

# Chapter 3: Symbols of Nationalism (The French Revolution)

Social Studies 20-1

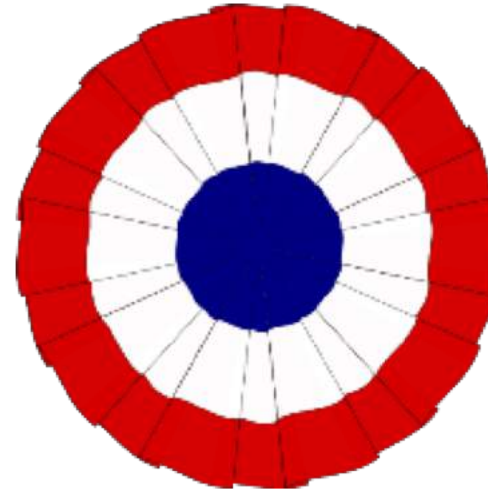
Ms.Gill

# Tricolor Cockade

The tricolor cockade was a red, white, and blue circular emblem that people wore pinned to their hats or their coats to show they supported the revolution. It first gained meaning to the revolutionaries when a red and blue cockade (the colors of Paris) was presented to the king after the Storming of the Bastille. Later, Lafayette added white to the cockade to represent the king and the entire nation of France.

Eventually, the tricolor cockade became the symbol of the revolutionary government.

Those who wore the cockade were considered committed members of the revolution. Those who didn't were often suspected of treason and might be thrown into jail or even executed.



# Phrygian Cap

The Phrygian cap, also known as the liberty cap, was another item worn by revolutionaries. It was a brimless, felt cap that was usually red. By the middle of the French Revolution, members of the assembly were required to wear the cap. The meaning of the cap came from Ancient Rome where slaves were given a Phrygian cap when they were set free.



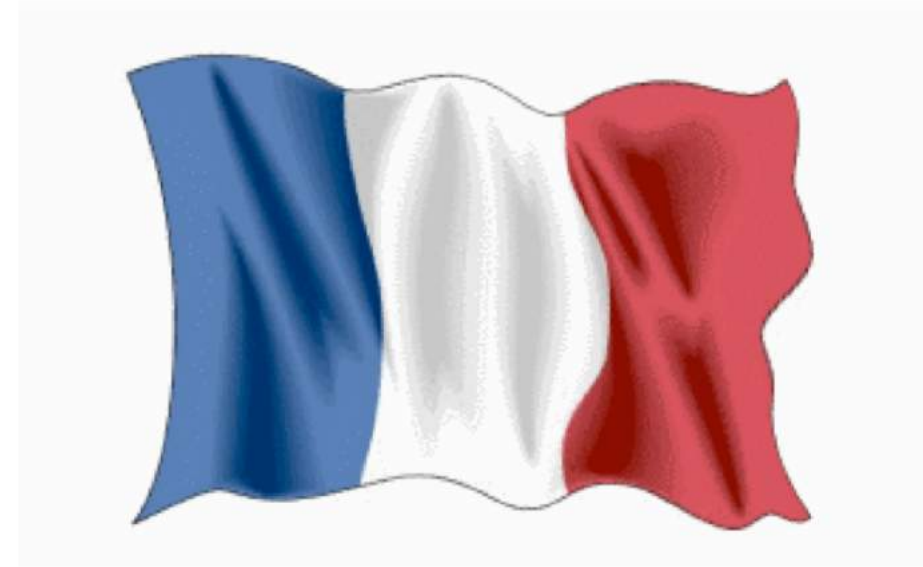
# Liberté Égalité Fraternité

The motto of the French revolution meaning freedom , equality, and fraternity. It was the cry used by the revolutionists of the French Revolution in 1789.



# The French Flag

The revolution adopted a new flag called the Tricolor. It had the same red, white, and blue colors of the tricolor cockade. The Tricolor is the official French Flag today.



# The Guillotine

The most fearsome of the symbols of the French Revolution was the guillotine. This device was used to execute enemies in a quick and efficient manner. A guillotine was made of a large wood frame that allowed for a heavy metal blade to be raised and then dropped with force to behead the victim. Thousands of nobles and suspected enemies were executed during the revolution using the guillotine earning it a number of nicknames including "The National Razor", "The Widow", "The Machine", and "The Woods of Justice".



# Interesting Facts about the Symbols of the French Revolution

- France was still using the guillotine for executions up until 1977.
- In 1793, a law was passed requiring all women to wear the tricolor cockade or be sent to prison. The law was later repealed, not because it was unfair, but because the leaders decided that women had no place in politics.
- Watching people get executed by guillotine was a popular form of entertainment during the revolution. People would get there early to get a good spot and would buy programs listing those who were going to be executed. Parents would even bring their children to watch.

