





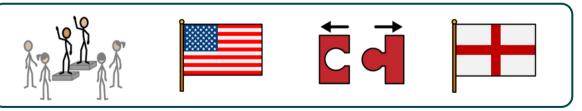
Independence Day is a holiday that celebrates America.





England was once in charge of the 13 colonies that made up America.



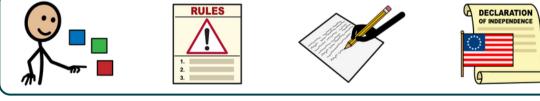


A group of leaders in America joined together to talk about separating from England and becoming an independent country.

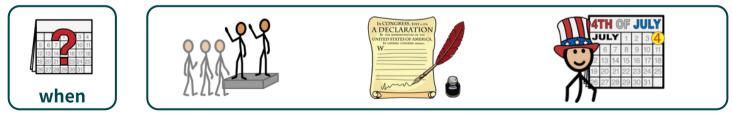


American leaders did not agree with England's rules. They wanted America to be independent and free from England's rules.





They chose their own rules and wrote them down in the Declaration of Independence.



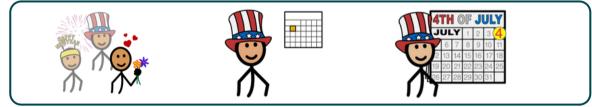
They signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.



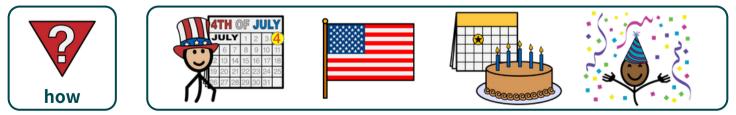
On that day, America became its own country, free and independent from England.



what



This holiday is called Independence Day, or "The Fourth of July."



July 4th is like America's birthday. People celebrate in many different ways.