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Social Studies

Washoe County School District

Social Studies Fourth Grade Units

Lesson 4

Symbols of Nevada

H 6.4.22 Explain the symbols, mottos, and slogans related to Nevada, including: “Battle Born,” state seal, “Silver State,” state flag.

1 Introduce

- Ask students if they see any symbols or objects that stand for Nevada as they look around the classroom. (flag)
- Discuss with them what state symbols mean and what they think of when they see symbols of Nevada.
- Tell students that in this lesson they will learn more about the symbols of Nevada.

2 Teach

Have students read the lesson. Make sure students understand the definitions of *motto* and *slogan*. Ask them for examples of other mottos or slogans they may have heard, and suggest some from their study of history. Then review the pictures on the seal to make sure students understand what they are. Then ask:

What does the state seal tell you about Nevada’s economy at the time the seal was designed in the 1860s? (Possible

answer: It shows that mining, agriculture, and industry were very important to Nevada.)

Explain that Nevada became the 36th state of the United States in 1864, during the Civil War. Then ask:

Why do you think that “Battle Born” is one of Nevada’s slogans? (Nevada became a state at a time of many battles.)

Explain to students that patriotism, or love of one’s country, is often encouraged by governments during wartime. It is one way to increase support for the soldiers who are fighting in the war. Then ask:

Why do you think “All for Our Country” became the state motto? Remember that it was chosen around the time of the Civil War. (Answers will vary, but students should mention patriotism and that Nevadans were proud to join the United States.)

3 Assess and Extend

Assess As students work through each section, offer help if needed. Then display a Nevada state flag in the front of the classroom. Ask students to notice the different elements on the flag, as well as the colors used. Ask students to show how the design shows all three state slogans: “Battle Born” (in the banner), “Sagebrush State” (in the flowers shown), and “Silver State” (the star is silver).

Extend The Nevada state seal was designed nearly 150 years ago. Have each student design a new state seal for Nevada. The new one should show what is important in Nevada today. Have students use colored markers or pencils when making their seals, and ask each student to share his or her seal with the class and explain the symbols, mottos, and slogans they chose for their designs.

Answer Key

Lesson 4 Symbols of Nevada

Students should properly label scenery, mining, farming, and industry.

1. All for Our Country
2. B
3. C
4. A

Name _____ Date _____

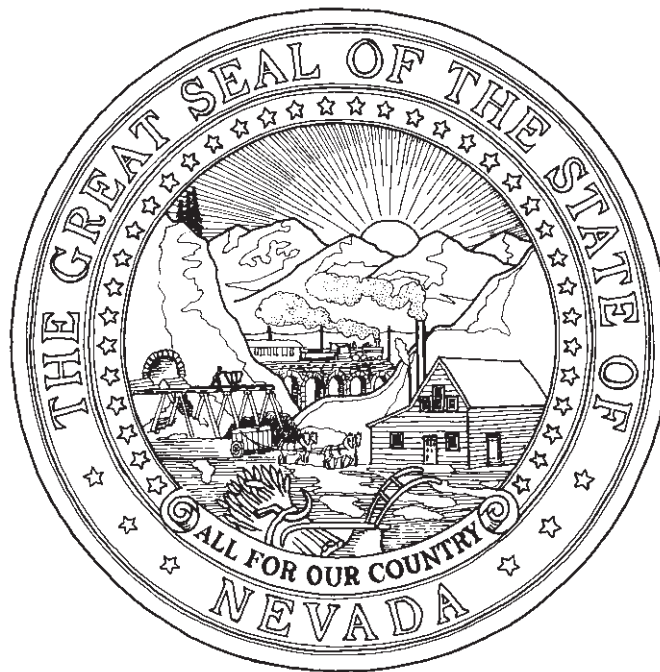


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Symbols of Nevada

Read the text and then complete each activity.

Nevada's seal, motto, slogans, and flag tell you a lot about our state. The state seal appears on official Nevada documents. It honors mining, agriculture, industry, and scenery in Nevada. Label each of these on the Great Seal of Nevada below.



A motto is what people believe in or stand for. The state motto is below the picture on the seal.

1. Write the motto on the line below.

Nevada has several slogans. A slogan helps to explain a purpose or belief.

Draw a line to match each slogan on the left with the reason that it is used on the right.

2. "Battle Born"

A. Silver is Nevada's state mineral.

3. "Sagebrush State"

B. Nevada became a state during the Civil War.

4. "Silver State"

C. Sagebrush is the Nevada state flower.