

FOUNDING FEATHERS

Chickens in Early America



A Coloring and Activity Book

By Chickens.org

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To learn more about chickens, or to join our community of people who love chickens, you can find us at:

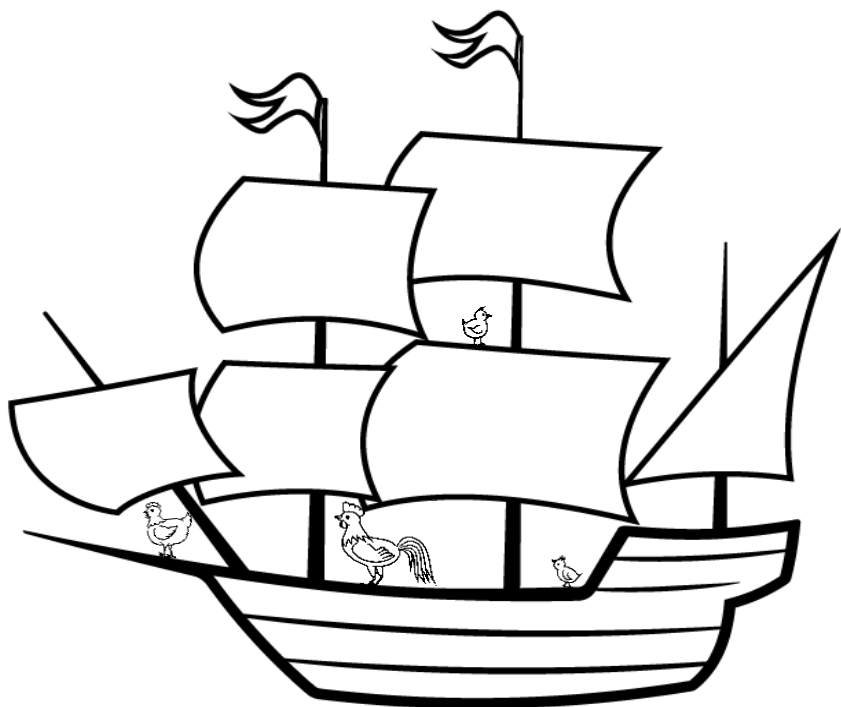
Website: www.chickens.org

Instagram: [@chickens.org_](https://www.instagram.com/chickens.org_)

Facebook: [@chickensorg](https://www.facebook.com/chickensorg)

Chickens.org (a program of Capax World, www.capax.org) is dedicated to spreading chicken information, and establishing coops and gardens in poor communities, to reduce malnutrition.

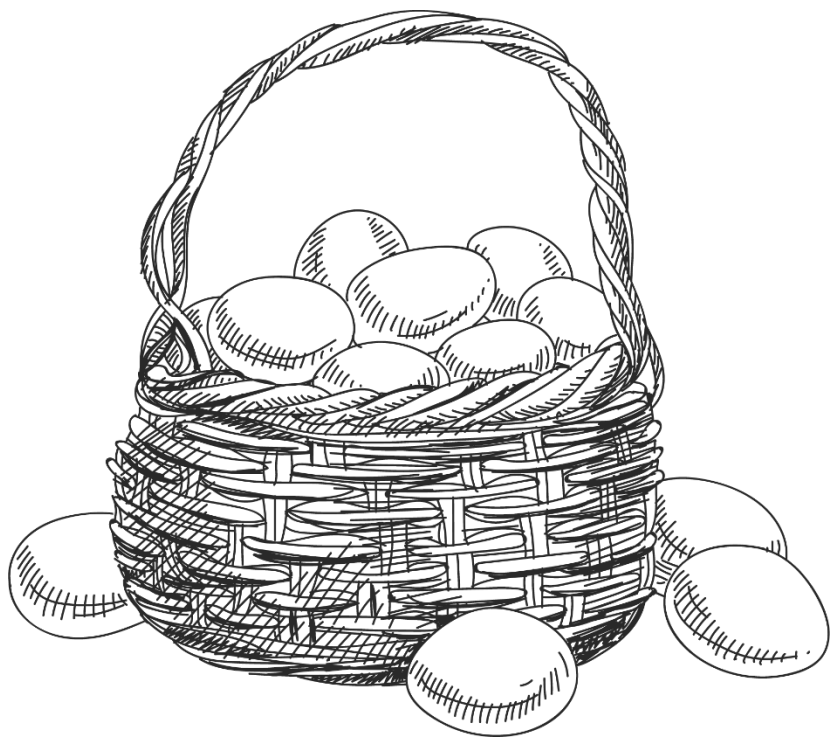
Chickens have been part of American history since before the United States of America became a nation.



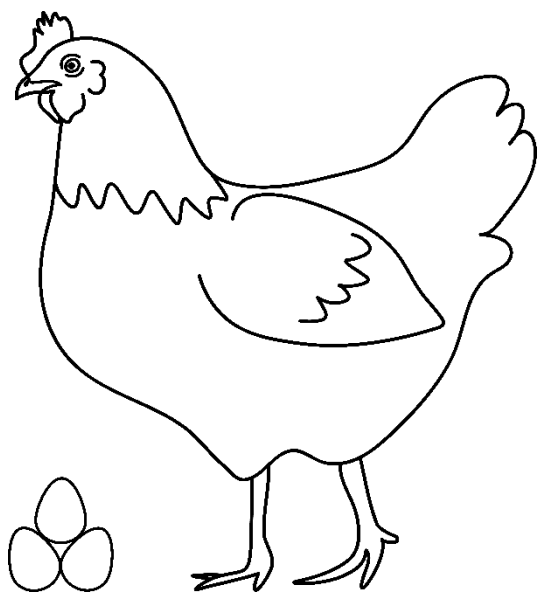
Christopher Columbus did not bring chickens with him when he sailed the ocean blue in 1492, but he did bring chickens to Central America on his second visit, in 1493.

In 1607, chickens were brought with British colonists to the first permanent British colony in America – Jamestown, Virginia.

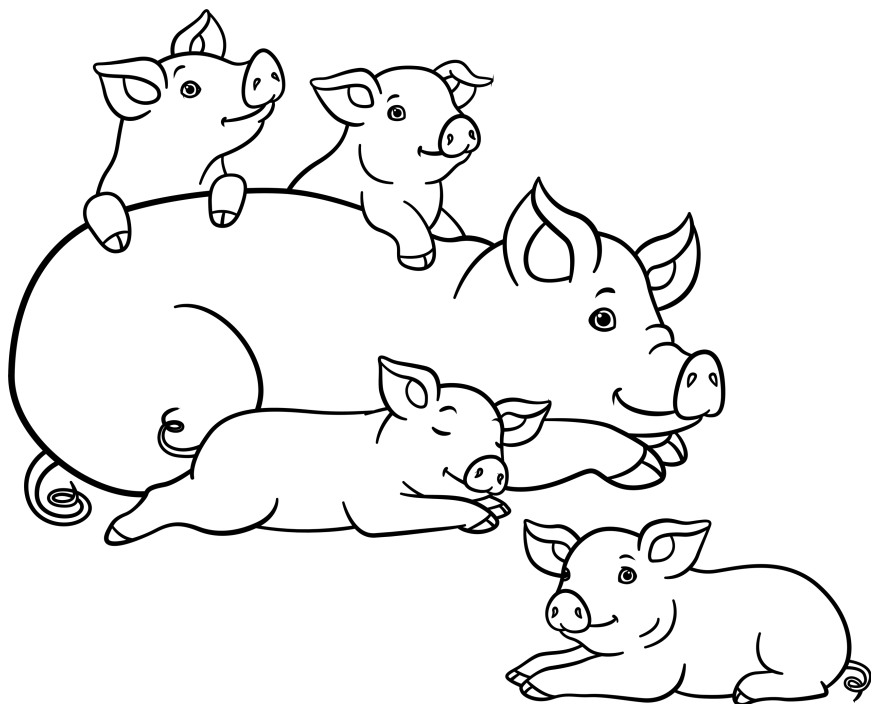
Colonists, many of whom were fleeing religious persecution in Europe, brought chickens with them, not just to feed their families once they arrived in the colonies, but also as a source of nutritious eggs on the long sea journey.



Early American chickens were free-ranging, and plentiful. People did not eat chicken meat often, but preferred wild birds. The chickens' eggs were an important food.



The only imported, domesticated animal that adapted to the North American environment better than chickens was pigs.



On July 4, 1776 – the anniversary of which is celebrated every year in America as Independence Day – representatives of each of the 13 British colonies in North America drafted and signed the Declaration of Independence, a letter to world that explained why they were uniting to become their own nation, separate from Britain.

[illegible]

Benjamin Franklin said that owning a little bit of land and being able to raise enough food for one's family was true independence.



The Kingdom of Britain, which had controlled and traded with the 13 colonies since the 1600s, did not like the United States' Declaration of Independence. They sent additional soldiers to secure the colonies for King George III, the king of England.

America would have to fight to be free.



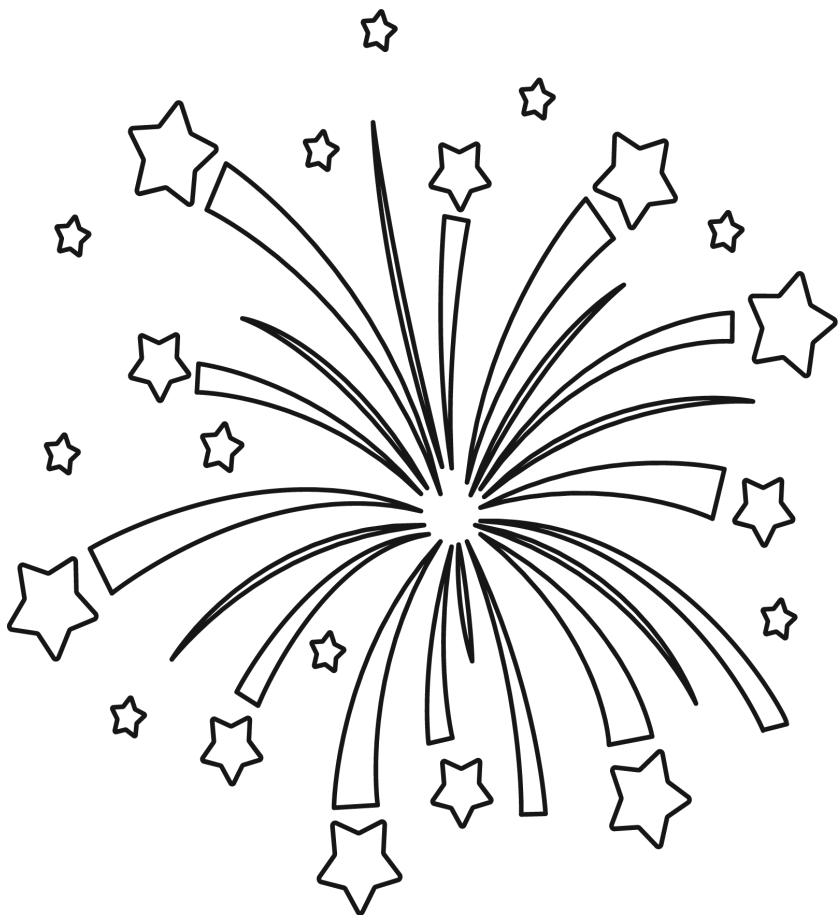


The American Revolution finally ended on September 3, 1783.

The 13 British Colonies joined together to become the United States of America.

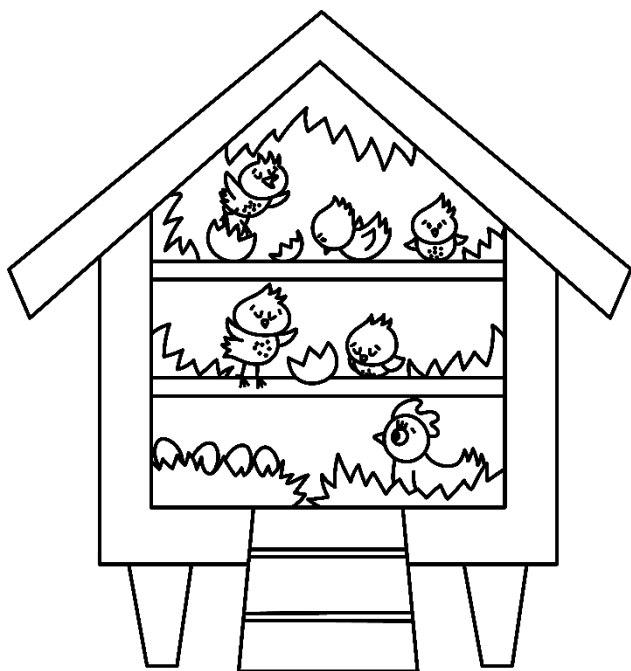
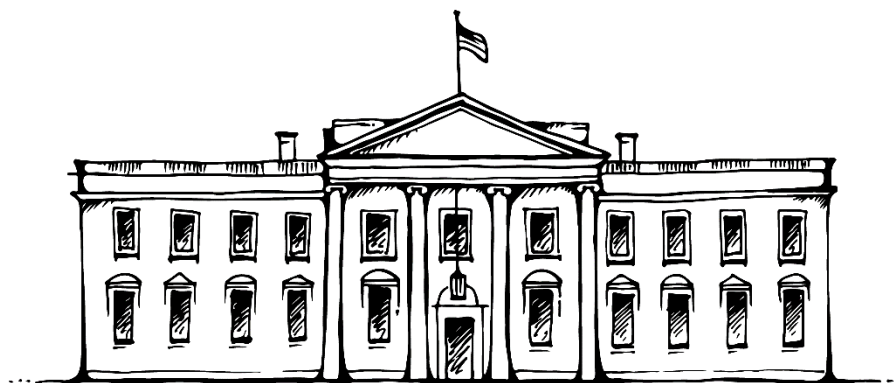


The first Independence Day fireworks displays occurred on the first anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence – July 4, 1777.



After signing the Declaration on July 4, 1776, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that he believed July 4th would be celebrated every year. “It ought to be commemorated, as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations (fireworks) from one end of this continent to the other from this time forward forever more.”

George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and James Madison all kept chickens. When Thomas Jefferson became the third president of the United States, he had a chicken coop built at the White House.



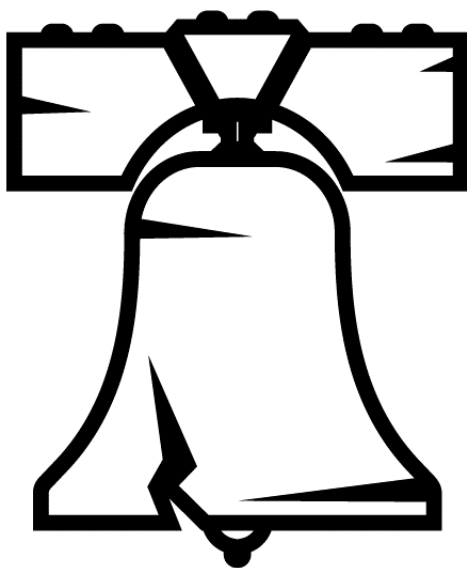


Happy Birthday, America!



THE LIBERTY BELL

When the Declaration of Independence was read to the people in Philadelphia, the day after it was signed, the bell at the Pennsylvania State House, now known as the Liberty Bell, was rung to get people's attention.

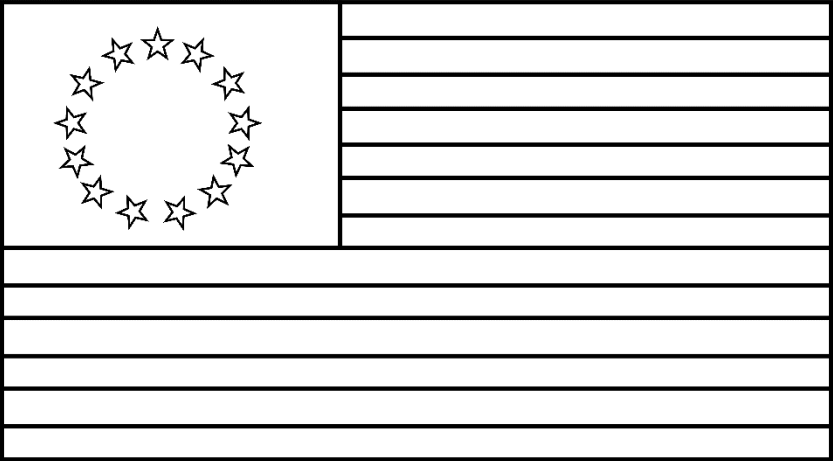


The bronze bell was originally ordered from England, but the workmanship was poor and it cracked during test rings. The bell was melted down and recast twice in the colonies that later became the United States of America. When the bell was recast in 1753, it included the words: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Leviticus 25:10

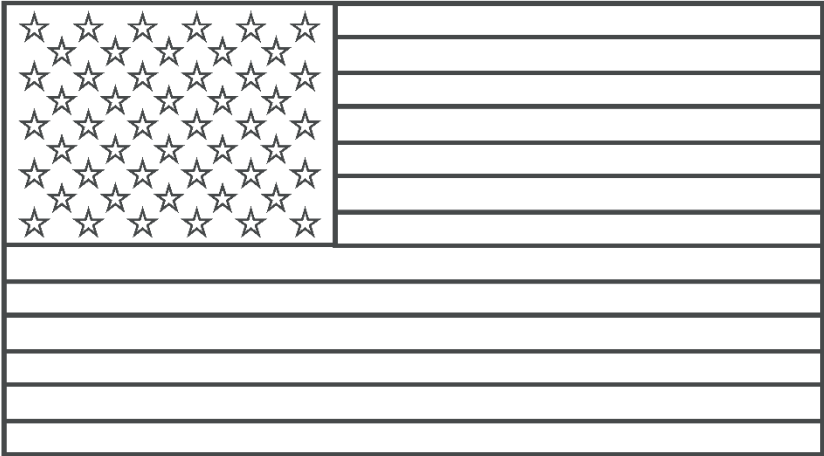
The bell weighs 2,080 pounds, and is 3 feet tall.

The bell's famous crack occurred in the 1800s.

The first United States flag had 13 white stars on a blue background (one for each of the 13 colonies) and 13 red & white stripes (also one for each colony):



Over the years, one star was added each time a state joined the union. Now, we have 50 stars on the flag, representing the 50 states. We still have 13 red and white stripes to remind us of the original 13 colonies.



INDEPENDENCE DAY WORD SEARCH

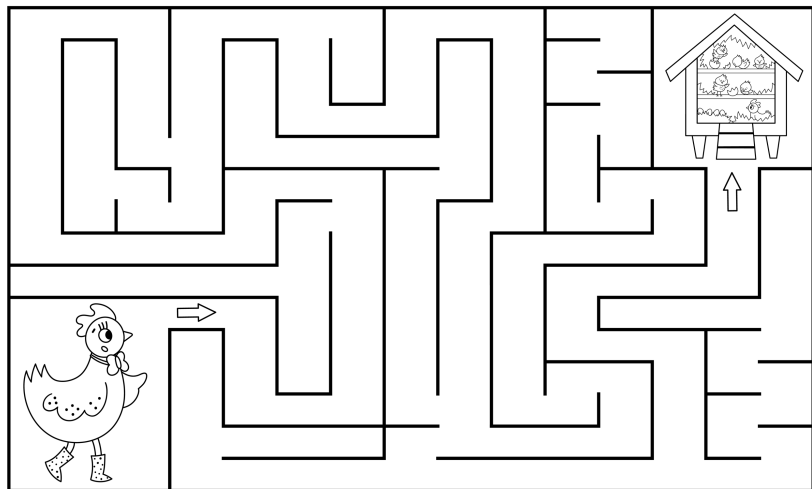
(Words might be vertical, horizontal or diagonal.)

G R T G E I B U N I T E D C G
U I C R F B R F R E E D O M S
T F E E S X A L J U L Y C O T
I Q O Q G M V I A Y F J E H Z
P L R U I G E B B S I E L D W
Z S M R R H S E I A R Q E N C
U H R Z C T V R O L E U B B L
Q T F P A H H T F N W A R A Q
J H T S Y C I Y X F O L A E A
U E W V T R D C O Q R I T A N
S C K S J G W O K F K T E T S
T Q G C O L O N I E S Y V E R
I Z G Z X I T I P A N E Y M P
C F A X G E O R G E S S O Z E
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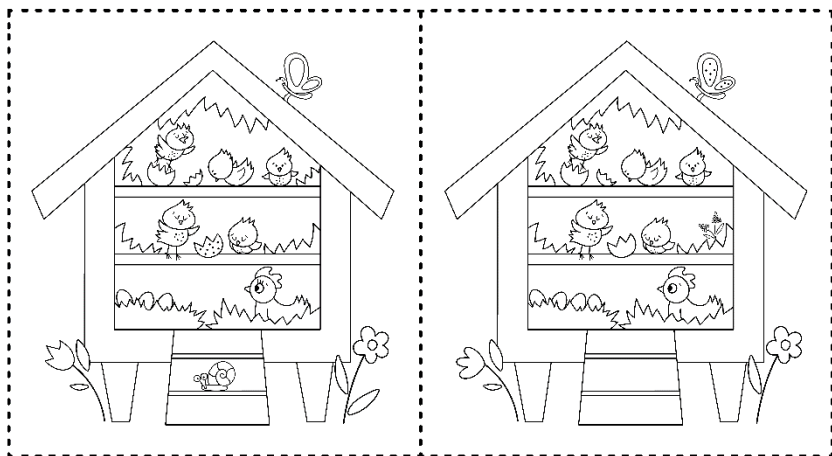
WORD LIST:

BRAVE	EGGS	FREEDOM	LIBERTY
CELEBRATE	EQUALITY	GEORGE	UNITED
CHICKENS	FIREWORKS	JULY	
COLONIES	FOURTH	JUSTICE	

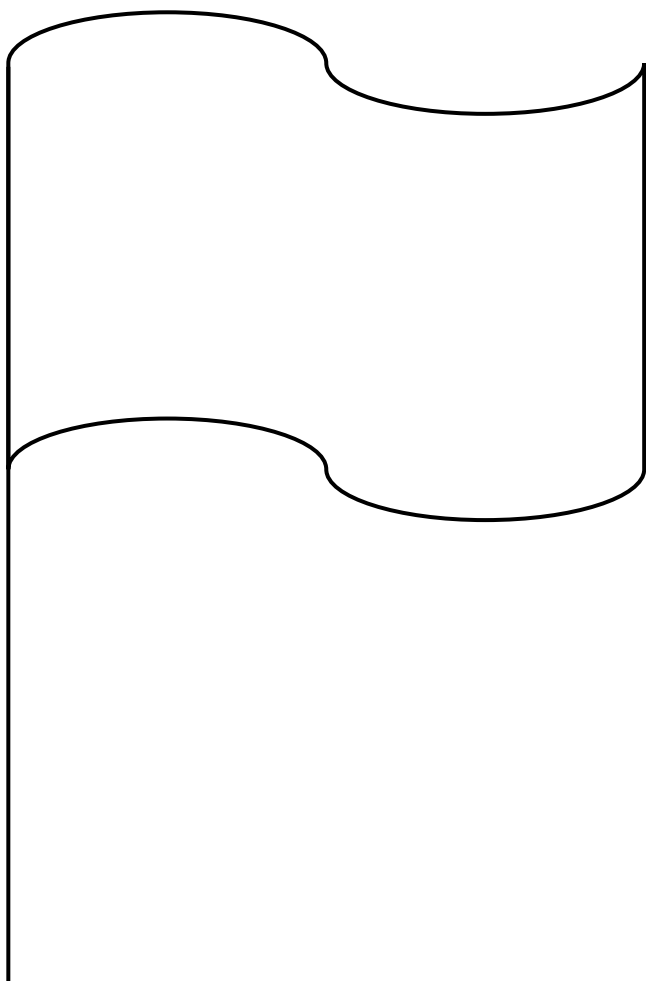
Help the hen find the coop:



Can you find 10 differences between these pictures?



Design Your Own Flag





FUN CHAT

Questions to share with your family or friends

Suggestion: Share these Qs in a group setting with 1 or more other people. One person reads a question. Everyone answers, taking turns, if they have an answer they'd like to share. Or they can pass - no pressure, this is fun! Sometimes answers include fun or interesting stories. Listening to each other and sharing pieces of our stories help us to know and understand each other better.

What is one of your favorite Fourth of July / Independence Day memories?

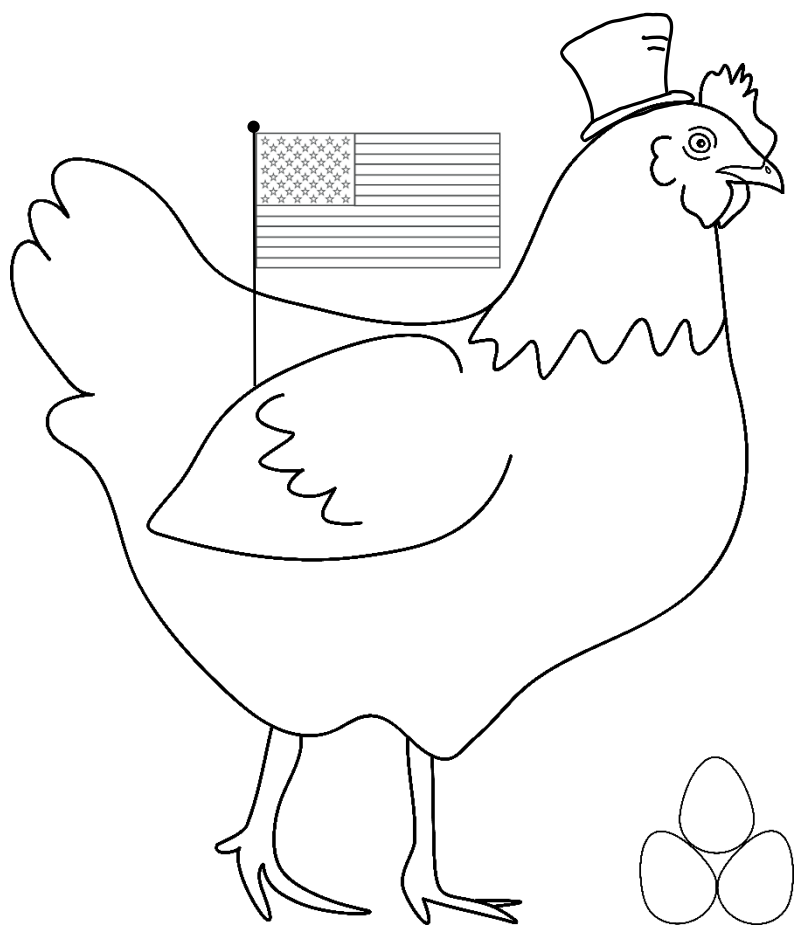
If you designed a flag that represented you, what would it look like?

Can you name the 13 colonies that became the first states?

What is a freedom you are thankful for?



Happy Fourth of July!





Chickens.org offers ad-free, no-cost resources for people who raise chickens or are just curious about chickens. (And we have fun, too.)

We use education and teamwork to help address malnutrition and food insecurity in poor communities. We help establish coops and gardens at community centers such as schools, churches and orphanages, to encourage people to grow their own nutritious, delicious food.

A child who does not get enough healthy food cannot grow big and strong, develop a strong immune system to stay healthy, or be able to learn in school.

But eggs help this! Some hens can lay 200-300 eggs per year. Eggs are full of protein, to help kids grow.

When we help build coops and gardens, we get to teach people about the importance of healthy food, and how to grow it themselves.

www.chickens.org

Chickens.org is a program of Capax World, Inc., a U.S. based charity that combats malnutrition and poverty through education, agriculture, business development, and more.



CHICKENS.ORG

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