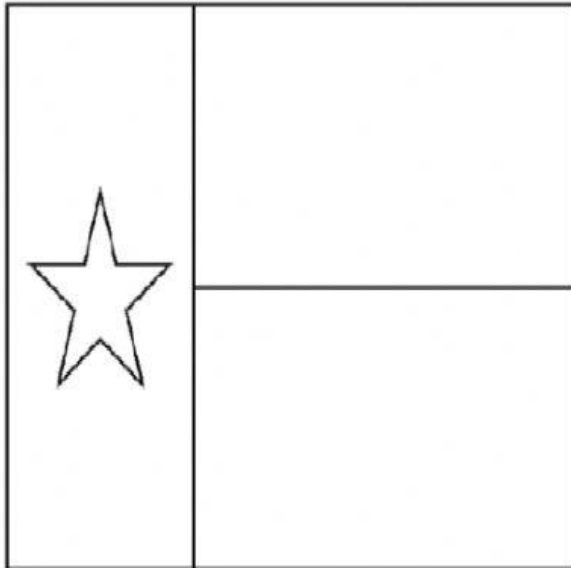


Name _____

The Lone Star Flag

Comprehension



The state flag of Texas was adopted in 1839 as the flag of the Republic of Texas. The state flag is often called the "Lone Star" flag. It is the reason that Texas has the nickname, the "Lone Star State." The lone star on the flag represents all of Texas and for the state's unity as a state. It also represents its spirit of *independence*, or its freedom from being controlled by another.

1. The state flag was first adopted as the flag of the _____.

2. What is the flag of Texas often called?

3. Color the area behind the star blue. What does the blue stand for? _____

4. Color the bottom stripe red. What does the red stand for? _____

5. The top stripe remains white. What does the white stand for? _____

6. What do you think that *independence* means? _____

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The Texas flag shares the same colors as the flag of the United States. The blue behind the star represents loyalty. The white in the top stripe of the flag represents purity. The red in the bottom stripe stands for bravery.

7. The Texas flag has the same colors as the _____ flag.

Name _____



The Mockingbird

Comprehension

1. When did the mockingbird become the state bird of Texas? _____

2. How large are they? _____

3. What leads you to believe that they have amazing vocal abilities? _____

Activate Window
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4. What other states have the mockingbird for a state bird? _____

5. How can you tell that they are fierce protectors? _____

6. Name three predators that mockingbirds may have. _____

7. Color the mockingbird correctly. _____

Activate Window

The state bird of Texas, the mockingbird, became the state bird in 1927. They are about ten inches in length, including its tail. They have a light gray coat and a whitish underside. Its wings and tail are darker gray with white patches. Mockingbirds have amazing vocal abilities, or skills. They can sing up to 200 songs, including insect and amphibian sounds and songs of other birds. The mockingbird is also the state bird of Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

The mockingbird is also known as a fierce protector of its nest and its environment. When they believe that something is a threat to their territory, they will swoop down to scare it away. You can sometimes see mockingbirds swooping down on cats, dogs, or other predators if they feel as though they are a danger to their home.

Name _____

The Bluebonnet

Comprehension



1. How did the bluebonnet get its name? _____

2. Where can you find bluebonnets growing? _____

3. What do you think that *hardy* means? _____

4. When do bluebonnets bloom? _____

The state flower of Texas, the bluebonnet, can be seen in the spring along highways and throughout pastures all over Texas. It got its name because it looks like a sunbonnet. The bottom petals are blue with the top tips being white. The bluebonnet is a *hardy* plant, or one that can survive in rough conditions. They bloom from March until May. Most bluebonnets grow to be a little over one foot tall. However, in west Texas the Big Bend bluebonnet can grow up to three feet tall!

The bluebonnet became the state flower in 1901. However, there were many people that wanted the cotton bowl to be the state flower because so much cotton is grown in Texas.

5. What did some people want to be the state flower instead of the bluebonnet?

_____ Why? _____

6. What do you think the state flower should be? _____

7. Color the bluebonnet correctly.

Name _____

The State Seal of Texas

Comprehension

Front of the
State Seal of Texas



The state seal is used to *authenticate* documents of the state, or to prove that a documents are official.

1. What is the state seal used for? _____

2. What do you think that *authenticate* means? _____

3. When was the seal created? _____

4. What do the olive branches represent? _____

5. What do the live oak branches represent? _____

In the center of the state seal, there is a white five-point star that is encircled by olive and live oak branches. The first official seal was created in 1836. There have been changes made throughout the years, but it has looked like the seal above since 1845. The olive branches on the seal represent peace. The live oak branches represent strength.

The seal that we are used to seeing is actually the front side of the seal. In 1961 a reverse side was designed.

6. The background (behind the words and the star) is blue. Color the seal accordingly.

7. The ribbon on the seal is red. Color the ribbon.

8. The olive branches and oak leaves are green. Color them accordingly.

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Name _____

Back of the
State Seal of Texas



The State Seal of Texas

Comprehension

1. The reverse of the state seal was adopted in _____.
2. What do you think that *decorative* means?

3. What landmark is in the top of the shield?

4. What is important about the six flags around the shield?

The reverse side of the state seal was adopted in 1961. It is only used as a *decorative* symbol, or to look nice. It consists of a shield surrounded by the six national flags that have flown over Texas. The Alamo is in the top of the shield. The bottom shows the cannon from the Battle of Gonzales along with Vince's Bridge that was a part of the Battle of San Jacinto. The six flags surrounding the shield represent Spain, France, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederate States, and the United States of America. The phrase "Remember the Alamo" is atop the seal to remember the struggle for independence.

5. Name four of the six flags that surround the seal. _____

6. Why is "Remember the Alamo" on the seal? _____