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# Lady Liberty



Located in New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the people of the United States. It is a national monument and a symbol of freedom in America. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886. It was restored and repaired in 1986.

Ellis Island is part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Between 1892 and 1954, approximately 12 million immigrants entering the United States through the port of New York were received at Ellis Island. The main building is a museum dedicated to the history of immigration.

Emma Lazarus (1849–1887) wrote this inscription on the statue's tablet. It greets people entering this country.

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

These dimensions will help you better understand the size of the statue.

Head from chin to top:	: 17' 3"	(5.26 m)	Size of fingernail:	13" x 10"	(33 x 25.4 cm)
Head from ear to ear:	10' 0"	(3.05 m)	Right arm length:	42' 0"	(12.80 m)
Each eye:	2' 6"	(.76 m)	Length of foot:	25'	(7.62 m)
Length of nose:	4' 6"	(l.48 m)	Tablet, length:	23' 7"	(7.19 m)
Width of mouth:	3' 0"	(.91 m)	Tablet, width:	13' 7"	(4.14 m)
Length of hand:	16' 5"	(5.00 m)	Heel to top of head:	111' 1"	(33.86 m)
Index finger:	8' 0"	(2.44 m)			

### Activity -

Measure the heel-to-top-of-head dimension and draw the Statue of Liberty on the playground to show its total height.

## Extended Activities

- $\Rightarrow$  Memorize the inscription from the Statue of Liberty's tablet and explain what it means to immigrants.
- ☆ In your journal, write a short story describing what it would be like to come to America for the first time.
- ☆ Do research and write a report explaining the importance of Ellis Island. Include historic information about immigration.
- $\Rightarrow$  Use an encyclopedia or the Internet to do further research on the Statue of Liberty. Write down five new facts that you learned.

## "This Land is Your Land" Mural

American folk singer and guitarist Woody Guthrie (1912–1967) wrote the words to the famous song, "This Land is Your Land." Throughout the Great Depression, he traveled the United States singing for a living. He wrote many songs about poverty, the difficult lives of migrant workers, and his love for America.

Activity

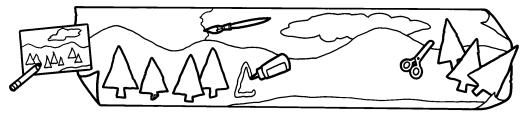
Listen to a recording of "This Land is Your Land." Then, working in groups of four, depict a scene from the song on a torn paper and painted mural.

#### Materials

large sheet of butcher paper, construction paper scraps, glue sticks, masking tape, paints, pencils

#### Directions

- 1. Tape the paper to an open space on a wall, or lay it on the floor.
- 2. Plan your scene on a sheet of plain paper.
- 3. Sketch the scene onto the mural, marking the positions of specific items (e.g., cactus, birds, wheat).



- 4. Two students can paint the background while two tear off small pieces of construction paper. Let the mural dry.
- 5. Glue the torn pieces to the painted mural.

### **Extended Activity**

 Sing and/or study recordings of the patriotic songs below. Music can be found in *We Sing America: Songs of Patriots and Pioneers* by Pamela Conn Beall and Susan Hagen Nipp (Price Stern Sloan, 1987). Lyrics and history can be found in *Patriotic Songs and Symbols* (Teacher Created Resources, 2002).

