
PATRIOTIC POETRY

July by John Updike

Illustrate part of this poem in the space provided.

Bang-bang! Ka-boom!

We celebrate

Our national

Independence date,

The Fourth, with

Firecrackers and

The marching of

The Legion Band.

America:

It makes us think

Of hot dogs, fries,

and Coke to drink.

The shade is hot

The little ants

Are busy, but

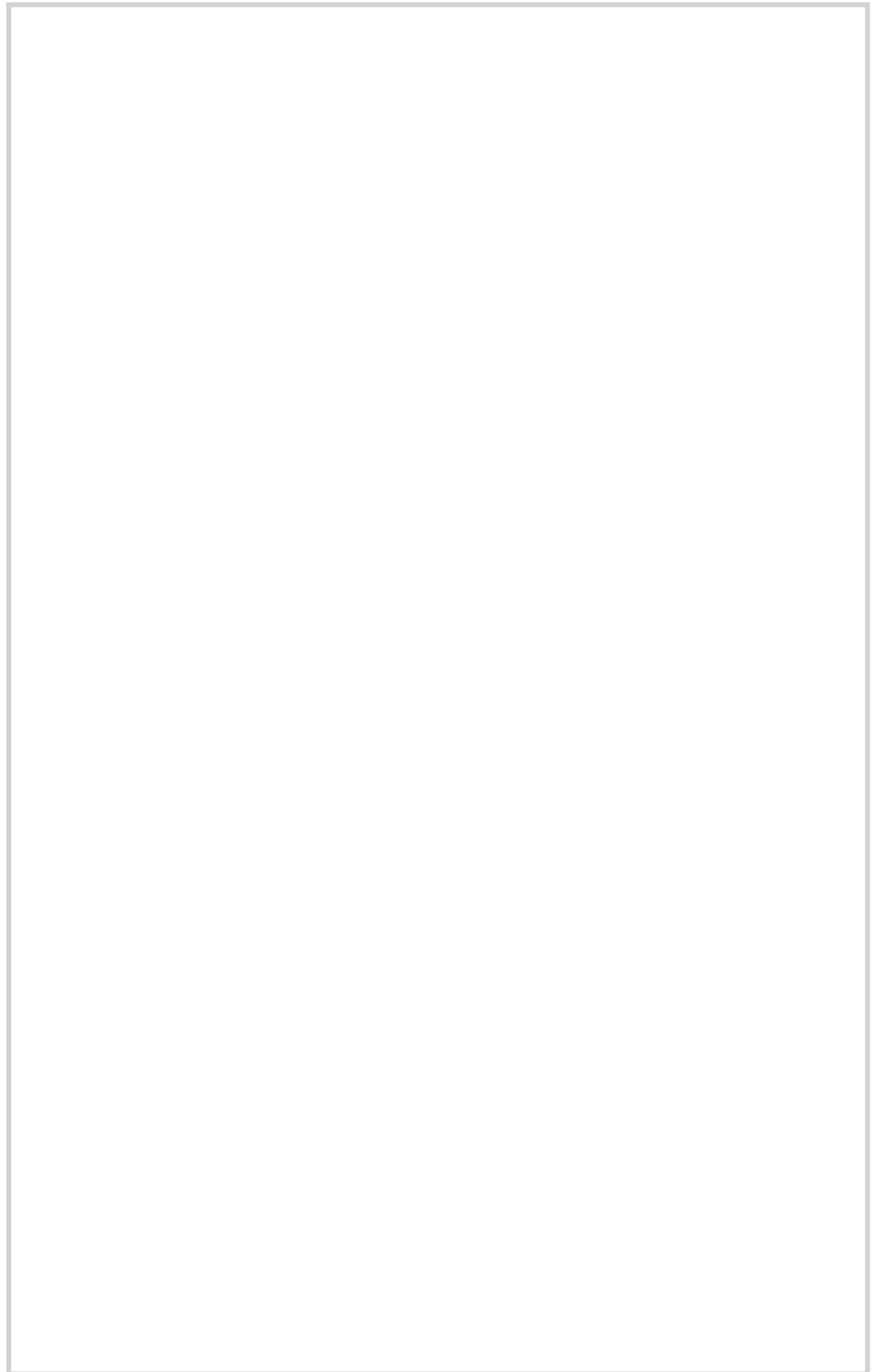
Poor Fido pants.

And Tabby dozes

In a pool

Of fur she sheds

To keep her cool.



PATRIOTIC POETRY

Our History *by Catherine Cate Coblents*

Copy this poem on the lines provided.

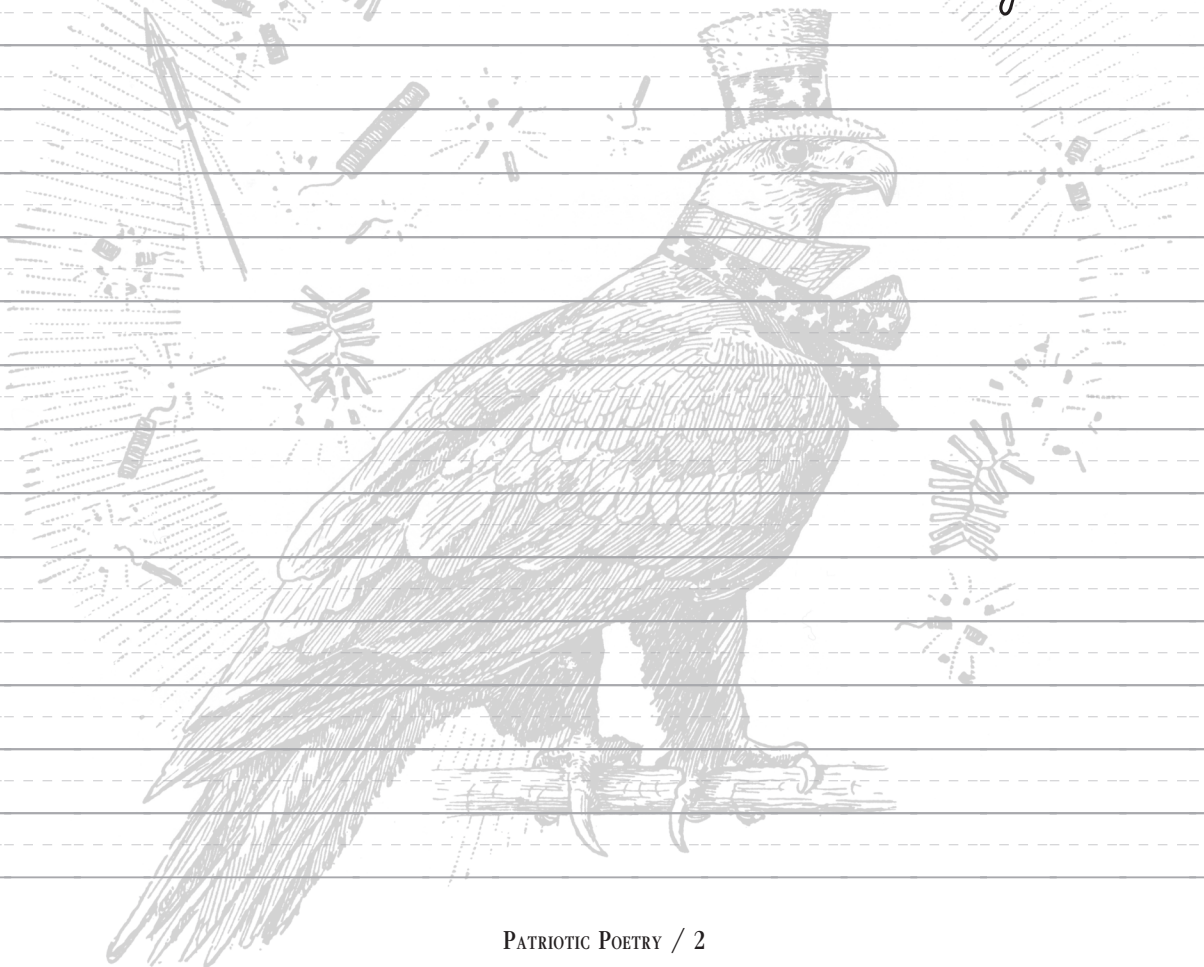
Our history sings of centuries,

Such varying songs it sings!

It starts with winds,

slow moving sails,

It ends with skies and wings.



PATRIOTIC POETRY

Concord Hymn *by Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Try to memorize this classic poem about American history.

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
 Their flag to April's breeze unfurled
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
 And fired the shot heard round
 the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;
 Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;
And Time the ruined bridge has swept
 Down the dark stream which
 seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,
 We set today a votive stone;
That memory may their deed redeem,
 When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Spirit, that made those heroes dare
 To die, and leave their children free,
Bid time and Nature greatly spare
 The shaft we raise to them and thee.



PATRIOTIC POETRY

The Flag Goes By *by Henry Holcomb Bennett*

Use red, white and blue construction paper to make a flag to wave as you read this poem out loud to your family on the Fourth of July.

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color beneath the sky:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!

Blue and crimson and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hats off!

The colors before us fly;
But more than the flag is passing by;
Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and to save the State;
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips;
Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and reverend awe.

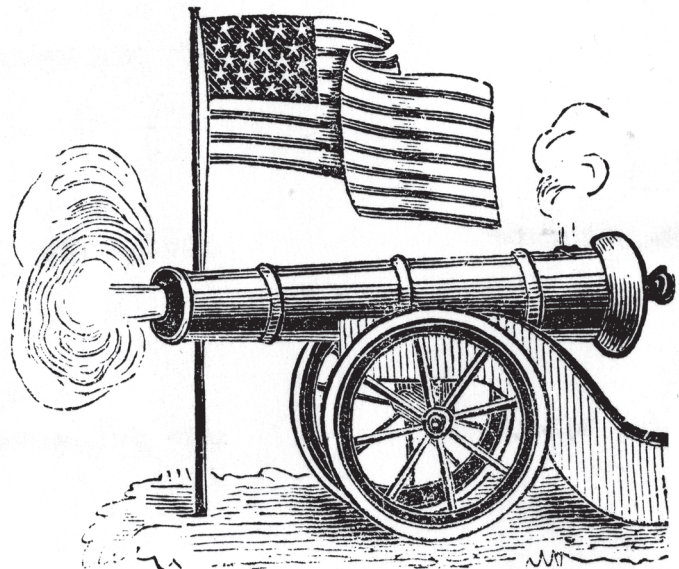
Sign of a nation great and strong
To ward her people from foreign wrong;
Pride and glory and honor - all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high:

Hats off?

The flag is passing by!



PATRIOTIC POETRY

Washington *by Nancy Byrd Turner*

Trace or color the portrait of George Washington.

He played by the river when he was young,
He raced with rabbits along the hills,
He fished for minnows, and climbed and swung,
And hooted back at the whippoorwills.
Strong and slender and tall he grew—
And then, one morning, the bugles blew.

Over the hills the summons came,
Over the river's shining rim.
He said that the bugles called his name,
He knew that his country needed him,
And he answered, "Coming!" and marched away
For many a night and many a day.

Perhaps when the marches were hot and long,
He'd think of the river flowing by
Or, camping under the winter sky,
Would hear the whippoorwill's far-off song,
Boy or soldier, in peace or strife,
He loved America all his life!

