



THE WISH TREE

(30 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students make wishes for their country to clarify what changes they can make.

MATERIALS

Star Cards handout; art supplies (crayons, markers, etc.); yarn; hole puncher

GET READY

- ✓ Find a large bare tree branch and place it in a pot filled with pebbles, or design a large tree out of paper and attach it to a wall or bulletin board.
- ✓ Copy and cut apart a star card for each student.
- ✓ Prepare: one 8-inch-long piece of string or yarn for each student, crayons, markers, or colored pencils, scissors and a hole puncher.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Instruct the students to cut out the star card, fold it in half, and color/decorate the cover.
- ✓ As they are working, ask them to make a wish for our country.
- ✓ Help them draw or write their wish on the inside of the card and sign their names.
- ✓ Help them punch a hole in the corner and tie the string through the hole.
- ✓ Hold a ceremony so the students may tie their cards to the tree. They may read or describe their wishes as they place them on the tree or share them more privately later on.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS


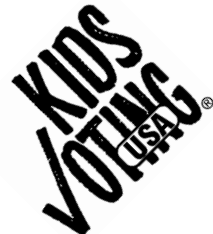

- ★ *Can wishes come true?*
- ★ *How can our wishes for our country come true?*
- ★ *Is there anything a young person can do to help these wishes come true?*
- ★ *How have we helped our country by participating in this activity?*
- ★ *If we practice self-discipline and patience in our classroom, how might that help?*
- ★ *Can you think of anyone who had a wish or a dream for our country and then helped it come true? Tell us about it.*

MORE!

As a class, brainstorm a wish for the community that the class can make a reality (such as a cleaner school or playground). Work together to make this happen.



STAR CARDS

	<p><i>“How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment. We can start slowly changing the world. How lovely that everyone great and small can make a contribution.”</i> – Anne Frank</p> 
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