

Activity #4: State Symbols Scavenger Hunts

Grade Levels: 2nd-4th Grade

Time Required: 10-30 Minutes

Description: The following activity is a scavenger hunt where students look for information (see bold print in sample below) on each symbol. Any reliable source may be used, including books, posters, and the World Wide Web.


****Internet links to each symbol are included.**

There are two different Scavenger Hunts included with this activity.

1) Scavenger Hunt A is in the form of a table and contains 3-4 symbols per page.

Students record their findings in the table squares.

2) Scavenger Hunt B requires students to find information on one symbol at a time.

 <p>State Insect</p>	<u>When:</u> (When it became a symbols)
	<u>How:</u> (Who proposed that it become a symbol)
	<u>Size:</u> (Height, Weigh, Wingspan, etc.)
	<u>Other:</u> (Other interesting or important facts: Where it lives or is found, what it is, how it is used, etc.)
Monarch Butterfly	

Sample from Scavenger Hunt B

Materials Needed:



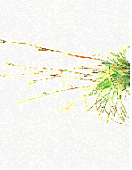

- 1) Scavenger Hunt A and/or Scavenger Hunt B printouts for students
- 2) Source material to look up information on symbols (books, posters, World Wide Web, etc.)
- 3) Printouts of Internet links to symbols (if using the World Wide Web)
- 4) Answer Keys (Optional)





Directions:

- 1) Decide on your management plan (Are students working in teams? Individually? Is this a whole-class activity? Something to do when done with other work?).
- 2) Provide sources to look up the information on the Symbols and Scavenger Hunt Printouts.

Extensions: There are numerous activities that can be done after students find the information on the State Symbols. Included are a few ideas but you are only limited by your time and imagination!

- 1) Design a new flag for Illinois incorporating the symbols. (Art)
- 2) Design a slide show or presentation on Kid Pix or Hyperstudio. (Technology)
- 3) Write a paragraph on your favorite symbols. (Writing)
- 4) Fill out a Venn Diagram comparing two symbols. (Higher Level Thinking)
- 5) Create a poster with information about your symbol. (Higher Level Thinking)
- 6) Have students create a quiz or word search about the at Puzzlemaker on the World Wide Web (<http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/>)


<p align="center">State Symbols Scavenger Hunt A, Page 1 of 3</p>	<p align="center">State Tree  White Oak</p>	<p align="center">State Flower  Blue Violet</p>	<p align="center">State Prairie Grass  Big Blue Stem</p>	<p align="center">State Bird  Northern Cardinal</p>
<p>When did it become a state symbol?</p>				
<p>How did it become a state symbol?</p>				
<p>What is its size?</p>				
<p>Additional facts?</p> <p>You might list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it is (plant, mammal, mineral, etc) • Where it lives • Where it is found • How it is used • Other interesting characteristics or facts 				

<p align="center">State Symbols Scavenger Hunt A, Page 2 of 3</p>	<p align="center">State Insect  Monarch Butterfly</p>	<p align="center">State Fish  Bluegill</p>	<p align="center">State Fossil  Tully Monster</p>	<p align="center">State Dance  Square Dance</p>
<p>When did it become a state symbol?</p>				
<p>How did it become a state symbol?</p>				
<p>What is its size?</p>				
<p>Additional facts?</p> <p>You might list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it is (plant, mammal, mineral, etc) • Where it lives • Where it is found • How it is used • Other interesting characteristics or facts 				

**State Symbols Scavenger Hunt A,
Page 3 of 3**

State Animal

White-Tailed Deer

State Mineral

Fluorite

State Soil--Drummer Soil


When did it become a state symbol?


How did it become a state symbol?


What is it's size?


Additional facts?
You might list:

- **What it is (plant, mammal, mineral, etc)**
- **Where it lives**
- **Where it is found**
- **How it is used**
- **Other interesting characteristics or facts**


**Illinois State Symbols
Scavenger Hunt B, Page 1 of 4**


<p>State Tree</p>  <p>White Oak</p>	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>


<p>State Prairie Grass</p>  <p>Big Bluestem</p>	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>

<p>State Animal</p>  <p>White-tailed Deer</p>	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>


**Illinois State Symbols
Scavenger Hunt B, Page 2 of 4**



State Flower 	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Blue Violet	


State Bird 	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Cardinal	

State Insect 	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Monarch Butterfly	


**Illinois State Symbols
Scavenger Hunt B, Page 3 of 4**


<p align="center">State Mineral</p> 	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Fluorite	

	Square Dance	<u>When:</u>
		<u>How:</u>
		<u>Size:</u>
Square Dance		<u>Other:</u>


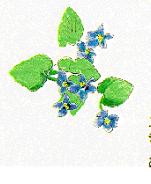


State Soil	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Drummer Soil	

**Illinois State Symbols
Scavenger Hunt B, Page 4 of 4**





State Fish 	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Bluegill	

State Fossil 	<u>When:</u>
	<u>How:</u>
	<u>Size:</u>
	<u>Other:</u>
Tully Monster	




**Illinois State Symbols Scavenger Hunts
ANSWER KEY, Page 1 of 3**

<p style="text-align: center;">State Symbols Scavenger Hunts Answer Key Page 1 of 3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Tree  White Oak</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Flower  Blue Violet</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Prairie Grass  Big Blue Stem</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Bird  Northern Cardinal</p>
<p>When did it become a state symbol?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1973 (White Oak)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1908</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">August 31, 1989</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1929</p>
<p>How did it become a state symbol?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Children</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Children</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Children</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Children</p>
<p>What is it's size?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Height</u> 100 ft. (30 m)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Height</u> 3-8 inches (7.5-20 cm)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Height</u> 3-10 ft. (1-3 m)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Height</u> 8-9 inches (20-22 cm) <u>Weight</u> 1-2 ounces <u>Wingspan</u> Up to 12 in. (30.5 cm)</p>
<p>Additional facts? You might list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it is (plant, mineral, etc) • Where it lives • Where it is found • How it is used • Other interesting characteristics or facts 	<p style="text-align: center;">My wood is strong and is used in making cabinets, interior finishing and construction.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">My petals can be eaten and are commonly used for decoration. I grow in both shade and sunlight.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I am also called "Turkey Foot" because of my shape. I once covered Illinois' true prairies.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I eat insects, grains, wild fruits and seeds.</p>

**Illinois State Symbols Scavenger Hunts
ANSWER KEY, Page 2 of 3**

<p style="text-align: center;">State Symbols Scavenger Hunts Answer Key Page 2 of 3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Insect  Monarch Butterfly</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Fish  Bluegill</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Fossil  Tully Monster</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">State Dance  Square Dance</p>
<p>When did it become a state symbol?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1975</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1986</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1989</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1990</p>
<p>How did it become a state symbol?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Children</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Children</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Illinois Government</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Illinois Government (Signed into law by</p>
<p>What is it's size?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wingspan</u> 3 3/8 - 4 7/8 inches (8-12 cm).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Weight</u> 12 oz. (about 0.3 kilograms) <u>Length</u> up to 9.5 inches (24 cm)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Length</u> about 1 foot long (30.5 cm)</p>	
<p>Additional facts? You might list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it is (plant, mineral, etc) • Where it lives • Where it is found • How it is used • Other interesting characteristics or facts 	<p style="text-align: center;">In Spring I lay eggs on various species of milkweed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I eat insects, crayfish, smaller fish, and snails. My females lay eggs in nests.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I was a soft-bodied animal that lived about 300 million years ago. The first Tully Monster fossil was found by Francis Tully in 1958.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I am a folk dancing tradition in the United States. I have been around since at least 1651.</p>

**Illinois State Symbols Scavenger Hunts
ANSWER KEY, Page 3 of 3**

<p align="center">State Symbols Scavenger Hunts Answer Key Page 3 of 3</p>	<p align="center">State Animal</p>  <p align="center">White-Tailed Deer</p>	<p align="center">State Mineral</p>  <p align="center">Fluorite</p>	<p align="center">State Soil—Drummer Soil</p> 
<p>When did it become a state symbol?</p>	<p align="center">1982</p>	<p align="center">1965</p>	<p align="center">August 2, 2001</p>
<p>How did it become a state symbol?</p>	<p align="center">School Children</p>	<p align="center">Illinois Government</p>	<p align="center">Illinois Government</p>
<p>What is it's size?</p>	<p align="center"><u>Height</u> 3 to 3 1/2 feet (0.9 to 1 m) tall at shoulders.</p> <p align="center"><u>Weight</u> up to 400 lbs. (males)</p>	<p align="center">Can be found in the ground in veins up to 40 ft (12 m) wide</p>	<p align="center">Drummer soils cover more than 1.5 million acres in Illinois.</p>
<p>Additional facts? You might list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it is (plant, mineral, etc) • Where it lives • Where it is found • How it is used • Other interesting characteristics or facts 	<p>I eat tender shoots, leaves and twigs of shrubs and trees.</p> <p>I am found in wooded areas.</p>	<p>I am a mineral found in the ground.</p> <p>My most common colors are violet, blue, green, yellow, brown, pink and blue-black.</p>	<p>Drummer soils were first identified in Ford County in 1929.</p> <p>It is named for Drummer Creek in Drummer Township, where the soil was first identified.</p> <p>Drummer Silty Clay Loam is the most common of the rich, black soils that cover Illinois and provide some of the highest yielding corn and soybean acres in the country.</p>

Activity #4: Internet Links, Page 1 of 2

<u>White Oak</u>	http://www.il-st-acad-sci.org//trees/whiteoak.html	http://www.hcs.ohio-state.edu/ODNR/Education/ohiotrees/oakwhite.htm		
<u>Blue Violet</u>	http://www.geobop.com/Symbols/plants/flowers/violets/index.htm			
<u>Big Blue Stem</u>	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/mock_page/prairieflowers.htm#bigblu			
<u>Northern Cardinal</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/birds/printouts/Cardinalprintout.shtml			http://www.50states.com/bird/cardinal.htm
<u>White-Tailed Deer</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/mammals/deer/Whitetailprintout.shtml	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/mammals/deer.htm	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/AQUATIC/ANIMALS.HTM	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/Creatures/creature10&11.htm
<u>Monarch Butterfly</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/butterfly/species/Monarch.shtml	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/kids/monarch.htm	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/CLASSRM/wingleg/monarch.htm	
<u>Bluegill</u>	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/Fish.htm	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/kids/fish.htm	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/AQUATIC/FISH.HTM	http://www.statefishart.com/states/midwest/il.htm#targetil
<u>Tully Monster</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/dinosaurs/glossary/index.shtml#Tullymonster	http://www.geobop.com/paleozoo/World/NA/US/IL/index.htm	http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/servs/pubs/geobits-pub/geobit5/geobit5.html	http://www.paleoindustrial.com/Tully%20Monster%201.htm
<u>Square Dance</u>	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/More.htm			
<u>Fluorite</u>	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/Geo.htm	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/kids/KIDSCONS/Fall2000/rockminfos.htm		

Activity #4: Internet Links, Page 2 of 2

<u>All Illinois Symbols</u> http://www.library.sos.state.il.us/publications/handbook/official_state_symbols.html	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/illinois/	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/Welcome.htm	http://www.state.il.us/kids/learn/symbols/default.htm	http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/programs/coloring.pdf **PDF symbols coloring book
<u>Illinois State Flag</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/illinois/	http://www.50states.com/flag/ilflag.htm	http://www.state.il.us/kids/learn/flags/default.htm	
<u>Illinois State Seal</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/illinois/	http://www.50states.com/flag/ilflag.htm	http://www.state.il.us/kids/learn/flags/default.htm	http://www.sos.state.il.us/general/seal.html
<u>Illinois</u>	http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/illinois/	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/Facts/index.htm	http://www.50states.com/illinois.htm	http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0108209.html
<u>State Slogan</u>	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/More.htm			
<u>State Song</u>	http://www.geobop.com/World/NA/US/IL/More.htm	http://www.50states.com/songs/illinois.htm **Hear it in midi format	http://www.state.il.us/state/sound/default.htm **Hear it in mp3 or real audio format	
<u>More Illinois</u>	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/CLASSRM/Kits.htm	http://www.ilstu.edu/~jlporni/genfacts.htm		
<u>More Tully Monster</u>	http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/animals/tully.html	http://www.uhaul.com/supergraphics/tully/tully.html		
<u>More Bluegill</u>	http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/kids/KIDSCONS/Fall1999/ILfish.htm			
<u>Drummer Soil</u> http://www.geobop.com/paleozoo/Soils/Midwest/	http://www.state.il.us/gov/press/01/aug/0802soil.htm	http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/photogal/statesoils/il_soil.htm	http://www.illinoissoils.org/statesoil.htm http://www.il.nrcs.usda.gov/soils/soildrum.html	http://www.agclassroom.org/kids/stats/illinois.pdf