

Your Family American Dream Quilt

Create an American dream quilt that reflects your family's history and enjoy a family keepsake for generations to come!

Art materials needed:

6" x 6" paper squares in red, white and blue
Yarn to stitch squares together
Images of American symbols
Copies of

- family photos
- immigration documents
- special letters
- diplomas, awards or other important records of your American story.

Project Instructions

Enjoy making your own American Dream Family quilt together. Each member can create their own quilt square that expresses their vision of *life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness*.

Be creative! Look for and cut out American symbols and images in magazines, online resources or make your own. Add special family photos, mementos, or draw your own special representations. When each person has finished their square, assemble them together with the yarn. Display the beautiful quilt in your home as a reminder of what you value as a family and what you appreciate about the promise of the American ideal: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. If you prefer, turn the pages into an American Dream scrapbook instead of a quilt.

To begin, adults may assist children as they use the questions in "**Celebrating Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness**" to learn about a significant elder member of your family and/or a member of your family and their American story. Families may have been here for generations or recently arrived to the United States to begin a life in this country. These questions and prompts can help guide the conversation around the themes of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Responses will help you design your quilt. In the process, you will learn about your family's history and memories of the Fourth of July holiday.

Enjoy learning and creating together!

Please visit the **Raising Citizens** website to see the communal "American Dream" quilt permanently on display at the museum. It was made from squares contributed by visitors to the 2009 Raising Citizens' Independence Day program at CMOM.

Visit www.freedomsfeast.us/go-and-learn for more resources.

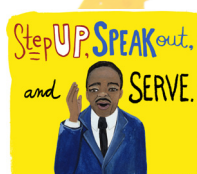
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