

## Activity #1 Symbols Review Game

Grade Levels: 3rd-4th Grade

Time Required: 10-30 Minutes

Description: This is a higher level thinking game where students use deductive reasoning. The object is to have the kids narrow down which symbol the clues are referring to as you read the clues. The clues are arranged from general to specific.


### Materials Needed:

- 1) Clue sheet (for teacher)
- 2) Symbol Game Sheet (1 per student)
- 3) 10 Markers (pennies, tiles, etc.)

### Directions:

- 1) Distribute the game sheet and 10 markers to each student.
  - 2) Explain the key to students. (Descriptions are in bold)
  - 3) Read the first clue.
  - 4) Students will place markers on the symbols that have been eliminated by the clue. (Example—The clue “I’m not buried under the ground” eliminates the Tully Monster and Fluorite).
- \*\*Tell students that a clue may not necessarily eliminate a symbol, and some clues may eliminate more than one symbol.
- 5) Read clue two, then clue three, etc. Play continues in this manner until only one symbol, the answer, is left.

\*\*Please note that the State Soil is NOT included in this game.

	<b>State Tree</b>
	<b>When:</b> 1973 (When it became a symbol)
	<b>How:</b> School Children (How it was chosen)
	<b>Size:</b> 100 feet (30 m) high
<b>Other:</b> Strong wood is used in making cabinets. (Another fact or two about the symbol)	
<b>White Oak</b>	

Activity #1: Symbols Review Game Clue Sheet (for teacher)

1.	I'm not a dance.
2.	I am alive.
3.	I don't live under water.
4.	I am not animal.
5.	I became a symbol after 1970.
6.	I can grow up to 100 ft. (30 meters)
7.	I am used to make cabinets.
<b>White Oak</b>	

1.	I don't swim.
2.	I don't have the word "white" in my name.
3.	I can't fly.
4.	I'm not a folk tradition.
5.	I was chosen by school children to be a state symbol.
6.	I grow out of the ground, but I am not a grass.
7.	My petals are used for decoration.
<b>Blue Violet</b>	

1.	I'm not a mineral.
2.	I don't have gills.
3.	I was chosen by school children to be a state symbol.
4.	I don't have wings.
5.	I am a plant.
6.	I have the word "blue" in my name.
7.	I can grow to about 3-10 feet tall. (1-3 meters)
<b>Big Bluestem</b>	

1.	There's nothing square about me.
2.	I'm not extinct.
3.	I don't have the word "white" in my name.
4.	I am not a plant.
5.	I am alive.
6.	I can fly.
7.	A baseball team next to Illinois shares my name.
<b>Northern Cardinal</b>	

1.	I don't live in water.
2.	I am not a fossil.
3.	I do not lay eggs.
4.	I am not a dance.
5.	School children chose me to be a state symbol.
6.	I have the word "white" in my name.
7.	I was the only symbol designated as the official state animal.
<b>White-tailed Deer</b>	


1.	I am not found buried under the ground.
2.	I was chosen by school children to become a state symbol.
3.	I am not a tree.
4.	I do not grow in the ground.
5.	I lay eggs.
6.	I can fly.
7.	I don't make nests.
<b>Monarch Butterfly</b>	


1.	I am not extinct.
2.	I was chosen by school children to be a state fossil.
3.	I am not a dance.
4.	I am not an insect.
5.	I became a symbol sometime in the 1980's.
6.	I am an animal.
7.	I am not a mammal
<b>Bluegill</b>	


1.	I am not a dance.
2.	I can't fly.
3.	I am not a flower.
4.	I don't grow in the ground.
5.	I don't live in water.
6.	I am found under the ground.
7.	I am extinct.
<b>Tully Monster</b>	


1.	You won't find me in water.
2.	I'm not a mammal
3.	I can't fly.
4.	I don't have the word "blue" in my name.
5.	I wasn't selected by children to be a symbol.
6.	I'm not found buried under the ground.
7.	I'm a USA folk tradition.
<b>Square Dance</b>	


1.	I became a symbol before 1990.
2.	I do not grow out of the ground.
3.	I don't have wings, feathers or scales.
4.	I am found under the ground.
5.	I wasn't selected by children.
6.	I'm not a monster.
7.	I'm an important Illinois mineral.
<b>Fluorite</b>	


	<p><b>State Tree</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1973</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> 100 feet (30 m) high</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Strong wood is used in making cabinets.</p>
<p><b>White Oak</b></p>	


	<p><b>State Flower</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1908</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> 3-8 inches high (7½-20 cm)</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Petals are edible and used for decoration. Grows in sun and shade.</p>
<p><b>Blue Violet</b></p>	


	<p><b>State Prairie Grass</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> Aug. 31, 1989</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> 3-10 feet high (1-3 m)</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Once covered Illinois' true prairies. Also called "Turkey Foot".</p>
<p><b>Big Bluestem</b></p>	



	<p><b>State Bird</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1929</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> 8-9 in. high (30 m) Wingspan up to 12 in.</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Eats insects, grains, wild fruits and seeds.</p>
<p><b>Cardinal</b></p>	

	<p><b>State Animal</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1982</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> 3-3½ (1 m) tall at the shoulders. Males weigh up to 400 lbs. Females weigh up to 200 lbs.</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Eats tender shoots, leaves and twigs of shrubs and trees. Found in wooded areas.</p>
<p><b>White-tailed Deer</b></p>	

	<p><b>State Insect</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1975</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> Wingspan of 3½-5 in. (8-12 cm)</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> In Spring I lay eggs on various species of milkweed.</p>
<p><b>Monarch Butterfly</b></p>	

	<p><b>State Fish</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1986</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> School Children</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> Weighs about 12 oz. 9½ in. (24 cm) long.</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Eats insects, crayfish, smaller fish and snails. Females lay eggs in nests.</p>
<p><b>Bluegill</b></p>	

	<p><b>State Fossil</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1989</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> Illinois Government.</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> About 1 foot long (30½ cm.)</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> First one found by Mr. Francis Tully in 1958. Lived about 300 million years ago.</p>
<p><b>Tully Monster</b></p>	

	<p><b>Square Dance</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1990</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> Illinois Government. Signed into law by Governor Thompson.</p>
<p><b>Square Dance</b></p>	
<p><u>Other:</u> A folk dancing tradition in the United States. Recorded as early as 1651.</p>	

	<p><b>State Mineral</b></p> <p><u>When:</u> 1965</p>
	<p><u>How:</u> Illinois Government.</p>
	<p><u>Size:</u> Can be found in veins up to 40 ft. (12 m.) wide.</p>
	<p><u>Other:</u> Can be violet, blue, green, yellow, brown, pink, or blue-black in color. A mineral that is found in the ground.</p>
<p><b>Fluorite</b></p>	