

# Tennessee Studies Weekly

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## Oh, Say, Can You See...?

Revere went to a baseball game last night and heard a song at the beginning of the game. He can't stop thinking about "The Star-Spangled Banner." The song has been stuck in his head. He decides he needs to learn more about it. He will do so during this exciting week!



# Oh, Say, Can You See...?

## The Star-Spangled Banner

Our national anthem is the "The Star-Spangled Banner." A national anthem is a song that represents a country. Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner" in 1814. In 1931, a law was made to make the song into the national anthem.



### How was it written?

"The Star-Spangled Banner" was a poem at first, but later put to a famous tune. Key wrote it during a battle in 1814. This battle was part of the War of 1812.



O say can you see by the  
dawn's early light

What so proudly we hailed at  
the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright  
stars through the perilous fight

O'er the ramparts we watched,  
were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the  
bombs bursting in air

Gave proof through the night  
that our flag was still there

O say does that star-spangled  
banner yet wave O'er the land  
of the free and the home of  
the brave?



Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Rocket's Red Glare

Have you wondered what the words of the song mean? Key saw the sky flashing, “the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air.” Since the sky was lit up by the bombs, he could still see the flag. The American flag was there in the morning “by the dawn’s early light.” This meant that the Americans had not lost the battle.



## Let's Write

Have you ever been to an event where someone sings “The Star-Spangled Banner”? If you have, write about when you heard it. What were you doing? Where were you? How did you feel?

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