Cuba is an island country located in the Caribbean Sea where the Caribbean Sea meets with Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. It is the largest country in the Caribbean and is slightly smaller than Pennsylvania. Like other countries, it has a flag that symbolizes the nation. Like all flags, there are specific meanings behind the colors in the Cuban flag.

The three blue stripes represent the three states into which Cuba was divided in 1849 when the flag was created. Today, instead of Cuba being split into three states, it consists of 15 provinces. The white stripes represent the force and dedication of the soldiers who fought for independence. Cuba gained its independence from Spain in 1898 and then again from the United States in 1902. The red symbolizes the blood that was shed in the struggle for independence. The white star is known in Spanish as *La Estrella Solitaria*, which means the Lone Star in English. The star represents independence and freedom.