

A Symbol of Welcome

The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty has stood as a symbol of welcome since 1886. Standing 150 feet tall, she is visible from far away to welcome people to the United States coming through New York Harbor. She represents welcoming new Americans as new neighbors and friends.



<https://bit.ly/3faqlat>

Words to Know

Symbol: a picture or word that stands for something else

Welcome: greeting someone who is arriving in a friendly, warm way.



“Her Right Foot” by Dave Eggers

This picture book about the Statue of Liberty's constantly moving right foot is a great way to talk as a family about what it means to come to, and be part of, America. Check if this book is available through your local library as an electronic book. Use the book to discuss how the Statue of Liberty welcomes people to America.

Symbols of Welcome

Lady Liberty is one symbol of welcome. Think about other ways that people show each other that they are welcome in a new place. Especially during this time of social distancing, it's comforting to make and share symbols of welcome, even if we cannot be physically close. For example, across Italy, children are painting rainbows with the phrase “Andra' tutto bene,” Italian for “Everything will be alright.”

Resources: “Her Right Foot” e-book, [Boston Public Library](#);

Video readings: Keys to the Classroom:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPkt0MaEXiY>;

Mr. Wil Turner: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V87-T-VN0hY>

Fact: Emma Lazarus wrote a poem called *The New Colossus* about the Statue of Liberty, published in 1883, to help raise money for the statue's new pedestal. You can read the poem here: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/46550/the-new-colossus>

Make a Difference

Create Your Own Symbol of Welcome

Step 1: Think about a symbol that will bring joy to people who see it and help them feel better in these hard times. Use the space below to brainstorm symbol ideas.

Step 2: Draw your symbol or use paper cut-outs to make a collage. Add a welcoming message to explain your symbol.

Step 3: Hang your project in your window for people passing by to see.



The Guardian ['Everything will be alright': message of hope spreads in Italy](#)

Share your work online. Tag us @EMKInstitute and use the hashtags #Civicsathome