

Book Break

Betsy Ross

by Alexandra Wallner (Holiday House, 1998)

Set in Colonial Philadelphia, this charming book tells the story of Betsy Ross's life, including her most famous accomplishment—the sewing of the first American flag. Children will love the details of eighteenth-century American life and the descriptions of Revolutionary times. After reading, let children follow Betsy's directions in the back of the book as she teaches them how to make a five-pointed star in just one snip!


**Computer
Connection**

For facts about the Statue of Liberty, including measurements, go to www.nps.gov/stli/

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SOCIAL STUDIES, MATH

Measure the Statue of Liberty

Almost all children have seen pictures of the Statue of Liberty, but not many have seen it up close. This measuring activity will help children understand just how big this national symbol is.

- ☉ On green paper, draw the outline of an eye measuring 2 feet, 6 inches across. (You may need to tape two sheets of paper together.) Do the same for the lips: The correct measurement is 3 feet across. Set these aside.
- ☉ Give children non-standard units of measurement. (Unifix cubes work well because they can be counted by tens.) Show children a photograph of the statue and point to one of the eyes. Ask: *On the real statue, how many units would it take to get across the eye?* Have children record estimates. Do the same for the mouth.
- ☉ Display the actual-size drawing of the eye and mouth. Let children revise their estimates, then measure! *If just one eye is that large, how big do they think the whole statue is?*

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