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| \WebQuest |
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 **The War of 1812**

**Our national anthem began as a poem celebrating a battle during the War of 1812. The song is better known than the war. What *was* the fight about? Why would a country as young as ours become involved in another war against Britain (A POWERHOUSE!)?**

**(Answer all questions in complete sentences. Some responses will be more detailed than others. You will have to use your knowledge of American history as not all answers will be clearly given to you…you will have to read and interpret to understand!!!)**

**Begin this web quest by going to: http://www.gatewayno.com/history/war1812.html**

* Why was the United States irritated with the British prior to the war?
* Define a War Hawk?
* How did the war go for America in 1812–1813? Give specific details.
* What happened to Washington, D.C., in 1814 and why?
* Describe General Andrew Jackson's victory in New Orleans.
* Explain the practice of impressment, and how does this affect the US?
* What did Thomas Jefferson hope to accomplish by passing the Embargo Act of 1807?

**Next, head to this site about the founding/writing of “The Star-Spangled Banner”:**

[**http://www.usflag.org/francis.scott.key.html**](http://www.scholastic.com/kids/exit.asp?url=http://www.usflag.org/francis.scott.key.html)

* Who was Francis Scott Key and why did he go to Baltimore?
* What inspired him to write the lyrics "that our flag was still there"?
* When was Key's poem adopted as our national anthem?

**Lastly, check out this site that discusses one of the most famous war machines of 1812:**

[**http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/ushistory/oldironsides.htm**](http://www.scholastic.com/kids/exit.asp?url=http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/ushistory/oldironsides.htm)

* Why can the USS *Constitution* be called a national ship?
* Why was this ship important to the War of 1812?
* Why was this ship nicknamed "Old Ironsides"?

**Closure Activity**

**After reading about the War of 1812, explain how the war impacted Americans and their spirits (4-6 sentences)? (Use the back of the packet if you need more space)**