

## Lesson Plan

### Lesson Overview

Students will see the history of their state in their flag, understand their motto, and develop a sense of how symbolism works. Students will learn that the state seal and motto are in their flag. Our flag identifies our state.

### Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Define symbol, symbolism, and sign
2. Distinguish between visual, auditory, and kinesthetic/motion signs
3. Create a message with symbols
4. Identify symbols in their school and home

### Purpose

Residents of a state feel pride in their flag knowing that it represents them and tells their story. Students will learn what the symbols on the flag mean and the history behind the great seal of Nebraska.

### Vocabulary

- **symbol:** a number, letter, design, drawing, something that stands for or represents something
- **symbolism:** the use of pictures or icons to represent something
- **realistic:** looking like something seen in nature
- **represent** – stand for something or someone else
- **stylized:** something more artistic than real looking or traditional

### Materials

Pencil for each student

Photocopy of Assessment/Worksheet: The Great Seal of Nebraska

## Connection to Standards

NE Social Studies Standards	NE Language Arts Standards	NE Fine Arts Standards
<p><b>SS 4.1.2</b> Investigate how different perspectives impact government decisions at the state level.</p> <p><b>SS 4.1.2.b</b> Investigate the meaning of state symbols, songs, and holidays.</p> <p><b>SS 4.3.5.a</b> Identify and evaluate how changes in human and physical geography have shaped Nebraska.</p> <p><b>SS 4.4.3</b> Analyze past and current events throughout Nebraska history.</p>	<p><b>LA4.1.6.i</b> Students will construct and/or answer literal, inferential, and critical questions and support answers with explicit evidence from the text or additional sources.</p> <p><b>LA 4.4.1.c</b> Use or decipher multiple formats of print and digital text (symbols).</p>	<p><b>FA5.2.2.c</b> Examine how the process of collecting and displaying artwork varies depending on the purpose (cultivate an awareness and appreciation of ideas, beliefs, and experiences)</p> <p><b>FA5.2.3.c</b> Interpret the message communicated by a work of art, using knowledge of visual elements, subject matter, and mood.</p> <p><b>FA5.2.4.d</b> Explore how images and objects are used to convey a story, familiar experience, or connection to the world.</p>

## WHAT YOU NEED

### SESSION 1: Background Information - 30 minutes

A symbol is an object that represents, stands for, or suggests an idea, visual image, belief, action, or material entity. Symbols take the form of words, sounds, gestures, or visual images and are used to convey ideas and beliefs.

**1.1 Guide (p.1):** Background Information for Teaching Poster

**Guide (p.2):** Symbols - six symbols to discuss

**1.2 Activity:** Symbol Challenge: This class activity allows students to create their own symbols that convey a message.

### SESSION 2: Signs, Seals & Symbols Poster - 20 minutes

**2.1 Teaching Poster:** Students will get to know and understand the symbolism in their state flag, state motto.

## SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

### SESSION 3: Assessment - 10 minutes

**3.1 Worksheet:** Students will identify the parts of the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska and color the seal with the colors of Nebraska's state flag. They will answer 4 questions. Here is the answer key:

Answer 1: Gives every man an equal chance to secure a home on the public domain (see teaching poster)

Answer 2: 1867 is Nebraska's date of entry into the Union.

Answer 3: The importance of settlers and agriculture.

Answer 4: Products produced by the people