STUDENT'S
Activity Book
Delaware Symbols and General Assembly Facts
**THE STATE SEAL**

The state seal was first adopted on January 17, 1777, and contains the coat of arms. It also bears the inscription around it “Great Seal of the State of Delaware.

The following symbols appear on the seal:

The wheat sheaf is adapted from the Sussex County seal and signifies the agricultural vitality of Delaware.

The ship is a symbol of New Castle County’s ship building industry and Delaware’s extensive coastal commerce.

The corn is taken from the Kent County seal and also symbolized the agricultural basis of Delaware’s economy.

The farmer with the hoe represents the central role of farming to the state.

The militiaman with his musket recognizes the crucial role of the citizen-soldier to the maintenance of American liberties.

The ox represents the importance of animal cultivation to the state economy.

The water (above the ox) stands for the Delaware River, the mainstay of the state’s commerce and transportation.

The motto “Liberty and Independence” was approved in 1847.

The dates: 1704, the year that Delaware established its General Assembly; 1776, the year that our independence from Great Britain was declared; and 1787, the year that Delaware became “the First State” by being the first colony to ratify the United States Constitution.

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**State Bird: Blue Hen**
Adopted as the state bird on April 14, 1939.
During the Revolutionary War, the Delaware Continentals were known by their fellow fighters as “the Blue Hens’Chicks” in honor of the distinctive bluish fighting hens, which some of the men carried with them on their travels.

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**State Tree: American Holly**
Adopted as the state tree on May 1, 1939.
The American Holly is regarded as one of Delaware’s most important forest trees. In Delaware, the tree can reach a maximum of 60 feet in height.

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**State Flower: Peach Blossom**
Adopted as the state flower of Delaware on May 9, 1895.
Delaware had the reputation as the “Peach State” at the time. Peach trees are native to China and have light pink flowers that bloom every spring, followed by fuzzy fruits that ripen by mid-summer.
Delaware State Flag

Adopted on July 24, 1913, the state flag has a background of colonial blue surrounding a diamond of buff color in which the coat of arms of the State of Delaware is placed. Below the diamond is the date “December 7, 1787”, the day on which Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution making Delaware the first state in the Union, and according it the first position in such national events as presidential inaugurations. According to members of the original commission established to design the flag, the shades of buff and colonial blue, the official state colors, represent those of the uniform of General George Washington as shown on a specific plate from an official U.S. Army publication.

State Fish: Weakfish
Adopted as the state fish in 1981.
The weakfish can grow to 3 feet in length and weigh over 19 pounds. It was made the state fish in recognition of its recreational and economic contributions to the State of Delaware and its value as a game and food fish.

State Bug: Lady Bug
Adopted as the state bug on April 25, 1974.
Some ladybugs have no spots and others have up to 20 spots. Ladybugs are very helpful to a garden as they eat aphids and mites - bugs that are harmful to plants.

State Butterfly: Tiger Swallowtail
Adopted as the state butterfly on June 10, 1999.
The tiger swallowtail, a large, yellow, black-striped butterfly, is indigenous to Delaware and can be seen in deciduous woods, along streams, rivers, and wooded swamps, and in towns and cities throughout Delaware.

State Marine Animal: Horseshoe Crab
Adopted as the state marine animal on June 25, 2002.
These invertebrates contain a compound, limulus amebocyte lysate (LAL), that is used to detect bacterial poisons in certain medications, vaccines, and medical devices. Chitin, a natural polymer found in the horseshoe crab's shell, is used to make bandages. Delaware Bay is the home to more horseshoe crabs than any other place in the world.

State Beverage: Milk
Adopted as the state beverage on June 3, 1983.
Each dairy cow produces about 6.5 gallons of milk per day. Less than half of this milk is consumed as a beverage; the rest is used for butter, cheese, ice cream, milk powder, and other processed products.
State Dessert: Peach Pie  
Adopted as the state dessert on July 30, 2009. Peach farming is an important part of Delaware’s agricultural heritage, as the peach was introduced to Delaware in Colonial times and expanded as an industry in the nineteenth century. Delaware was the country’s leading producer of peaches for part of the nineteenth century, at its peak, shipping 6 million baskets to market in 1875.

State Fruit: Strawberry  
Adopted as the state fruit on May 13, 2010. Delaware strawberries are bred for taste, not to be big or last a long time on a store shelf.

State Wildlife Animal: Grey Fox  
Adopted as the state wildlife animal on June 10, 2010. The grey fox is believed to be between 7 and 10 million years old, and is indigenous to Delaware. It is a swift and powerful animal capable of running up to 28 miles per hour and the only member of the canid family which is able to climb trees.

State Shell: Channeled Whelk  
Adopted as the state shell on May 6, 2014. The channeled whelk is a beautiful sea creature integral to the ecology and economy of the State of Delaware.

State Sport: Bicycling  
Adopted as the state sport on June 14, 2014. Delaware was ranked the 5th most bicycle friendly state in the United States in 2013. The U.S. Cycling Association named the Wilmington Grand Prix a Tier 1 race, making it one of the top 10 criterion races in the country.

State Tall Ship: Kalmar Nyckel  
Adopted as the state tall ship on September 9, 2016. The original ship Kalmar Nyckel sailed from Sweden and landed at the Rocks, now Fort Christina Historic Park, in 1638. The ship carried Peter Minuit and his original crew, the first permanent European settlers in the Delaware Valley to found the trading post of New Sweden, now Wilmington, Delaware. The Kalmar Nyckel made four documented round-trip crossings of the Atlantic Ocean, more than any other ship of the era.
Do you know Delaware?

Complete the crossword below

Across
1. The state tree is the American ________.
5. The Capital of Delaware is ________.
6. Caesar ________ signed the Declaration of Independence.
7. The Capital is in ________ County.
9. The state wildlife animal is the ________.
10. Spacesuits are made here ________.
11. Tourists flock to the beaches in ________ County.
12. Delaware has ________ counties.

Down
2. The Delaware state bug is the ________.
3. Delaware was the ________ state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
4. The state beverage is ________.
8. The most northern county is ________.
13. The state bird is the blue ________
**MATCHING**

Fill in the blank on the left with its correct answer on the right by placing the correct letter in the blank.

1. The House of Representatives has ________ members.
   - A. General Assembly
   - B. 1933

2. The Senate has ________ members.
   - C. Law

3. The presiding officer of the House of Representatives is called the________.
   - D. 2

4. The President of the Senate is the ________.
   - E. Chief Clerk

5. Another name for the State Legislature is the ________.
   - F. 21

6. The person in charge of the administrative duties in the House is the ________.
   - G. Secretary of the Senate

7. When a bill is passed by the General Assembly and is signed by the Governor is becomes a ________.
   - H. 41

8. The General Assembly first met in its current location in ________.
   - I. Pro Tempore

9. Members of the House are elected for ________ years.
   - J. Speaker

10. The person in charge of the administrative duties in the Senate is the ________.
SEEK AND FIND
Find all of the hidden Delaware symbols listed below.

X T I N K E L E L T S A C W E N S Y O K K B
F L D L S H L I Y S Z M O G M Y U L M L U I D
O I D S Z O A P K B X W S I Q S F D E T C B H
L Z R V A R H H Y O S W I Z S E B H F Y B M S
S I M S I S E C A I J R E E N I W I C F O L F
T L A W T E V A J Y S Z X O A D U L J S T O Y
R A W T O S I E H A G L T U E S I P S H Y W K
A D G E W H T P Z A M S A L X N X O Y S J G Y
W Y B O A O A A R S W E E T G O L D E N R O D
B B Z R J E L C T U I N R G N B C E Y N G I L
R Z I N R A G C H W I R A E M A C I O S L K C
Y V P T E B E C Q E S E A Q H Q N N T F I A Y
O X T P I K L B E I P R T Y J E D H T N M E N
Y E N D O R R A S E A C E N F S U G O S O S R
S M A L L W O N D E R X O G T O S L A L I C A
W E A K F I S H R E V O D A I L X T B C L P M
D J M B G Y A Z H M V Q T H W T B L K K J Y L
E Q T I Q O L C X D P E F Y Z K Y Q T A R G A
T N S I W M M M O H M N N D Z E D Z W N H Z K
M D U B W C L R P R Y X C V P U B H O A J S E

Delaware Symbols

AMERICAN HOLLY
CAESAR RODNEY
DIAMOND STATE
GREY FOX
WEAKFISH
KENT
MILK
PEACH PIE
STRAWBERRY

BICYCLING
CHANNELED WHELK
DOVER
HORSE SHOE CRAB
LADY BUG
NEW CASTLE
SMALL WONDER
SUSSEX

BLUE HENS
SWEET GOLDEN ROD
CONTINENTALS
FIRST STATE
LEGISLATIVE HALL
PEACH BLOSSOM
STONEFLY
TIGER SWALLOWTAIL
Welcome to Delaware, Small Wonder; image provided by Delaware Department of Transportation

Peach Blossom: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
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Blue Hen: image retrieved from statebirds.blogspot.com

American Holly: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(Photo by John/Flickr - Use Permitted with Attribution/Share Alike)

Weakfish: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org

Ladybug: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
/Public domain image on Free Public Domain Photo Database: Ladybug on a leaf)

Milk: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(Photobyuatfooi/Flickr - non-commercial use permitted with attribution)

Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(PhotobyLtsheers on Wikipedia - use permitted with attribution / share alike)

Horseshoe Crab: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(PhotobyAmanda on Flickr - use permitted with attribution)

Peach Pie: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(PhotobySu Yin Khoo on Flickr - non-commercial use permitted with attribution / share alike)

Strawberry: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(PhotobyFrancisco Antunes on Flickr - noncommercial use permitted with attribution / share alike)

Grey Fox: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(PhotobyJ.N. Stewart on Flickr - non-commercial use permitted with attribution / no derivative works)

Channeled Whelk: image retrieved from statesymbolsusa.org
(Photobyphotoholic1 on Flickr - non-commercial use permitted with attribution / no derivative works)

Bicycle: image retrieved from publicdomainpictures.net
(Image on Public Domain Pictures: old bicycle)

Kalmar Nyckel: image provide by kalmarnyckel.org

Do you know Delaware?
1. HOLLY
2. LADYBUG
3. FIRST
4. MILK
5. DOVER
6. RODNEY
7. KENT
8. NEW CASTLE
9. GREY FOX
10. ILC
11. SUSSEX
12. THREE
13. HEN

MATCHING
1. H
2. F
3. J
4. I
5. A
6. E
7. C
8. B
9. D
10. G