

At A Glance

Subjects:

Social Studies, Art, Math,
Science and Language Arts

Grade Level:

K-6

Time Required:

30 minutes for social studies
lesson. Additional time required
for extensions.



Students in uniform



Football player
(photos can be found in the appendix)

Uniforms

Goal:

Explore the purpose of uniforms in our society in order to understand people and the relationships among individuals and groups.

Materials:

- Interactive picture of a soldier
http://www.generalpatton.org/education/army_culture/army_culture_3.htm
- Interactive picture of a soldier
http://www.generalpatton.org/education/army_culture/army_culture_9.htm
- Uniform pictures
- Coloring picture of a soldier

Vocabulary:

Camouflage: the natural coloring of an animal which allows it to blend in with its surroundings and/or the disguising of military equipment and people by painting or covering them to make them blend with their surroundings.

Uniform: style of dress typical of a certain group.

SET: 20 minutes (Questions for students are in bold face)

What is a uniform? Why do people wear uniforms?

Do you wear a uniform?

- Uniforms help identify or tell us about someone's job or an organization they belong to. When you see a uniform it tells you something about the person wearing it. When you think about it, you see uniforms everyday.

Can you list people who wear uniforms?

- Write the list on the board if you wish. Possible answers are (but not limited to):

Nurses	Students	Waiters/Waitresses
Doctors	Hotel Staff	Nuns/Priests
Judges	Police	Firemen
Soldiers	Sailors	Postal workers
UPS delivery people	Park Rangers	Scouts
Clubs	Marching Bands	Cheerleaders
Sports Teams (football, etc)	Chefs	Pilots



A.

A. Doctor



B.

B. Police officer and Fireman

(photos can be found in the appendix)



Soldier in ACUs

(photos can be found in the appendix)

What does a uniform tell you?

- Uniforms can tell you that a person is there to help you. It makes them look different from other people so you can identify/recognize them more easily. Think of doctors, nurses, police, firemen and soldiers. A uniform, as opposed to a costume, is clothing of a certain type, style, and make up that is required by the organization the person belongs to. An Army uniform is actually described in Army regulations and Federal law allows military uniforms to be only worn by persons serving in the military.
- Uniforms tell you not only that a person belongs to a certain group but also that person has skills other people don't. A police officer is only allowed to wear this uniform if he/she has completed specific training. A nurse is only allowed to wear this uniform if they have completed nursing school. You wouldn't ask a police officer to stitch a cut on your arm and you wouldn't ask a nurse to arrest someone.
- People in the armed services are different from other people. The army uniform tells you that the person wearing it belongs to a specific country and organization: The United States Army. This means the person wearing it has taken an oath to the government of the United States to defend the nation, even if it means they might get hurt or even die.
- The Army has two types of uniforms, one for dress and one for work. The Army work uniform is like a fireman's uniform – it helps protect the wearer.

You are looking at a picture of an American Soldier. This is a work uniform and is only worn by American Army Soldiers. The Army Combat Uniform (ACU) can also tell you other things about the person wearing it. What do you notice about the uniform?

- The uniform provides protection for the wearer. It is a type of camouflage (because of the pattern) to protect the wearer from being seen.
- It tells you s/he is a member of the US Army.
- It tells you the person's name.
- It tells you the person's rank. Twice, once on the flash on the beret and once on the jacket of the ACUs. (The higher the rank, the more people they can give orders to.)
- It tells you what part of the army he/she is in.

This allows other people in the army to identify the wearer and be able to know where the person comes from and if they must take orders from this person. It allows the army to work smoothly.

Conclusion:

Uniforms are important in our society because it helps us identify the people who can help us if we get lost or hurt, protect us and keep us safe.



Army and animal camouflage

Curriculum Connections:

Science:

Life sciences: Animals use camouflage in nature. Have the students study how animals use camouflage to protect themselves from predators.

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/animal-camouflage.htm>

<http://www.ontariosciencecentre.ca/scizone/games/camouflage/default.asp>

http://www.livescience.com/animals/061226_insect_camouflage.html

<http://www.abc.net.au/beasts/fossilfun/camouflage/camouflage.swf>

Physical Science: Light and Shadow, camouflage works because of how our eyes see patterns. How does light and shadow work to fool our eyes?

<http://www.fi.edu/color/>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/7_8/light_shadows.shtml

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/dragonfly/hide/index.htmlx>

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/dragonfly/hide/gestalt.HTMLX>

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/mentoring/project_ideas/Phys_p035.shtml

Math:

Symmetry: Have students study symmetry found throughout nature. How many symmetrical items can they find in the classroom?

<http://www.adrianbruce.com/Symmetry/>

http://www.linkslearning.org/Kids/1_Math/2_Illustrated_Lessons/4_Line_Symmetry/index.html

http://www.innovationslearning.co.uk/subjects/maths/activities/year3/symmetry/shape_game.asp

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/symmetry-artist.html>

Art:

Symmetry: Most artists instinctively try to make symmetry a part of their art, as does nature (think shells, butterflies, people).

<http://www.art.net/~coffin/WRITINGS/BEAUTY/beauty.html>

<http://www.dummies.com/WileyCDA/DummiesArticle/id-1740.html>

<http://www.artlandia.com/wonderland/>

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/symmetry-artist.html>

<http://www.lessonplanspage.com/ArtMathButterflySymmetry2.htm>

Language Arts:

Writing about a big idea: Many people have to wear a uniform. Do you have to wear a school uniform? Do you like it? Many stories have been written about having to be like everyone else or being different. Do you like being like everyone else? Or do you like being different? What do you do that is the same as everyone else? What do you do that is different?

**Educational Programs at
The Patton Museum**

Social Studies: Primary (appendix)

Experience. Evoke. Explore.



**Educational Programs at
The Patton Museum**

Social Studies: Primary (continued)

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