



Oregon State Flag Symbols & Geography Trivia Game

Grade Level: 3-6

Essential Skills: 1, 4, 7, 9

NGSS: 3-LS1-1

CCSS: RI.3.1, RI.3.7, W.3.9

Social Sciences: 3.1-6.1;
3.8-6.8, 3.10-6.10, 3.12-6.12

Time: 1.5 hour

Materials:

- 1 trifold book per student
- Set of trivia cards
- Oregon Trivia Quiz
- Paper and Pencil

AITC Library Resources:

- Grown in Oregon Map
- Get Oregonized

More Lessons:

- Mapping Physical and Social Features of Oregon Counties

Description:

The Oregon state flag is full of symbolism, some flag experts (vexillologists) say too much. This project teaches students about the flag and the meaning of its many parts. After, enjoy a trivia game and learn about Oregon’s geography, state symbols, and some historical facts. Templates to make question and answer card sets and a post quiz are attached.



Directions:

Part I: Oregon State Flag Symbolism

- 1) Have students cut out and fold the tri fold book. See Template on page 2.
- 2) In each section, students draw a part of the flag, then explain its symbolism. There are more parts of the flag than sections of the book. Have students pick which one they think best represent Oregon.
- 3) Afterward, discuss why they picked these parts of the flag.

Oregon Flag Facts:

The Oregon state flag is the **only U.S. state flag with a different design on each side.**

The flag colors are **navy blue and gold.** On the flag face are the words **“State of Oregon”** above a gold shield surrounded by 33 stars. The stars represent Oregon as the thirty-third state admitted to the union. Below the shield is the date **“1859”**- the year Oregon was admitted to the union.

On the shield is a **blazing sun setting over the Pacific Ocean, mountains, forests** and a **conestoga wagon** all represent the natural resources and splendor of Oregon and the early settlers to the territory.

A plow, a sheaf of wheat and a pickaxe represent the early industry of the state; agriculture and mining.

Two ships are shown; a British Man-of-War and an American trade vessel. The departing British ship and arriving American ship are said to represent the claim to the land that was laid by both Great Britain and the United States at the Same time. Also it is thought that the tack(alignment of a sailing vessel with respect to the wind) of the two ships represents the ascendancy of American power in the western hemisphere. Another interpretation has the departure and arrival as representative of trade or commerce. This explanation would seem to ignore that the British vessel is a Man-of-War.

The crest of the shield is the **American eagle.** Also displayed is a banner with the words **“The Union.”** The eagle and the banner express support for “The Union” that Oregon joined in 1859.

With a nickname like “The Beaver State” one might easily guess what lies on the reverse side of the flag - **the beaver,** Oregon’s state animal.

Part II: Trivia Game

- 1)You will need to prepare enough sets of trivia questions so that each group of four students has a set of the cards. Each team will also need paper and pencil to keep track of points. Level 2 questions are harder and more appropriate for older or advanced students.

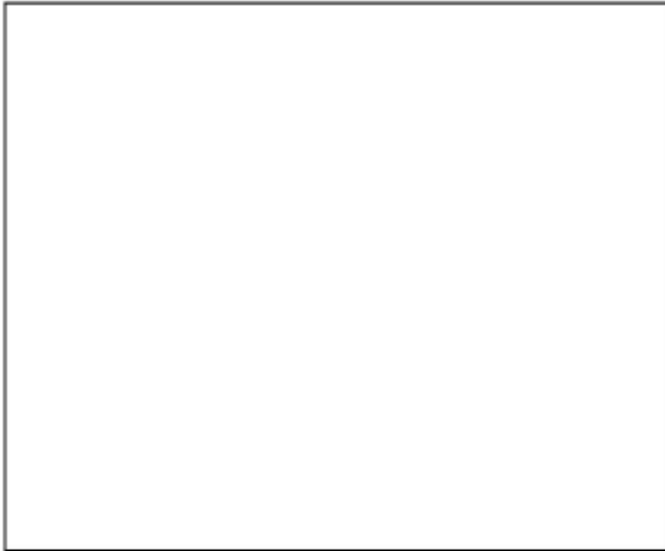
*Flag facts sourced from netstate.com

- 2) Make teams and hand out materials. Each group of four students needs to be divided into two teams.
- 3) Students shuffle the deck of cards and place the pile of cards between the two teams with the question side facing up. Each group of teams will keep track of their scores.
- 4) The first team takes a card from the top of the deck, reads aloud the question and the three possible answers. Players should cover the answer on the opposite side so no one can see it. The player chooses an answer, says it out loud to the group, and then turns the card over so only they can see it and silently reads the correct answer to themselves.
- 5) If the player selects the correct answer, they earn one point for their team and read the correct answer out loud. If the player is incorrect, the second team may choose to challenge them. If they pick the correct answer they get a point for their team. If they answer incorrectly, they lose a point for their team.
- 6) The second team then takes the next card from the top of the deck and it is their turn, repeating Step #4 and #5 of the directions.
- 7) Have your teams play until one team earns 10 points (or for about 15 minutes). Then have one of the teams from each group move clockwise around the room to the next group. Play through three rounds.
- 8) Test students retention by having them complete the short Oregon Trivia Quiz.



Activity Page

Directions: Cut book out as one piece. Fold into thirds. Use each section to explain a part of the symbolism of the flag (covered wagon, plow/wheat, 1859, etc.)



Flag Symbolism



Detail of reverse side of flag



Close up view of the Oregon Seal which is on the state flag.



Oregon Trivia Quiz (Level 1)

Name: _____

1) What is the capital of Oregon?

2) How many states border Oregon?

3) How many counties are in Oregon?

4) What is Oregon's nickname?

5) What is the Oregon state fish?

Extra Credit: What is the state nut?



Oregon Trivia Quiz (Level 2)

Name: _____

- 1) Name the body of water along Oregon's northern border.
- 2) What mountain range runs between the Willamette Valley and the Pacific Ocean?
- 3) Name the river that runs through Eugene, Corvallis and Portland.
- 4) Name the mountain range that runs through the center of Oregon from North to South.
- 5) What is Oregon's state drink?
- 6) Name the states that border Oregon
- 7) What county is the driest in Oregon?
- 8) How were Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Bachelor and Mt. Hood formed?
- 9) What is the state tree of Oregon?
- 10) What is the smallest county in Oregon?



Oregon Trivia Quiz (Level 1)- Answer Key

Name: _____

1) What is the capital of Oregon?

Salem

2) How many states border Oregon?

4

3) How many counties are in Oregon?

36

4) What is Oregon's nickname?

The Beaver State

5) What is the Oregon state fish?

Chinook Salmon

Extra Credit: What is the state nut?

Hazelnut



Activity Page

Oregon Trivia Quiz (Level 2)- Answer Key

Name: _____

1) Name the body of water along Oregon's northern border.

Columbia River

2) What mountain range runs between the Willamette Valley and the Pacific Ocean?

Coast Range

3) Name the river that runs through Eugene, Corvallis and Portland.

Willamette River

4) Name the mountain range that runs through the center of Oregon from North to South.

Cascade Mountain Range

5) What is Oregon's state drink?

Milk

6) Name the states that border Oregon

Washington, Idaho, California, Nevada

7) What county is the driest in Oregon?

Malheur County

8) How were Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Bachelor and Mt. Hood formed?

Volcanoes

9) What is the state tree of Oregon?

Douglas-fir

10) What is the smallest county in Oregon?

Multnomah County



Question?

Level 1

When did Oregon become a state?

- A. 1901
- B. 1859
- C. 1776

1



Question?

Level 1

What is the capital of Oregon?

- A. Oregon City
- B. Portland
- C. Salem

2



Question?

Level 1

Which state does not border Oregon?

- A. Nevada
- B. California
- C. Montana

3



Question?

Level 1

How many counties are in Oregon

- A. 28
- B. 36
- C. 41

4



Question?

Level 1

What is Oregon's state beverage?

- A. Cranberry Juice
- B. Milk
- C. Apple Cider

5



Question?

Level 1

What is the highest point in Oregon?

- A. Mt. Bachelor
- B. Mt. Jefferson
- C. Mt. Hood

6



Answer

Level 1

C. Salem

2



Answer

Level 1

B. 1859

1



Answer

Level 1

B. Oregon has 36 counties.

4



Answer

Level 1

C. Montana

3



Answer

Level 1

C. Mt. Hood is the highest point in Oregon. It is 11,239 feet high.

6



Answer

Level 1

B. Milk

5



Question?

Level 1

What is the deepest lake in Oregon?

- A. Waldo Lake
- B. Crater Lake
- C. Wallowa Lake

7



Question?

Level 1

What is the Oregon state bird?

- A. Western Meadowlark
- B. Robin
- C. Blue Bird

8



Question?

Level 1

Name the smallest county in Oregon.

- A. Benton County
- B. Yamhill County
- C. Multnomah County

9



Question?

Level 1

What is the largest county in Oregon?

- A. Harney County
- B. Lake County
- C. Wasco County

10



Question?

Level 1

What is the state's nickname?

- A. The Pioneer State
- B. The Oregon Trail State
- C. The Beaver State

11



Question?

Level 1

Name the major body of water along Oregon's northern border.

- A. Willamette River
- B. Snake River
- C. Columbia River

12



Answer

Level 1

A. Western Meadowlark.
 Extra: In 1927, Oregon school children picked the meadowlark to be the state bird.

8



Answer

Level 1

B. Crater Lake is the deepest lake in Oregon and the United States.

Extra: It is the tenth deepest lake in the world at 1,949 feet deep.

7



Answer

Level 1

A. Harney County

Extra: About 7,600 people live in Harney County. That's less than 1 person per square mile. It is 10,226 square miles.

10



Answer

Level 1

C. Multnomah County

Extra: Multnomah County has the largest population and just 465 square miles.

9



Answer

Level 1

C. Columbia River

12



Answer

Level 1

A. The Beaver State

Extra: In the early 19th century beaver fur hats were fashionable and Oregon was an important source of beaver fur.

11



Question?

Level 1

What mountain range is between the Willamette Valley and the Pacific Ocean?

- A. Oregon Coast Range
- B. Blue Mountain Range
- C. Cascade Range

13



Question?

Level 1

What is the Oregon state mammal?

- A. Black Bear
- B. Black Tail Deer
- C. Beaver

14



Question?

Level 1

What is Oregon's state nut?

- A. Walnut
- B. Hazelnut
- C. Almond

15



Question?

Level 1

What is the state flower of Oregon?

- A. Oregon Grape
- B. Rose
- C. Tulips

16



Question?

Level 1

What is the official state fish?

- A. Brook Trout
- B. Halibut
- C. Chinook Salmon

17



Question?

Level 1

What is the state tree of Oregon?

- A. Big-Leaf Maple
- B. Douglas-fir
- C. Aspen

18



Answer

Level 1

A. Beaver

14



Answer

Level 1

A. Oregon Coast Range

13



Answer

Level 1

A. Oregon Grape

Extra: Oregon Grape got its name because it has dark blue berries that look like grapes. It is native to the Northwest.

16



Answer

Level 1

B. Hazelnut, also called filberts

Extra: Oregon farmers grow 99% of all the hazelnuts in the U.S.

15



Answer

Level 1

B. Douglas-fir

18



Answer

Level 1

C. Chinook Salmon

Extra: Chinook are the largest of the Pacific salmon and can weigh up to 100 pounds.

17



Question?

Level 1

What is the Oregon state gem?

- A. Ruby
- B. Sunstone
- C. Quartz

19



Question?

Level 1

What body of water borders Oregon's western edge?

- A. Columbia River
- B. Snake River
- C. Pacific Ocean

20



Question?

Level 1

What is the state insect of Oregon?

- A. Oregon Swallowtail butterfly
- B. Bumble Bee
- C. Western Firefly

21



Question?

Level 1

What states are on Oregon's southern border?

- A. California and Nevada
- B. California and Idaho
- C. California and Utah

22



Question?

Level 1

Which is Oregon's driest county?

- A. Malheur County
- B. Lake County
- C. Harney County

23



Question?

Level 1

Which mountain range runs through the center of Oregon, north to south?

- A. Coast Range
- B. Eagle Cap Mountains
- C. Cascade Mountains

24



Answer

Level 1

C. Pacific Ocean

20



Answer

Level 1

B. Sunstone

Extra: This large, brightly colored stone is found in the deserts of southeastern Oregon.

19



Answer

Level 1

A. California and Nevada

22



Answer

Level 1

A. Oregon Swallowtail Butterfly

Extra: This butterfly lives in the sagebrush canyons of the Columbia River.

21



Answer

Level 1

C. The Cascade Mountain Range

Extra: The Cascades run from southern British Columbia through Washington and Oregon into Northern California.

24



Answer

Level 1

A. Malheur County

Extra: Malheur gets just 9.64 inches of precipitation a year.

23



Question?

Level 2

What river runs between Oregon and Idaho?

- A. Columbia River
- B. Snake River
- C. Umpqua River

25



Question?

Level 2

Name the river that runs through Eugene, Corvallis and Portland.

- A. Deschutes River
- B. McKenzie River
- C. Willamette River

26



Question?

Level 2

What is the tallest waterfall in Oregon?

- A. Klamath Falls
- B. Silver Falls
- C. Multnomah Falls

27



Question?

Level 2

Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Bachelor, and Mt. Hood were formed by what?

- A. Volcanoes
- B. Tsunamis
- C. Earthquakes

28



Question?

Level 2

Name the mountain that exploded to create Crater Lake.

- A. Mt. Bachelor
- B. Mt. Mazama
- C. Mt. Jefferson

29



Question?

Level 2

How large in size is Oregon compared to other states?

- A. 10th largest state
- B. 25th largest state
- C. 4th largest state

30



Answer

Level 2

C. Willamette River

26



Answer

Level 2

B. Snake River

25



Answer

Level 2

A. Volcanoes

Extra: These mountains are all stratovolcanoes. They are tall, have a cone-shape, and are made of many layers of lava, rock and ash.

28



Answer

Level 2

C. Multnomah falls

Extra: These falls are 620 feet long and the second tallest in the United States.

27



Answer

Level 2

A. Oregon is the 10th largest state in the U.S, Oregon's total land area is 96,002 square miles!

30



Answer

Level 2

B. Mt. Mazama

Extra: After the eruption the remaining caldera became Crater Lake.

29



Question?

Level 2

How many lakes are in Oregon?

- A. 1,773
- B. 285
- C. 912

31



Question?

Level 2

How many National Parks are in Oregon?

- A. 3
- B. 1
- C. 5

32



Question?

Level 2

Name the longest river that flows entirely within the state of Oregon.

- A. Klamath River
- B. Willamette River
- C. Umpqua River

33



Question?

Level 2

How long is Oregon from east to west?

- A. 350 miles
- B. 280 miles
- C. 400 miles

34



Question?

Level 2

What three U.S. states made up the Oregon Territory?

- A. Washington, Oregon, California
- B. Washington, Oregon, Idaho
- C. Washington, Oregon, Montana

35



Question?

Level 2

The Blue Mountains are located in what part of Oregon?

- A. Northeast Oregon
- B. Southeast Oregon
- C. Central Oregon

36



Answer

Level 2

B. Crater Lake is the only National Park in Oregon.

32



Answer

Level 2

A. 1,773 Lakes

31



Answer

Level 2

A. 350 miles

34



Answer

Level 2

B. The Willamette River is the longest river inside Oregon at 309 miles.

Extra: By volume, the Willamette River, is the largest in Oregon and the 13th largest in the U.S.

33



Answer

Level 2

B. The Blue Mountains are located in northeastern Oregon and stretch into southeastern Washington.

36



Answer

Level 2

B. Washington, Oregon, and Idaho

35



Question?

Level 2

On average, how much snow does Timberline Lodge get each year?

- A. 540 inches
- B. 230 inches
- C. 150 inches

37



Question?

Level 2

The coastal Umpqua River empties into what body of water?

- A. Snake River
- B. Columbia River
- C. Pacific Ocean

38



Question?

Level 2

Oregon is home to the world's smallest harbor. What is its name?

- A. Coos Bay Harbor
- B. Depoe Bay
- C. Newport Bay

39



Question?

Level 2

The world's smallest river is on the Oregon Coast. What is its name?

- A. Netarts River
- B. D River
- C. Tillamook River

40



Question?

Level 2

Which county in Oregon has the greatest rise in elevation?

- A. Wallowa County
- B. Hood River County
- C. Clackamas County

41



Question?

Level 2

Where was the first apple orchard in Oregon planted?

- A. Eugene
- B. Milwaukie
- C. Oregon City

42



Answer

Level 2

C. Pacific Ocean

38



Answer

Level 2

A. An average of 540 inches of snow falls annually at Timberline Lodge located on Mt. Hood.

37



Answer

Level 2

B. D River

Extra: Located near Lincoln City, the D river is just 440 feet long.

40



Answer

Level 2

B. Depoe Bay

Extra: The harbor is only about six acres in size.

39



Answer

Level 2

B. Milwaukie

Extra: Henderson Luelling brought 700 fruit and berry plants over the Oregon Trail in 1847 and planted the first orchard.

42



Answer

Level 2

C. Clackamas County is 55 feet above sea level in Oregon City to the Peak of Mt. Hood at 11,239 feet.

41



Question?

Level 2

Name the first incorporated city west of the Rocky Mountains.

- A. Portland
- B. Oregon City
- C. Jacksonville

43



Question?

Level 2

The Deschutes River's name is French. What does Deschutes mean?

- A. Long River
- B. River of Falls
- C. River of Danger

44



Question?

Level 2

In what county is the geographic center of Oregon located?

- A. Crook County
- B. Grant County
- C. Wasco County

45



Question?

Level 2

What is the wettest Oregon county?

- A. Tillamook County
- B. Curry County
- C. Coos County

46



Question?

Level 2

Which is Oregon's largest prehistoric lake?

- A. Klamath Lake
- B. Silver Lake
- C. Malheur Lake

47



Question?

Level 2

Where is Steen Mountain located?

- A. Southeast Oregon
- B. Southwest Oregon
- C. Northeast Oregon

48



Answer

Level 2

B. River of the Falls

Extra: The name refers to Celilo Falls on the Columbia River.

44



Answer

Level 2

B. Oregon City

Extra: In 1842, Oregon City was the first incorporated city west of the Rocky Mountains. It was also the first capital or the Oregon Territory.

43



Answer

Level 2

A. Tillamook County

Extra: It gets 90.90 inches of year.

46



Answer

Level 2

A. Crook County, near the town of Post.

45



Answer

Level 2

A. Southeast Oregon

Extra: Steens Mountain is the largest single mountain in Oregon at over 50 miles long.

48



Answer

Level 2

B. Silver Lake

Extra: About 13,000 years ago it use to be 1,500 square miles and 250 feed deep. Today, Silver lake is dry much of the year.

47