

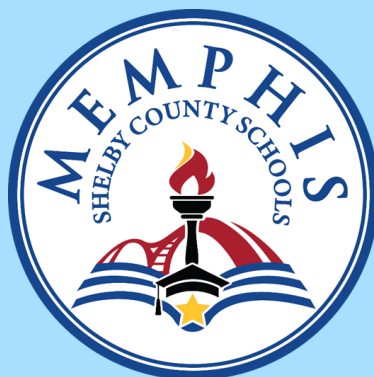


# SOCIAL STUDIES



## 1ST GRADE

### INCLEMENT WEATHER PACKET



# Capital of the United States

by Justin Moy



The United States became a country in the late 1700s. The country needed to pick a place for its capital. A capital is the place where a country's government is located. For a while, the capital moved around. It was moved to different cities and states.

United States leaders did not want the capital to move around anymore. They wanted the capital to be by the Potomac River. President George Washington chose a place by the river for the capital. People named the new capital Washington after him.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a capital?

- A. a place close to a river
- B. the place where a country's government is located
- C. a building that is made of white stone

2. This text explains how the United States leaders picked a place for the country's capital. Where was the capital located first?

- A. At first, the capital was near the Potomac River.
- B. At first, the capital moved around.
- C. At first, the capital was in New York City.

3. Read this sentence from the text about the capital of the United States.

"People named the new capital Washington after him."

What does this tell us about President George Washington?

- A. George Washington was a bad president, and people wanted to forget him.
- B. George Washington was a good president, and people wanted to remember him.
- C. George Washington was a funny president, and people liked to laugh about him.

4. What is "Capital of the United States" mostly about?

- A. how country leaders named the capital Washington
- B. how the United States became a country
- C. how country leaders picked a place for the capital

5. Where did United States leaders finally decide to put the capital?

U.S. leaders decided to put the capital by the

\_\_\_\_\_.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6. What did you learn from "Capital of the United States"?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**7. Class Discussion Question:** Describe how Washington, D.C., was chosen for the capital of the United States. Use information from the text to support your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**8.** Draw the capital of the United States by the Potomac River.

# Three Symbols of the United States

by Susan LaBella



Liberty Bell in the Liberty Bell Center. Photograph by Robin Miller, 10/2003.  
Courtesy, Independence National Historical Park.

The United States of America has some special symbols. A symbol is something that stands for something else.

The American flag is a symbol of the United States. Each star stands for one of the fifty states. The stripes stand for the thirteen colonies that joined together to start the country hundreds of years

ago.

The Liberty Bell is a United States symbol. It stands for American freedom. The Liberty Bell hangs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The White House is a United States symbol. It is the home of the country's president. The White House is in Washington, D.C.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What do the stars on the American flag stand for?
  - A. The stars stand for the thirteen colonies.
  - B. The stars stand for the stars in the sky.
  - C. Each star stands for one of the fifty states.
  
2. The text describes three important symbols of the United States of America. What is a symbol?
  - A. A symbol is a piece of metal that you hit with a stick.
  - B. A symbol is the home of the country's president.
  - C. A symbol is something that stands for something else.
  
3. The stars on our flag stand for the fifty states that make up America now. The thirteen stripes stand for the colonies that joined together to start America hundreds of years ago. What does this information tell us about the size of America?
  - A. America is smaller now than it was hundreds of years ago.
  - B. America is bigger now than it was hundreds of years ago.
  - C. America is just as big now as it was hundreds of years ago.
  
4. What is "Three Symbols of the United States" mostly about?
  - A. three important symbols of the United States
  - B. the White House
  - C. the stars on the American flag

5. Name one symbol the United States has.

One symbol the United States has is

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6. What did you learn from "Three Symbols of the United States"?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

7. Class Discussion Question: Use information from the text to explain how the stars and stripes on the American flag help to make the flag a symbol for the country.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

8. Draw a picture of the American flag.

# Steamboats and Railroads

by ReadWorks



Long ago, the United States was new. People traveled by foot and horse. They also traveled in boats powered by paddles or wind. Those trips took a long time.

Then steam engines were invented. The steam engine used the power of boiling water. That invention made it possible for boats to go much faster.

Before long, steam engines were used in railroad trains, too. These trains could go even faster than steamboats. Now people could travel long distances more quickly. Steamboats and railroads made it easier for Americans to go places!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How did people travel across America when the country was new?

- A. by foot, horse, or boat
- B. by steamboat
- C. by railroad train

2. What was invented after steamboats?

- A. the steam engine
- B. trains that used steam engines
- C. boats with paddles

3. Long ago, people traveled in boats powered by paddles or wind. Those trips took a long time.

What does this information tell us about the boats powered by paddles or wind?

- A. These boats could not travel long distances.
- B. These boats had steam engines.
- C. These boats did not have steam engines.

4. What is the theme of "Steamboats and Railroads"?

- A. the fastest way to travel
- B. how steamboats and railroad trains were invented
- C. how people traveled across America

5. What did people invent so that boats and trains could travel more quickly?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6. What did you learn from "Steamboats and Railroads"?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**7. Class Discussion Question:** Put the following in order from slowest to fastest and discuss when people began to travel this way.

Horse

Train with steam engine

Foot

Steamboat

Boat (sail or paddle boat)

---

---

---

---

---

---

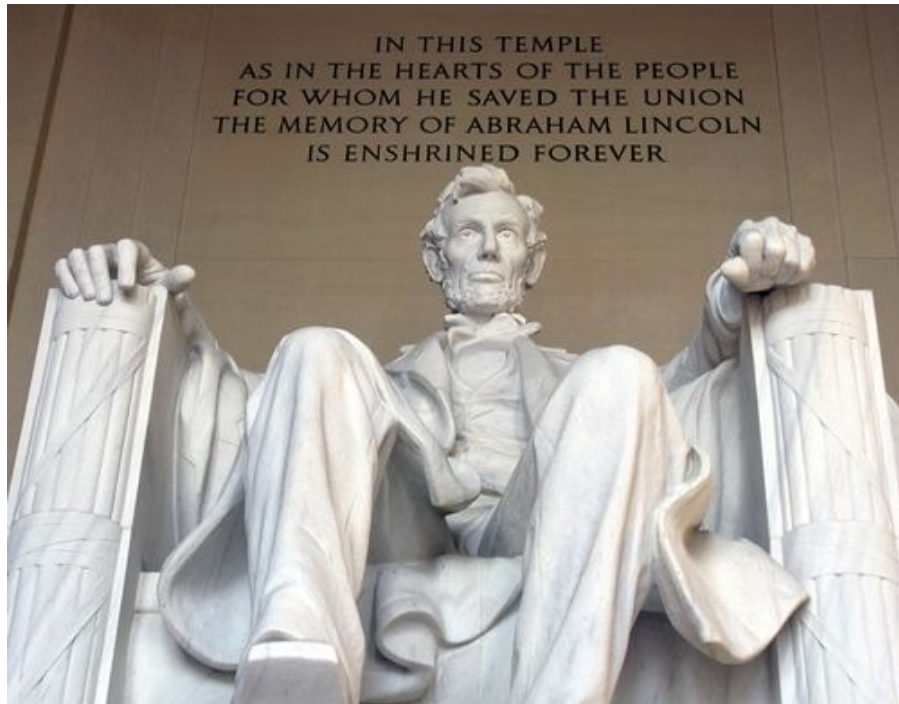
---

---

**8.** Draw a picture of a boat with a steam engine and a boat without a steam engine.

# What Is a Memorial?

by Susan LaBella



There are many memorials in Washington, D.C. Memorials are built to remember and honor people. Visitors go to the United States capital to see these memorials.

The Jefferson Memorial honors President Thomas Jefferson. Inside this building is a nineteen-foot-high statue of the president.

The Lincoln Memorial honors President Abraham Lincoln. Inside it is a statue of Lincoln sitting down.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial is a large stone statue. The statue honors Martin Luther King, Jr. He worked for peace among all people.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial has two special walls. They are black walls that show the names of many soldiers. They fought and died for the United States in the Vietnam War.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why do people build memorials?

- A. People build memorials to teach children about important people.
- B. People build memorials to remember and honor people.
- C. People build memorials to show how rich they are.

2. The text describes several important American memorials. Where are many of America's memorials?

- A. San Francisco
- B. Washington, D.C.
- C. New York City

3. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a very important American who did great things. What information from the text tells us this is true?

- A. There is a memorial in Washington, D.C., to honor and remember President Abraham Lincoln.
- B. There is a memorial in Washington, D.C., to honor and remember President Thomas Jefferson.
- C. There is a memorial in Washington, D.C., to honor and remember Martin Luther King, Jr.

4. What is "What Is a Memorial?" mostly about?

- A. four special American memorials
- B. how memorials are built
- C. the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

5. What is written on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial?

On the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is written

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

6. What did you learn from "What Is a Memorial"?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**7.** Class Discussion Question: What type of people are remembered and honored with a memorial? Use at least two examples from the text to support your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**8.** Draw a picture of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.