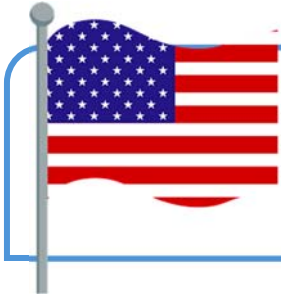


Name _____



Stars Of History

Directions: Read the passage below carefully. Then answer the true/false and inference questions that follow.

The Story of Our Flag

Long ago, during the fight for American independence, the colonies needed a symbol to unite them. In 1777, the Continental Congress decided that the flag of the United States would have thirteen red and white stripes and thirteen white stars on a blue field, one for each colony. As the country grew, more stars were added—one for every new state that joined the Union. Today, the flag proudly waves with fifty shining stars and thirteen stripes that remind us of the nation's beginnings.

Flag Day, celebrated each year on June 14, honors the adoption of the flag. It's a time for parades, songs, and stories about what the flag stands for: freedom, unity, and courage. When people see the flag rise high on a pole, many place a hand over their heart to show respect. The red stands for bravery, the white for purity, and the blue for justice. Every fold and flutter carries the story of America's hopes and dreams.

Questions

1. The first American flag had thirteen stars and thirteen stripes. **True or False**
2. There are currently forty-eight stars on the U.S. flag. **True or False**
3. Flag Day celebrates the creation of the Declaration of Independence. **True or False**
4. The colors of the flag each have a special meaning. **True or False**
5. What does the color **blue** on the flag represent?
6. Why do you think the flag is such an important symbol to Americans?
7. The passage mentions that people place their hands over their hearts. What does this action show?
8. If a new state joined the U.S., what change would happen to the flag?