

THE GREAT SEAL OF FLORIDA



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.3.CG.2.5 <i>Recognize symbols, individuals, documents and events that represent the State of Florida.</i>
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will recognize the Great Seal of the State of Florida as a symbol that represents the state.■ Students will recognize William Pope Duval, William Dunn Moseley and Josiah T. Walls as individuals who represent Florida.■ Students will identify the Declaration of Rights in the Florida Constitution as a document that represents Florida.■ Students will recognize that Florida became the 27th state of the United States on March 3, 1845.
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.3.C.2.1: <i>Present information orally, in a logical sequence, using nonverbal cues, appropriate volume, and clear pronunciation.</i>■ ELA.3.C.5.1: <i>Use two or more multimedia elements to enhance oral or written tasks.</i>■ ELA.3.V.1.1: <i>Use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in speaking and writing.</i>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
What are some of the symbols included in the Great Seal of Florida?
VOCABULARY
symbol
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ I Notice worksheet■ The Great Seal of Florida image■ The Great Seal of Florida template■ Coloring supplies

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK

1. Pass out the "I Notice" worksheet to each student.
2. Project the "The Great Seal of Florida" image.
3. Provide students about 1 minute to examine the image. Have the students write down any items/things they notice in the image in the top box of the "I Notice" worksheet.
(*Example: I notice a boat, a person, flowers, trees, clouds, the sun...etc.*)
4. Allow the students to share their findings.

ACTIVITY

5. Explain to students that they are looking at the Great Seal of Florida. The Great Seal of Florida is a symbol that represents Florida.
6. Ask students "What is a symbol?" (Things that have special meaning, a visual representation)
7. Explain to students that the Great Seal of Florida is found on state government documents, state government buildings, and is displayed on the state flag.
8. Lead students to an understanding that while the entire Seal is a symbol for the state of Florida, there are six different symbols within the Seal, chosen because of their special meaning to Florida.
9. Go through the six symbols found in the Great Seal. Students should record their notes on the "I Notice" worksheet.
 - a. Seminole Indian Woman- for the Seminole Tribe
 - b. Steam boat- The many lakes and rivers
 - c. The setting sun- Sunshine State
 - d. The Sabal Palm Tree- State tree
 - e. Hibiscus flowers- Native Flower (not our state flower)
 - f. In God We Trust- State Motto
10. Tell students that the last time the Great Seal of Florida was revised was in 1985 to fix some errors.

Teacher Note: *It was decided to use a Seminole Indian woman rather than a Western Plains Indian. The steamboat was determined to be more accurate, and the cocoa palm changed to a sabal palm. There were also mountains that were removed.*

CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

11. Pass out the "The Great Seal of Florida" template.
12. Tell the students that they will create a "new" seal for the State of Florida. Encourage them to include things that would represent Florida.
13. Allow them to share their creations with the class.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

FJCC/LFI Website

Supporting Florida State Statutes:

- [Florida State Statute 1003.42: Required Instruction](#)

ANSWER KEYS

“I Notice” worksheet answer key

SOURCES

n/a