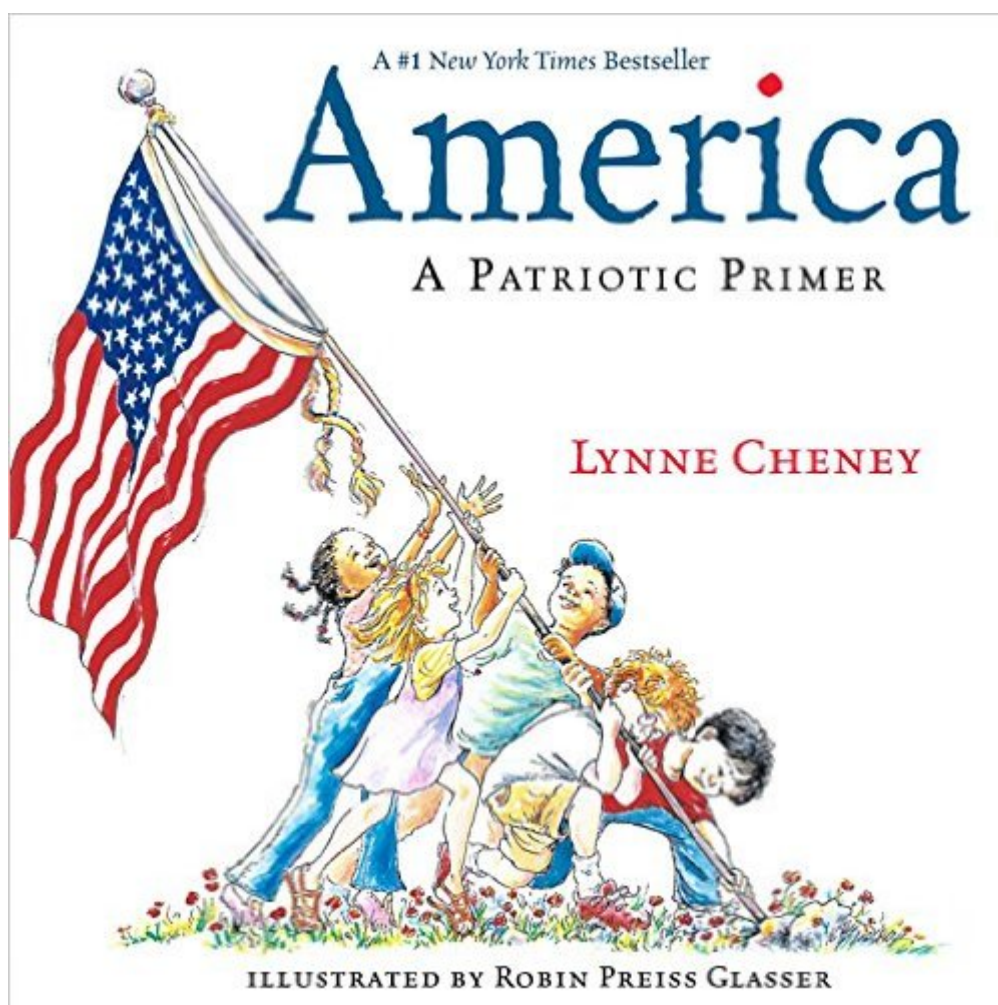


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# America: A Patriotic Primer



## Synopsis

New York Times bestselling team Lynne Cheney and Robin Preiss Glasser takes readers through the A to Z of American history, in this charming picture book that celebrates the diversity, tenacity, and faith of the American people. *America: A Patriotic Primer* is a succinct history of the United States, an ABC of the principles on which this country was founded, and a book for children and families to pore over, discuss, and cherish. A is for America, the land that we love. B is for the Birthday of this country of ours.... To choose the twenty-six people and ideas that comprise the book, Lynne Cheney has drawn on a lifetime of learning about the American past, and on the inspiration that comes from witnessing recent history firsthand. Illustrator Robin Preiss Glasser imbues Mrs. Cheney's words with childlike joy through her exuberant drawings. This A to Z of America frames the story "and the miracle" of our country.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 840 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

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Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.4 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (122 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #332,524 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #127 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Government #1028 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I have always associated Mrs. Cheney with conservative politics. I could not imagine her writing a book covering American history that I would not find distasteful for professing conservative philosophy. My liberal soul stood ready to detest whatever she wrote sight unseen. The first lesson I learned from "America: A Patriotic Primer" is that "T is for Tolerance", as I truly regret my liberal snobbery. This book should not be seen as authored by a conservative writer, but merely as one

written by an American, one that truly loves America, American values, and America's promise through its children. Rightly, no political viewpoint is taken, other than professing the greatness of our history and the profundity of our ideals. This is a book best read with your child not as a story book from cover to cover, but rather savored in an unhurried fashion by jumping from place to place. I think it is best to let one of Ms. Glasser's wonderfully cheerful illustrations draw your child in, and then let the discussion go from there. This is a great first book on American history for any family with young children (whether that family leans "left" or "right") looking for a fun, informative, and simple approach to American patriotism.

I was skeptical of a "Patriotic Primer" written by Mrs. Cheney, but I have to say that this is a wonderful book for readers ages 4-8, especially. I think elementary school teachers, who are struggling to work history into their curriculum, will find this book to be a treasure-trove of information and stepping off points for classroom discussion and projects. I find it refreshing that a "celebrity" book is an informative history book. Whatever you think of Mrs. Cheney, you can't argue with her on the need for our children to be better educated on American history. This is a book that will enlighten young readers as well as their parents. The detailed research notes in the back were of particular interest to me as an adult reader, and my 5 year old daughter loved the exuberant illustrations. Put your politics aside...this is a book for all--young and old!

I'm thinking back to a year ago at this time and remembering how spoiled we Americans felt. And then along came 9/11 and shocked us all into shifting our priorities. If there is a book for children that manages to capture the scope of our greatness, it is this wonderful book by Lynne Cheney. It should be given to every child, every elementary school teacher and librarian on the first day of school this year.

As I read America, A Patriotic Primer, I found myself wishing I could have a "do over" on instilling an interest in American history in my own children. I see that the book is written so that it can be read to a 4 year old or a 10 year old. There is as little or as much information as the age requires. I see that this book would evoke curiosity in children. I own a copy and will keep it handy for as yet unborn grandchildren. I think it is a fitting Grandmother's shelf volume to be read when they arrive. Ms. Glasser's illustrations are wonderfully interesting and beautifully showcased. I love that Mrs. Cheney used the alphabet to instill important concepts, institutions, and figures in our country's history. I appreciate that she gave fair attention to women, minorities, leaders, soldiers, patriots, founders,

artists.....when you start really reading the 'fine print' the list is quite impressive. The beauty of the book is that it can be read over and over with a little more 'noticed' and learned each time. I think this book should be available to every child in America. It is a book that will instill deeper understanding and ownership of our American heritage.

... However, 5 stars it DOES deserve as an educational/resource book about prominent historical events, people, and American ideals that shaped our country. It is written in short/simplistic phrases; however, the back of the book has a reference guide which gives a little more detail for each section (i.e. short biographies or facts about dates and events). This is NOT a book to try to read at bedtime! It is not written in a "story" format. It is more a book to take your time with on an afternoon sitting down with your child and reviewing a few pages at a time....gazing at the pictures, talking with them in more detail about what each of the things means to America and the importance of it in our lives. It is more a book to use for educating and as a resource book for the "main" thing to know about a historical figure/event/or ideals that shaped America. I found the artwork to be "charming"! I found the pictures to be bright and detailed! The pictures are not "big" and "bold" as you would prefer for younger ages (under age 7). The pictures are small and detailed with many scenes on one page. The scenes include pictures of historical buildings (white house, statue of liberty, supreme court, etc), events (thanksgiving, civil war, etc), people (Lincoln, Washington, Martin Luther King Jr, etc). and ideals (voting, peaceful assembly, valor, tolerance, etc). In summary, this book is not a book to read at bedtime; however, you would like this book if you use books as an introduction to family discussions and are prepared to introduce more detailed information during the discussions....

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