Engaging Readers
Help students understand what a symbol is. A symbol—an object or an image that stands for an idea—often stands for a big idea and how they work can be very powerful. Talk about the symbols found in the design of the Statue of Liberty and what they represent. Do people know just by looking at a symbol what it represents? Can symbols have different meanings? Can a meaning of a symbol change? Talk with students about other symbols of the United States. Do they feel like those symbols represent what they know and understand about the U.S.? Ask them to think about, sketch, and share ideas for their own symbols for freedom, opportunity, and democracy.

Community Connection
Get students thinking about symbols and the ideas behind them. Are there symbols at your school? In your community? Talk about what they represent and if or how they depict the shared values and beliefs of your school or your community. Then convene readers from all walks of life to create a symbol that represents what reading means to your community! Brainstorm how the symbol could be used to share positive messages about reading and welcome more people to your community of readers.

Ready Resources
Skype in the Classroom is filled with unique learning experiences for your students. Welcome people from around the world into your classroom; let students talk and participate in activities with an author, engineer, or other experts; take students on a virtual field trip; or play Mystery Skype to introduce geography, culture, and the similarities and differences of how children live all over the world.

education.microsoft.com/skype-in-the-classroom/overview

Her Right Foot
by Dave Eggers; illustrated by Shawn Harris
Learn more about the Statue of Liberty and the powerful message of acceptance that can be found in her right foot.
Chronicle Books, 2017. Artwork used with permission. chroniclebooks.com