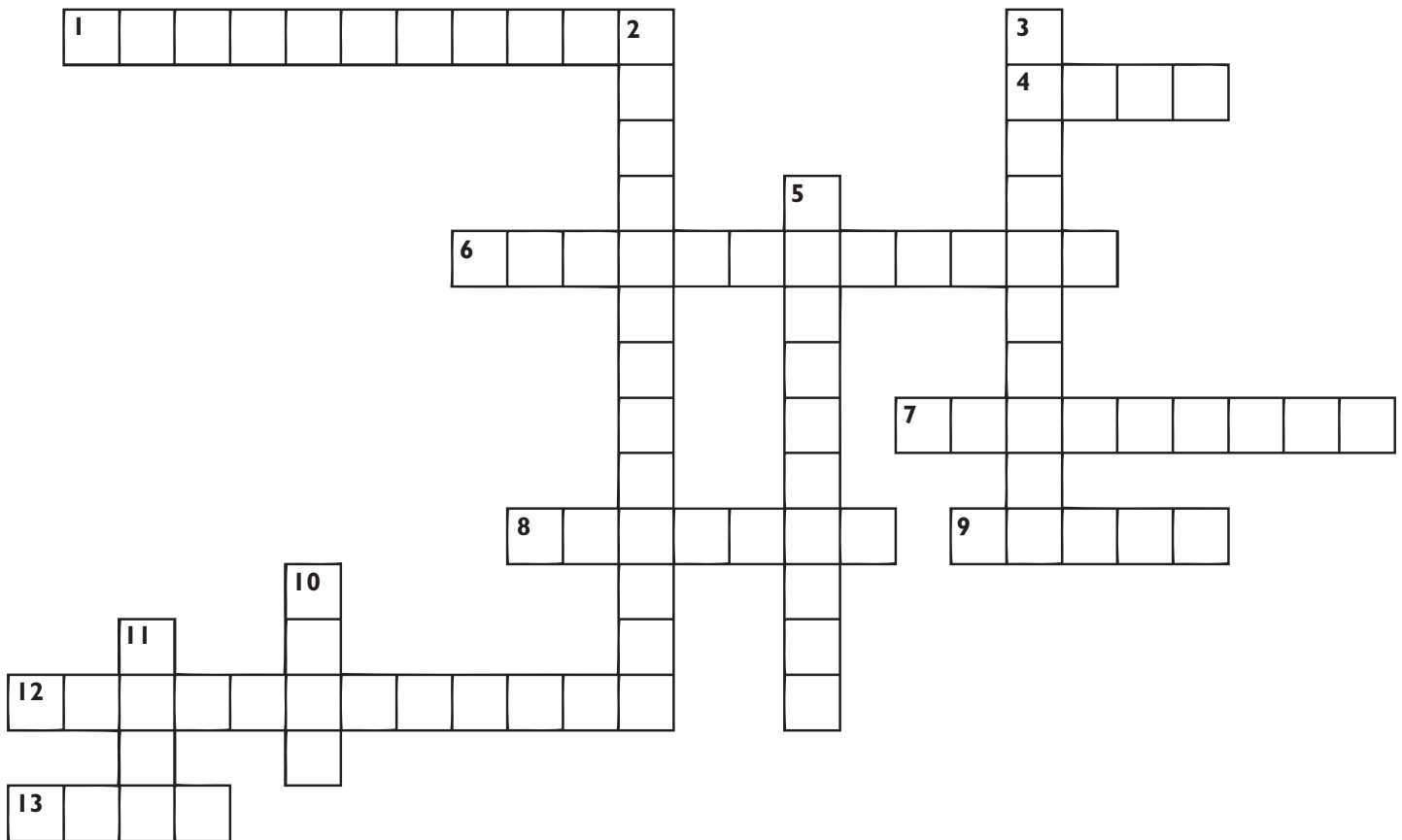
Canby said a group of men, including George Washington, visited the home of his grandmother in June of 1776. They asked her to make a flag from a plan that they gave to her.

Washington, the leader of the army of the colonies, understood how important it was for the 13 colonies to fight under one flag rather than to fight under 13 different flags. Washington knew that one flag would unite the colonies into one nation. The first flag of the United States symbolized this unity. It had 7 red stripes alternating with 6 white stripes. In the upper left-hand corner was a blue square with a circle of 13 white stars on it. As more states were added to the United States over the years, more stars were added to the flag. Today's flag has 50 stars on it for the 50 united states.

Betsy Ross died in 1836 at the age of 84.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## BETSY ROSS



### Across:

1. Betsy was Canby's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Washington was the leader of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the colonies.
6. Betsy Ross was born in \_\_\_\_\_.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ was a seamstress.
8. Betsy Ross was born in the month of \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The first flag of U.S. symbolized \_\_\_\_\_.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ was Betsy's grandson.
13. George Washington visited Betsy in the month of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Down:

2. Betsy Ross lived during the American \_\_\_\_\_ War.
3. A group of men, including George \_\_\_\_\_, visited the home of Betsy.
5. Betsy Ross was a \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Some people said Betsy made the first U.S. \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The men asked Betsy to make a flag from the \_\_\_\_\_ they gave her.

**Research:** Use a dictionary or an encyclopedia to find the answer to this question: On what date each year is Flag Day celebrated?