

Social Studies Theme: Geography

Lesson: *One Nation, One Family*

Grade Level: 1-4

Overview: Students learn how they are connected to other people in the U.S. while still being different from each other.

Approximate Duration: one class period

National Social Studies Standards: NSS-G.K-12.2 Places and Regions
http://www.educationworld.com/standards/national/soc_sci/geography/k_12.shtml

Objective: Students will be able to recognize the similarities and differences of people that live in the United States of America.

Procedure:

- Explain to students that although we are alike in some ways and different in others, we all live and work in a country called the United States of America.
- Ask students to look at a map of North America and ask them to find the country they live in, the United States. Then talk about how everyone who lives in the 50 states is alike and different. Mention how the citizens of our country have the same President and believe in many of the same things. Conclude the discussion by talking about how students think living in a country is like being in a big family.
- Talk about the ways Americans had to work together during World War II and how it never would have been successful had we not come together. Mention the way Victory Gardens fit into to this unity in America during the war.

Assessment:

- Write this sentence starter and have students finish it:

Our country is like a big family because _____.

- Encourage them to illustrate their sentence.
- Have students illustrate a poster entitled "We Are One Country."
- **Technology integration:** Illustrate the "We Are One Country" poster using iPads or Paint on computers.

