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# This Coin Is Our Song

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## Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine Quarter

### Grades Kindergarten and One

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### OBJECTIVES

Students will recognize national anthems and identify musical instruments. Students will demonstrate an understanding of creating an original song and designing a class coin.



### SUBJECT AREA CONNECTIONS

- Social Studies
- Language Arts
- Music



### SUMMARY

1. Before the class, choose a recording of “The Star-Spangled Banner” and create an answer key of instruments used in your chosen version.
2. Display and examine the “Fort McHenry National Monument and Historical Shrine Quarter” page or use the zoom feature at [www.usmint.gov/mint\\_programs/atb/?local=FortMcHenry](http://www.usmint.gov/mint_programs/atb/?local=FortMcHenry). Locate this national site on a class map. Note its position in relation to your school’s location. Tell the students that the front of a coin is called the “obverse” and the back is called the “reverse.” Explain to the students that the United States Mint began to issue the quarters in the America the Beautiful Quarters® Program in 2010. By the time the program ends in 2021, there will be a total of 56 designs. Each design will focus on a different national site—one from each state, territory and the District of Columbia.
3. While examining the image with the class, play a recording of “The Star-Spangled Banner” that highlights various instruments. Encourage the students to share how the song makes them feel, where they have heard it before and what they think the song is about. Record responses on a class chart.
4. Explain to the students that Fort McHenry was the birthplace of “The Star-Spangled Banner,” the national anthem of the United States. Tell the students that Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the words to the song after seeing the fort bombed all night and then seeing its flag still flying the next morning.
5. Explain that most countries have other national anthems and each one is special to that country. Play some other national anthems for the students. Encourage the students to identify some of the musical instruments they hear. Display and discuss instruments with the students, partnering with the school band if possible. If



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instruments are not available, use an online or recorded resource to demonstrate the sounds that various instruments make.

6. Place images of instruments around the room. Play “The Star-Spangled Banner” again for the students. Periodically pause the song and ask the students to stand by the instrument that they last heard. Discuss their choices. (Note: If you use an electronic simulation, the instruments may be hard to identify.)
7. Distribute the “Whose Sound Do I Hear?” worksheet and have the students complete it while listening to “The Star-Spangled Banner” again. Review the worksheets once complete.
8. Explain that the class will be writing an anthem about your class or school. On chart paper, brainstorm the qualities that could be included in the anthem. Choose instruments if available to accompany the song, or just use their personal instruments: the voice.
9. Once the song is complete, distribute the “This Coin Is Our Song” worksheet and have each student design a coin image on the worksheet based on the song the class created. Perform the song for another class or the whole school.



## ASSESSMENTS

- Take anecdotal notes about the students’ participation in class discussions.
- Evaluate the students’ worksheets and projects for understanding of the lesson objectives.



## RESOURCES

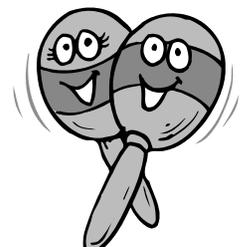
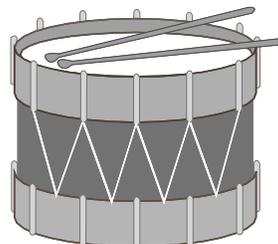
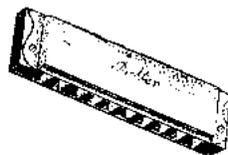
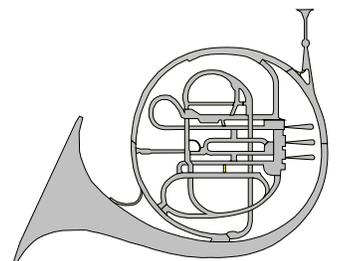
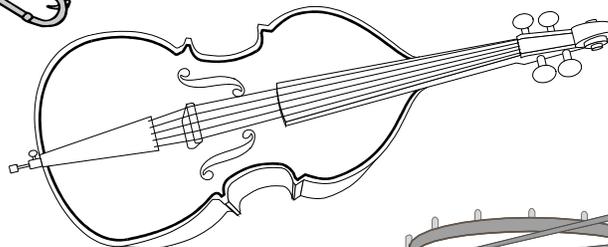
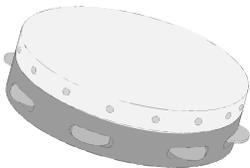
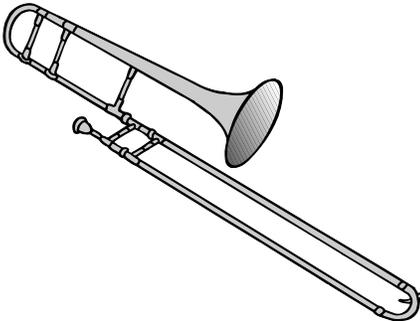
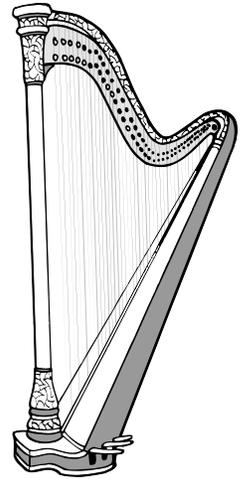
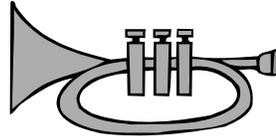
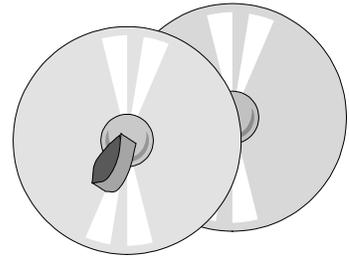
- Worksheets:
  - “Fort McHenry National Monument and Historical Shrine Quarter”
  - “Whose Sound Do I Hear?”
  - “This Coin Is Our Song”
- Age-appropriate, relevant Web sites, such as:
  - National Park Service: [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)
  - Fort McHenry National Monument and Historical Site: [www.nps.gov/fomc](http://www.nps.gov/fomc)



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Whose Sound Do I Hear?

**Directions:** Circle the instruments that you hear in the song.

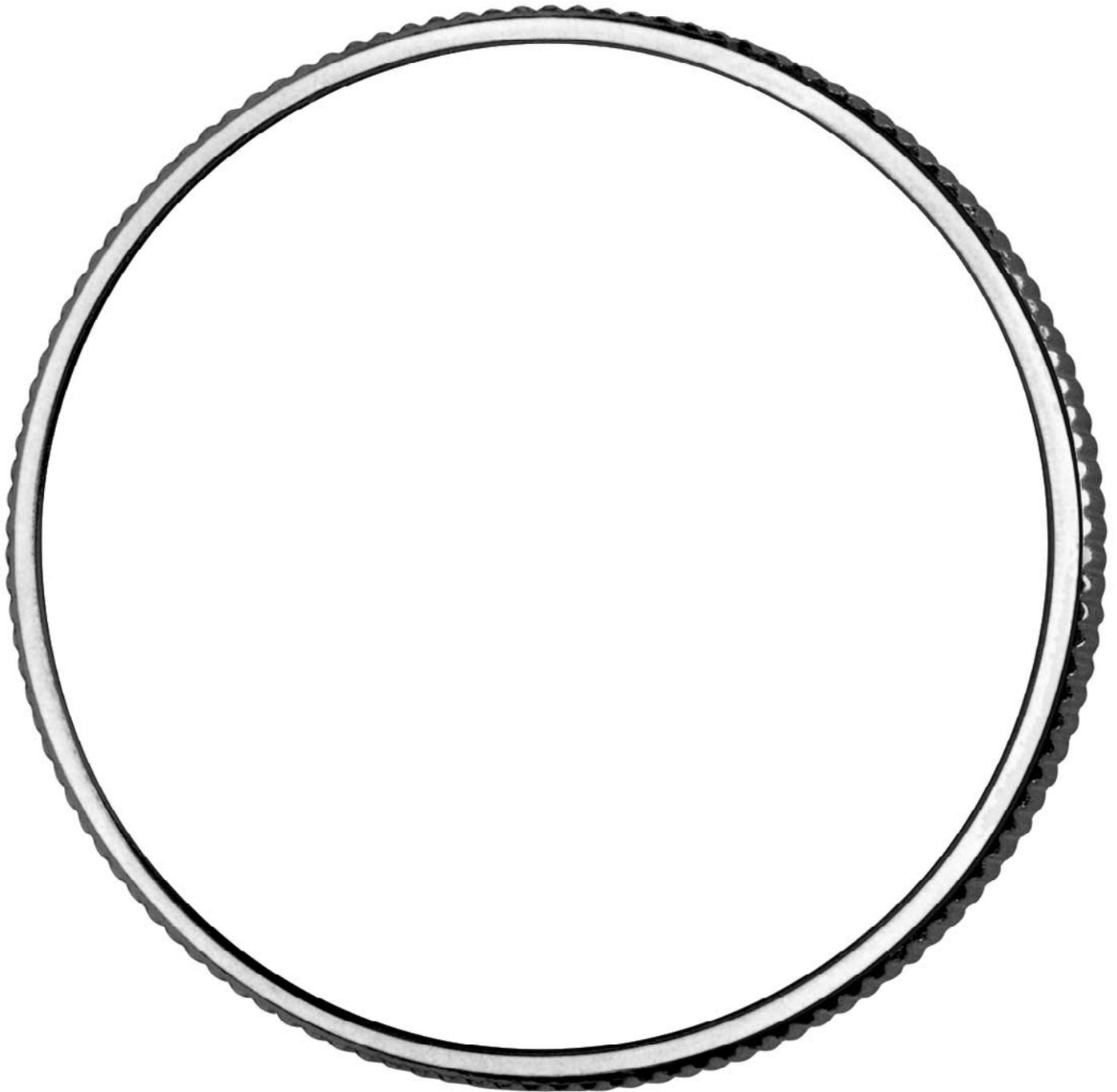




Name \_\_\_\_\_

# This Coin Is Our Song

**Directions:** Create your own coin image to illustrate your class song.





# Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine Quarter



# The United States of America

