**Infant and Toddler Lesson**

**Special Learning Lesson**

**Independence Day**

**The 4th of July is an important day in our country! Let us celebrate the birthday of our country. And remember the great blessing of freedom that we are privileged to enjoy!**

**Purpose**

The United States of America is a promised land, and a special country! The 4th of July marks the anniversary of our country, Teach your child to honor and respect our country and teach them of the rich blessing of freedom that we enjoy every day!

“America is a place of many great events. Here is where Adam dwelt, where the Garden of Eden was located. America was the place of former civilizations, including Adam’s, the Jaredites’, and Nephites’. America is also the place where God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to Joseph Smith, inaugurating the last gospel dispensation on earth before the Savior’s second coming.” ~ Thomas S Monson.

**Preparation**

Pull up any links you might need for the lesson – look at the Family Night website for quick links

Mark Ether 2:12

Know where a picture of Nephi

Prepare for the Activities you want to do.

Prepare Treat ~ Patriotic Fruit Kabobs

**Independence Day**

**Opening Song** ~ My Country (Primary Hymnbook; Hymn 224)

**Opening Prayer**

**Scripture** ~ Open Scriptures to Ether 2:12, and read. To reinforce the idea that goes with the lesson you can say, “America is a special place, where we can be free!”

**Scripture Story** ~ Nephi and the Promised Land

Heavenly Father told Nephi and his family to travel across the ocean to the promised land.

Nephi and his family had to ride in a boat for a long time to get there!

Eventually they reached the promised land!

The promised land is America, that is where we live now!

**Activity** ~ Firework Craft ~ Found on ruready2craft.blogspot.com

Use pipe cleaners and paint to create a super cute firework craft! Hint ~ cute to make on a shirt and wear on the fourth of July!

**Coloring Page** ~ 4th of July Coloring page found on allkidsnetwork.com

**Closing Song** ~ My Flag, My Flag (Primary Hymnbook; Hymn 225)

**Closing Prayer**

**Treat** ~ Suggested Treat ~ Patriotic Fruit Kabobs found on gigglesgalore.net Marshmallows blueberries, strawberries, and star cookies!

**Extra Activities for This Lesson ~**

 **1** ~ Dot Maker Flag ~ Found on momshavequestionstoo.com

Free printable to make flags. Use blue for the stars, and then do every other line red. Click on the link on the family night website for more details!

**2** ~ Fireworks!

As long as they are legal ☺ Sparklers are always fun!

 **3** ~ Cookies!

Make some red white and blue cookies and deliver them to friends or neighbors! You can make the frosting and decorations red, white, and blue or the dough itself!