DAILY Warm-Up 6

Name _____ Date _____

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Did you know that "The Star-Spangled Banner" is our national anthem? This song has inspired millions of Americans and continues to inspire them today. But how did this song come about? The song was written by Francis Scott Key. A battle between the colonists and the British was raging at Fort McHenry. Key quickly wrote out a poem. He was inspired by the flag flying over Ft. McHenry. His poem had five verses. We only sing the first verse in the national anthem.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" did not become the national anthem right away. There was no music to the words. Key scribbled the words to the poem on the back of a letter. He also gave it its title. He brought it back to Baltimore, and it was later published in the newspaper. The words were then bought and published to the tune of the song "To Anacreon in Heaven."

This song did not gain in popularity for many years. "Yankee Doodle" and other songs were sung more frequently. "The Star-Spangled Banner" became more popular before the Civil War. It was made the national anthem in 1931. Today when this song is sung, people rise to their feet and put their right hands over their hearts. This is to show respect for the country and for the flag.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What could be another title for this reading passage?
   a. "The National Past Time"
   b. "The National Anthem"
   c. "The Life of Francis Scott Key"
   d. "Respect for the National Anthem"

2. Which paragraph explains where the song was first published?
   a. first
   b. second
   c. third
   d. none of the above

3. Which statement below is <u>not</u> a fact?
   a. The national anthem is still sung today.
   b. Francis Scott Key wrote the song first as a poem.
   c. Francis Scott Key wrote the song "To Anacreon in Heaven."
   d. The national anthem was made official in 1931.

4. In this passage, the word *anthem* means . . .
   a. to show respect.
   b. original song.
   c. song created from a poem.
   d. song of praise.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS