State of Arkansas
Secretary of State

Charlie Daniels
Secretary of State

Dear Arkansas Student,

As Secretary of State, I have a great job — my job is to help you learn all about Arkansas! I hope you enjoy this coloring book filled with fun and interesting facts about our state. There are many exciting things about Arkansas that you may not know. For example, did you know that Arkansas is the only state in the U.S. where you can hunt for diamonds? I hope you will use this activity book to find out more about what makes Arkansas unique.

One of my favorite things about Arkansas is the State Capitol in Little Rock. One of my most important duties is taking care of the State Capitol and making sure that there are fun and educational things for you to do when you come and visit.

I look forward to you coming to see me at the Capitol with your family or class.

Charlie Daniels
Secretary of State

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My name is

_____

and this is my book on Arkansas.

I live in _____ County.

I go to school at _____ .

My teacher's name is _____ .

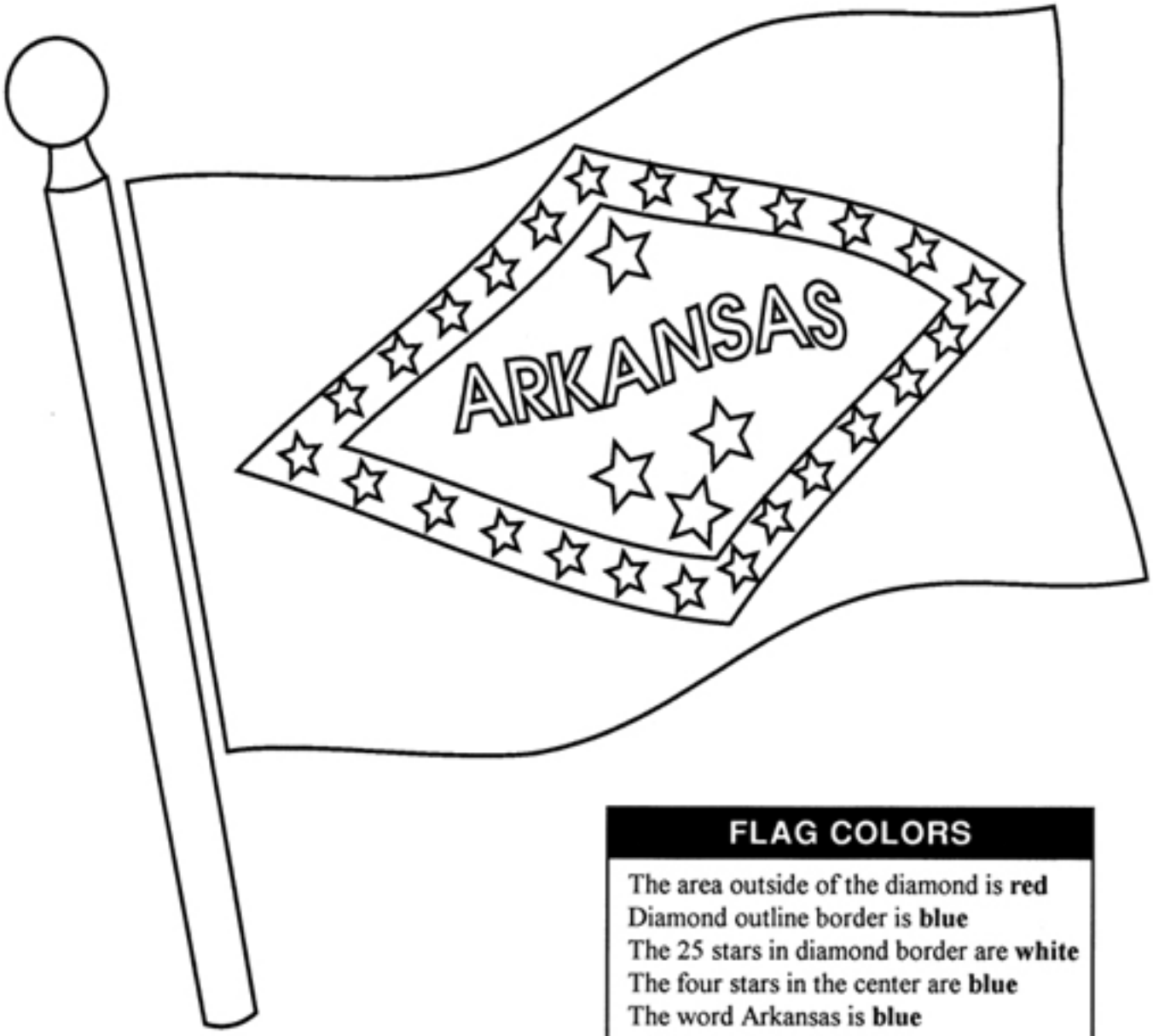
I was born in _____ (year).

I am _____ years old.

Many names of places in our state came from the languages of the explorers who discovered and lived in Arkansas. The Native Americans, Spanish, French and Americans all helped name places in our state. The word "Arkansas" came from the Quapaw Indians, by way of early French explorers. The explorers met a group of Native Americans, known as the Ugakhpah, which means "people who live downstream". These Native Americans later were called the Quapaw, who were also called the Arkansaw. This name came to be used for the land where these Native Americans lived.

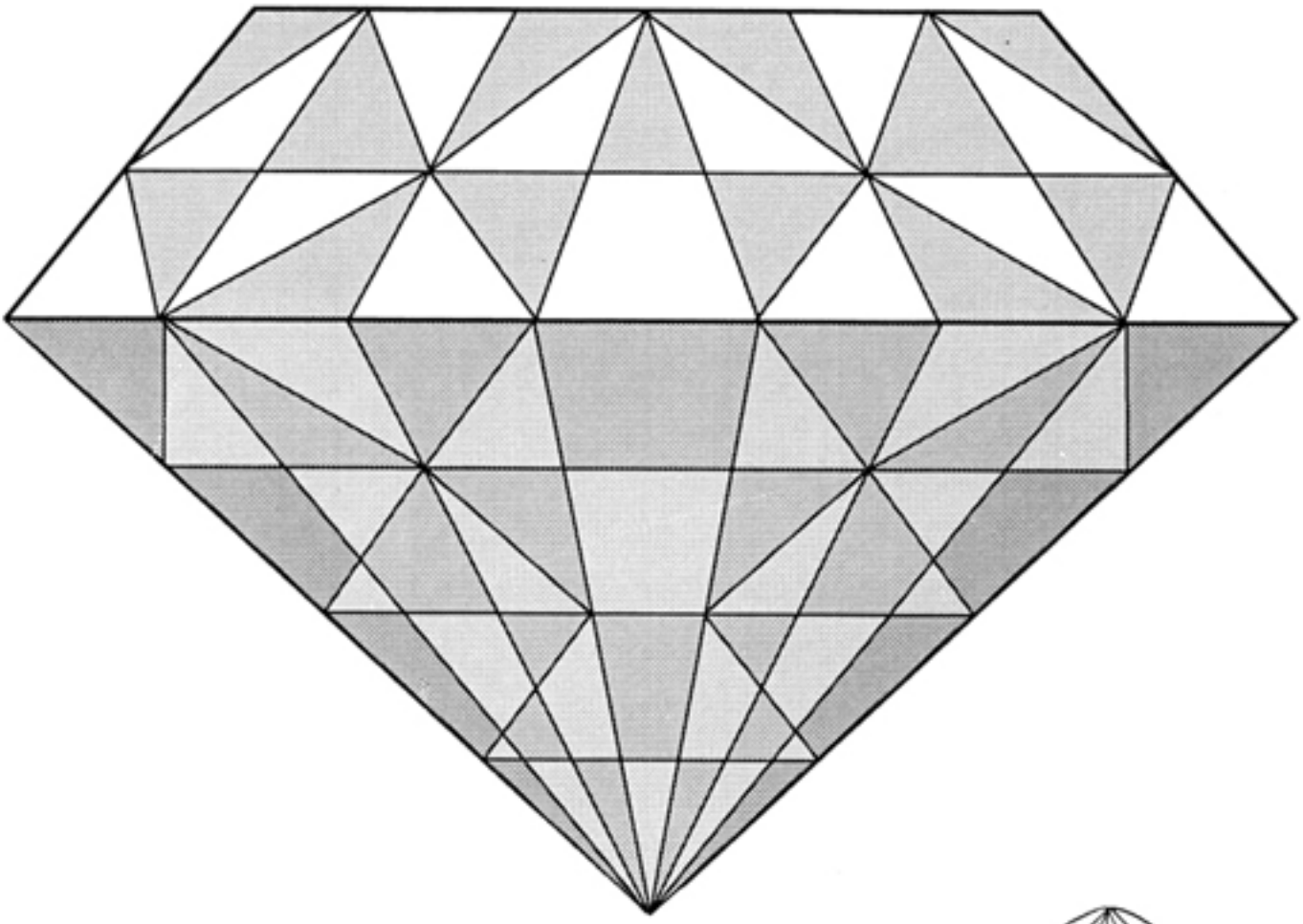
Steamboat Plow Beehive Sheaf of Wheat	GREAT SEAL OF ARKANSAS	Angel of Mercy Sword of Justice Goddess of Liberty Bald Eagle

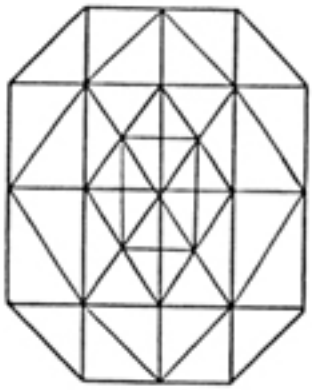
On the shield of our state seal are a steamboat, a plow, a beehive and a sheaf of wheat, symbols of Arkansas' industrial and agricultural wealth. The Angel of Mercy, the Sword of Justice and the Goddess of Liberty surround a bald eagle. The eagle holds in its beak a scroll inscribed with the Latin phrase "Regnat Populus", our state motto, which means "The People Rule". The seal was adopted in its basic form in 1864, and in its present form in 1907.

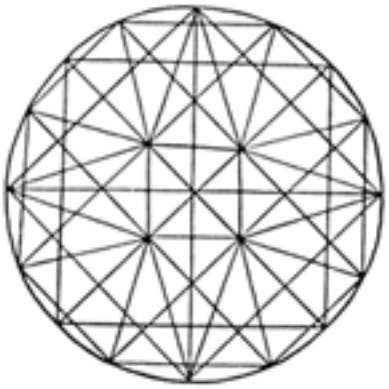


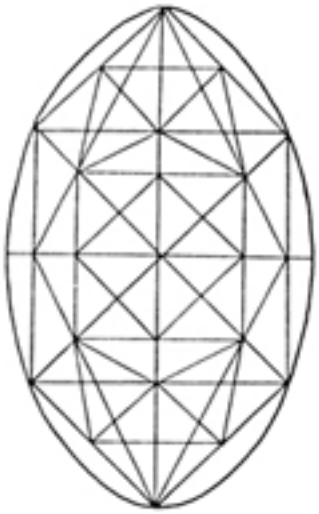
FLAG COLORS
The area outside of the diamond is **red**
Diamond outline border is **blue**
The 25 stars in diamond border are **white**
The four stars in the center are **blue**
The word Arkansas is **blue**
The inside of the diamond is **white**

Our state flag, designed by Miss Willie K. Hocker of Wabbaseka, Arkansas, was adopted in 1913. The 25 stars indicate that Arkansas was the 25th state admitted to the United States. The three large stars in the center stand for the three nations that have ruled Arkansas: Spain, France and the United States. Also, Arkansas was the third state formed from the Louisiana Purchase. The large star above ARKANSAS symbolizes the Confederacy which Arkansas was a part of from 1861-1865, and the diamond formed by the 25 stars represent Arkansas as the only diamond-producing state in the Union.

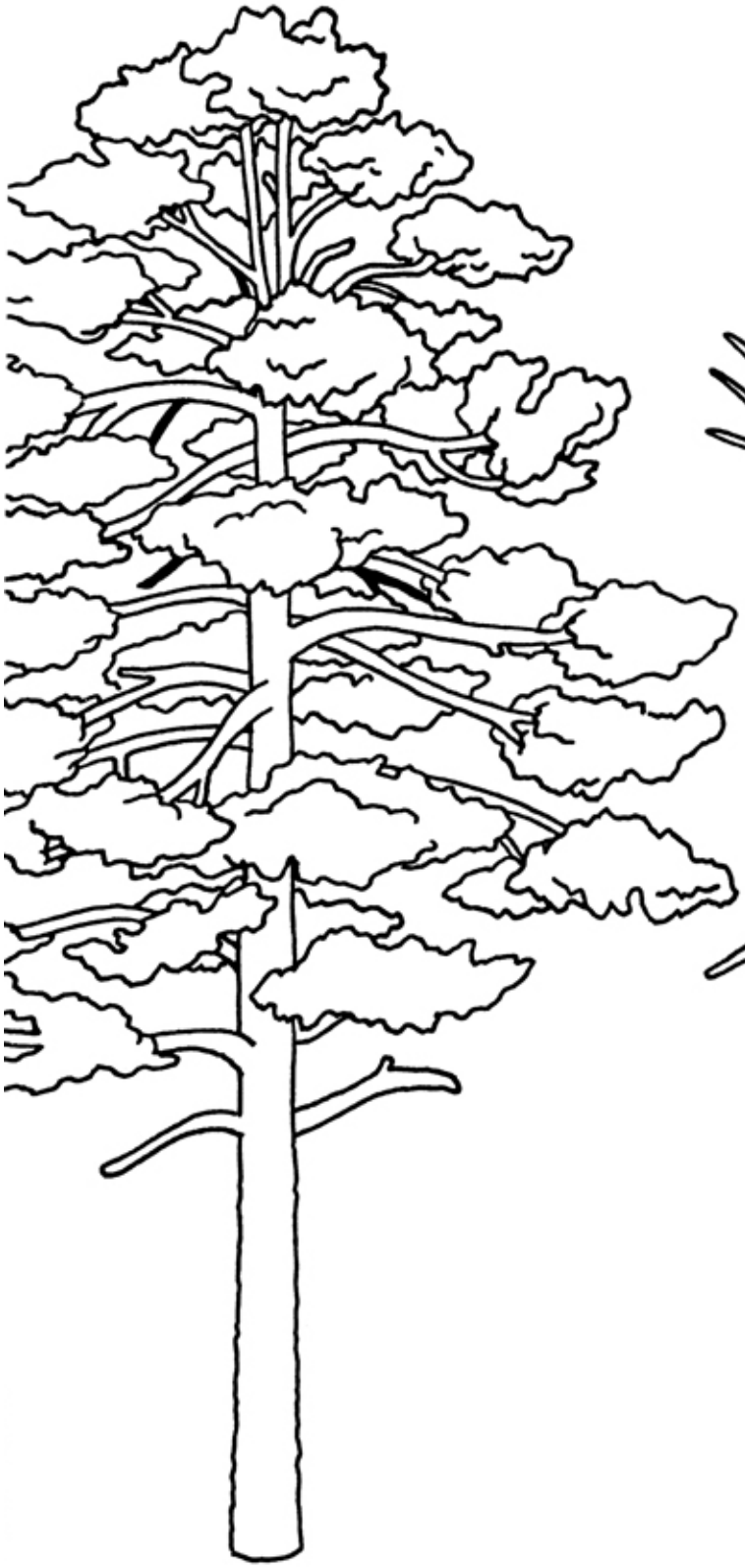








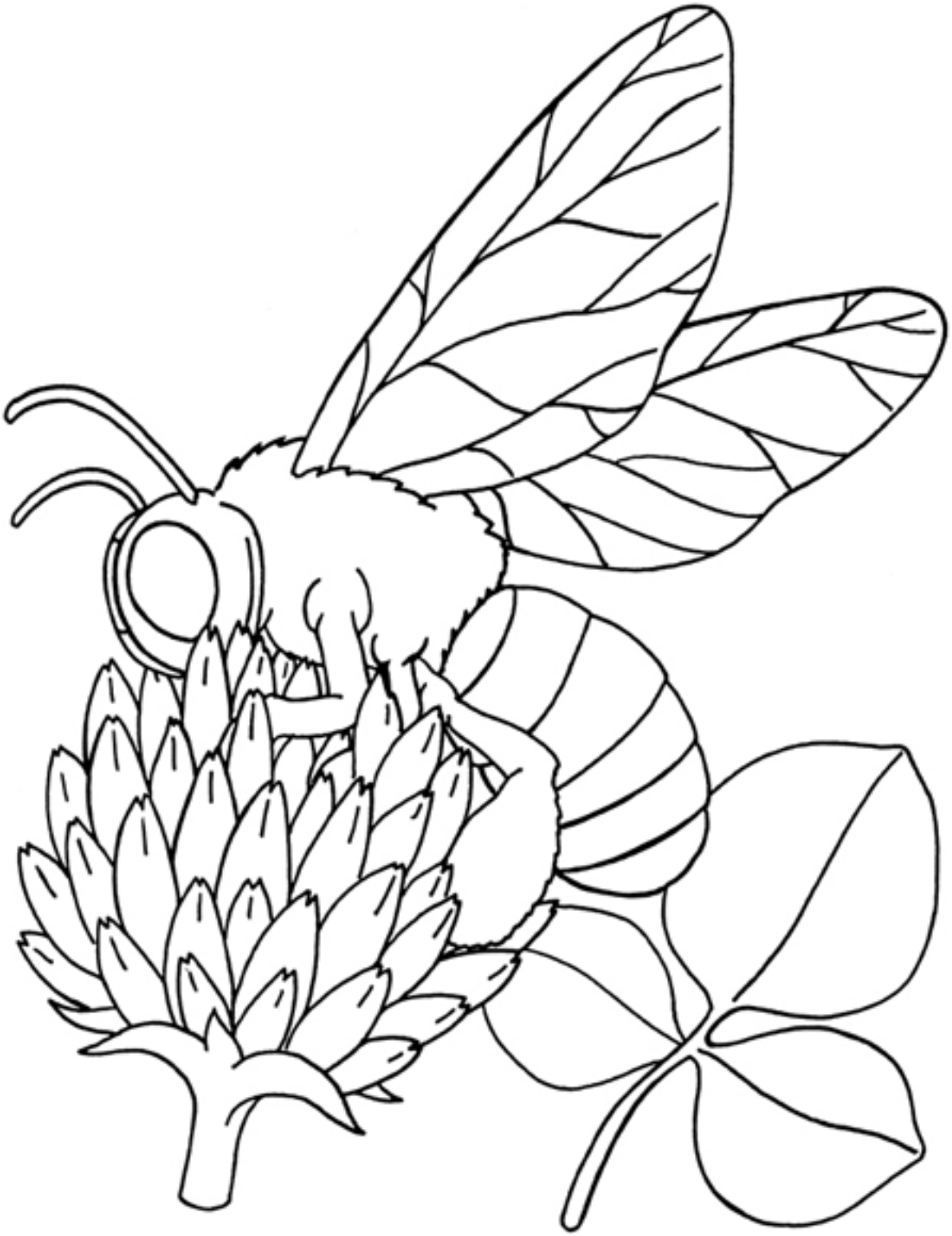
The diamond was adopted as the Arkansas State Gem by the General Assembly of 1967. Arkansas is the only diamond-producing state in the United States. The Crater of Diamonds State Park, located in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, is the only place in the nation where you can dig for diamonds and keep what you find. More than 70,000 diamonds have been found there.



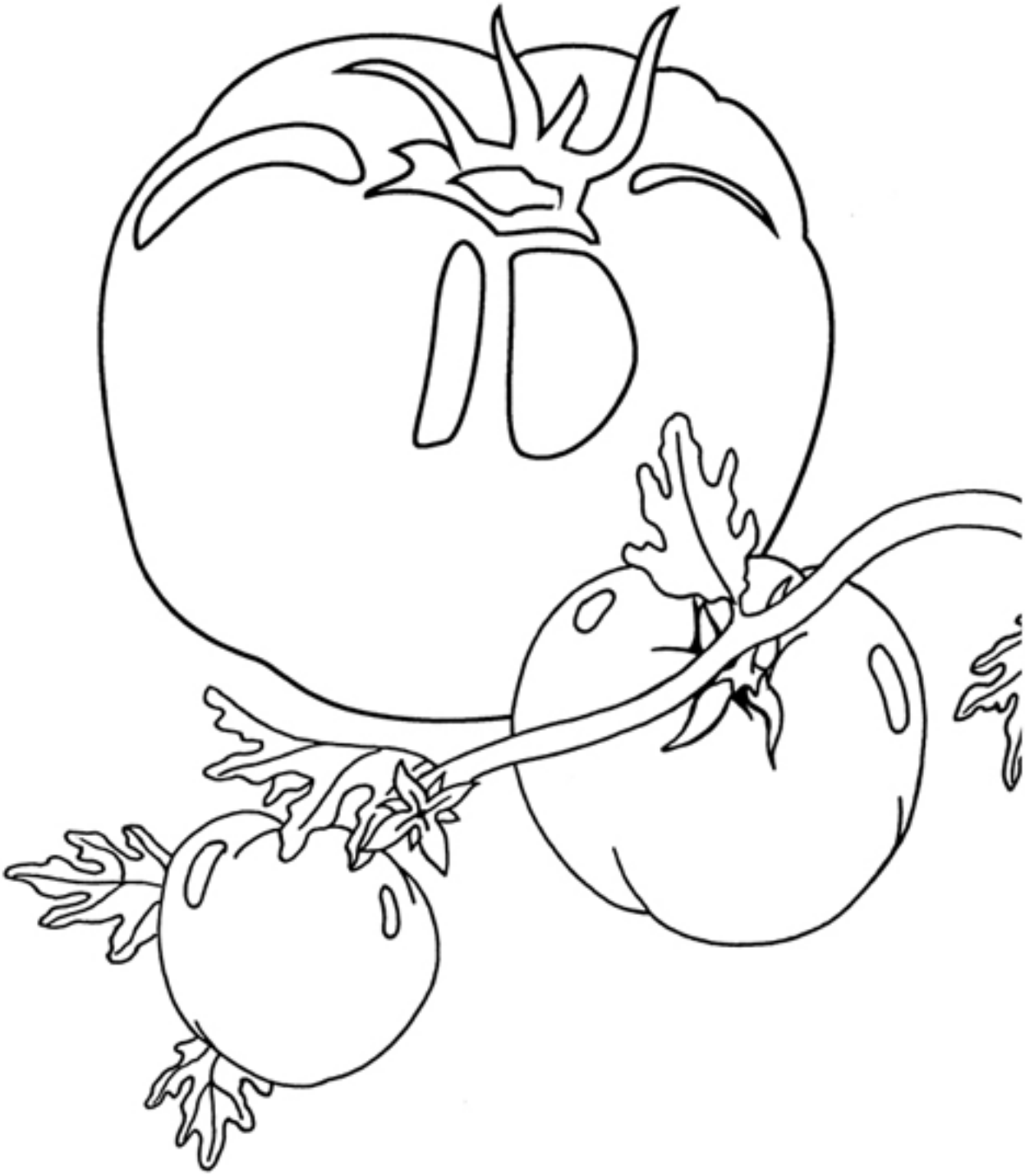
The pine was adopted as the Arkansas State Tree by the General Assembly of 1939. The loblolly and shortleaf pine are varieties of southern yellow pine found in our state. Both varieties may grow to be 100 feet tall and can be found in our two National Forests - the Ouachita National Forest and the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest.

The mockingbird was adopted as the Arkansas State Bird by the General Assembly of 1929. The mockingbird can imitate the song of many other birds.

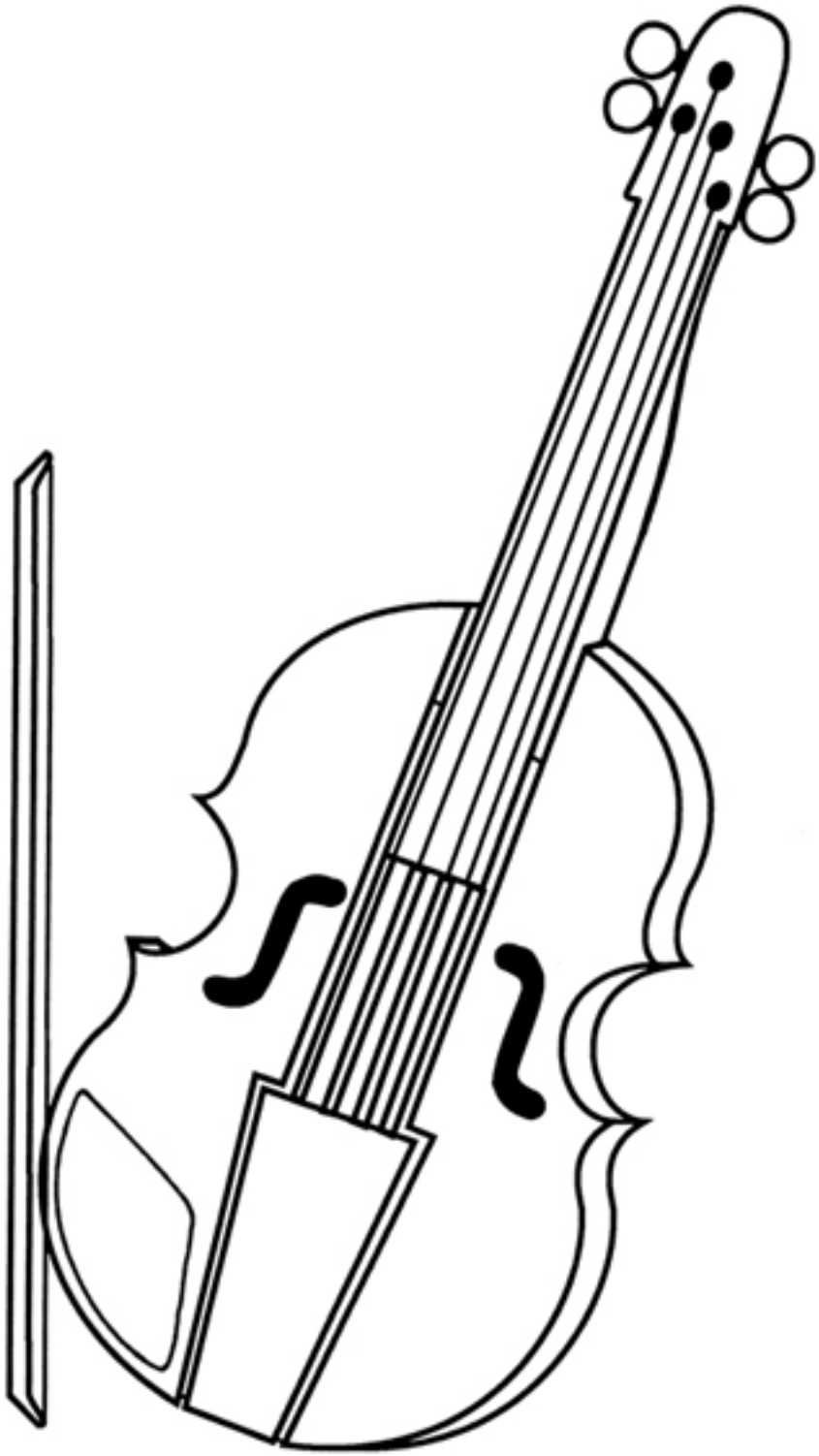
The apple blossom was adopted as the Arkansas State Flower by the General Assembly of 1901. Apple blossoms have pink and white petals and green leaves. At one time Arkansas was a major apple-producing state. The town of Lincoln in Washington County hosts the annual Arkansas Apple Festival.



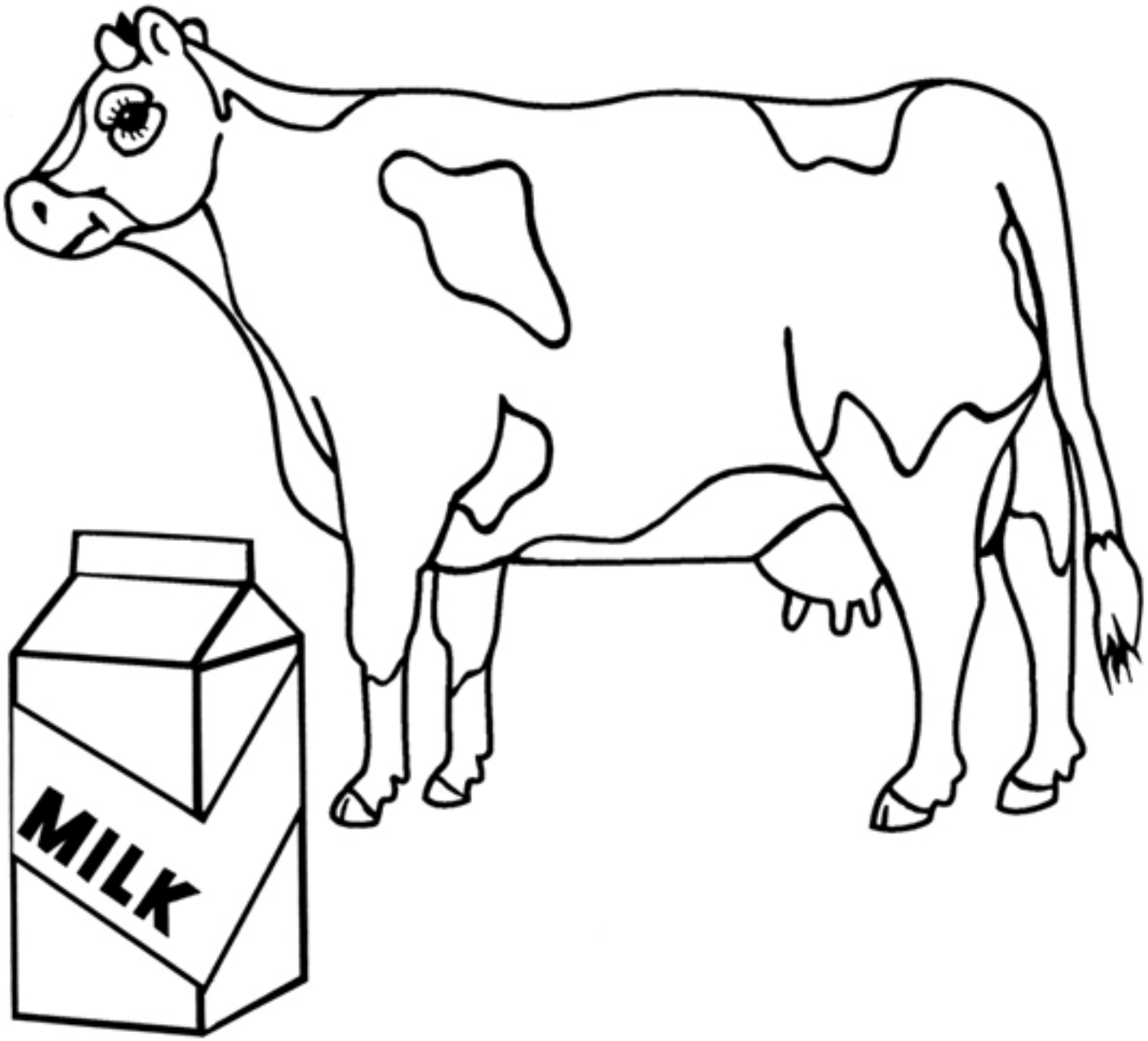
The honeybee was adopted as the Arkansas State Insect by the General Assembly of 1973. Honeybees carry pollen from flower to flower. The bees also produce honey which is collected and sold by beekeepers. An old-fashioned dome beehive is one of the symbols on the Great Seal of Arkansas.



The South Arkansas Vine Ripe Pink Tomato was adopted as the Arkansas State Fruit and Vegetable by the General Assembly of 1987. The tomato is officially defined as a fruit but is commonly used as a vegetable. The Pink Tomato Festival is held each year in Bradley County.

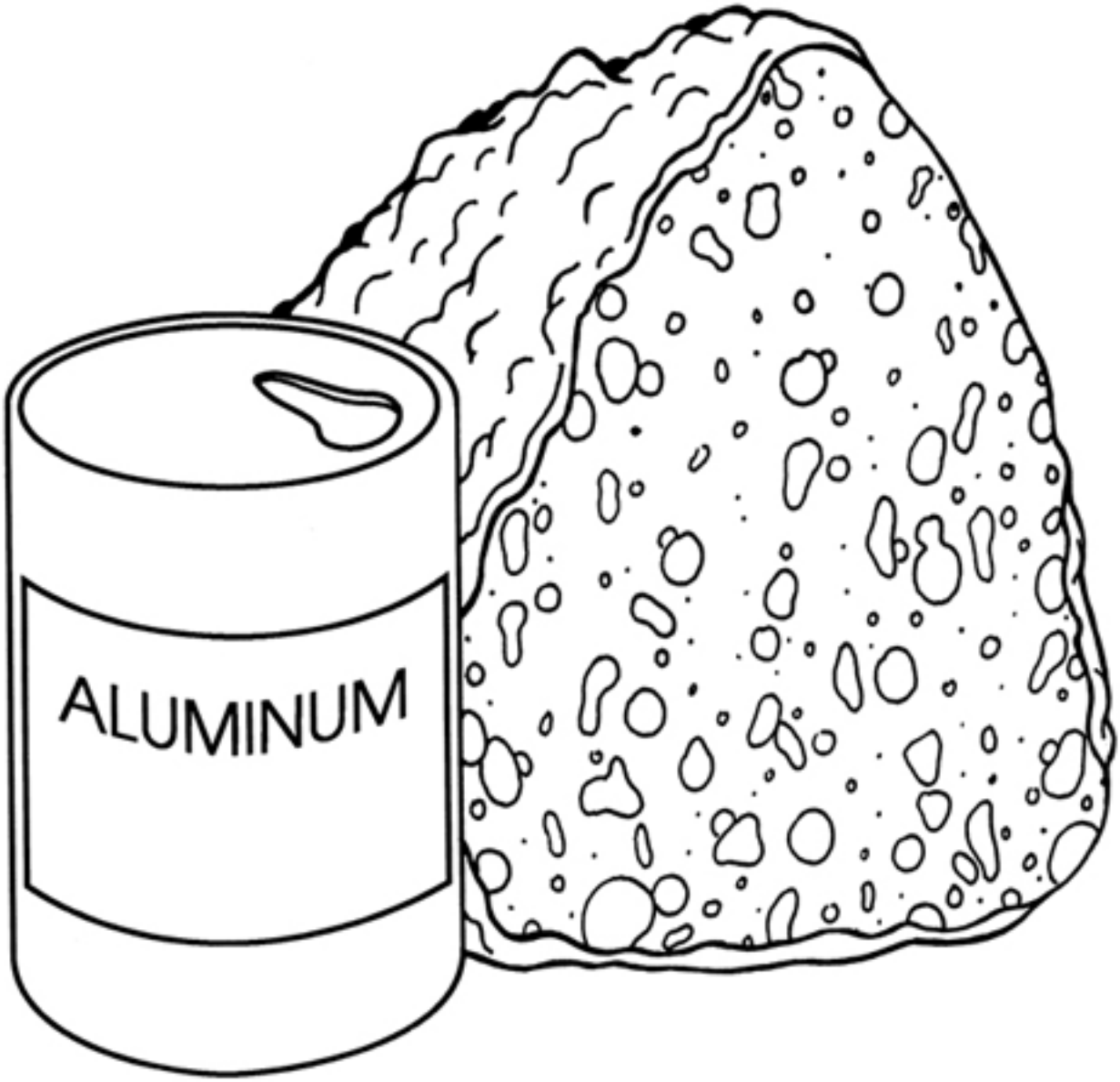


The fiddle was adopted as the Arkansas State Instrument by the General Assembly of 1985. Otherwise known as the violin, the instrument has been commonly associated with Arkansas folk music and culture.



Milk was adopted as the Arkansas State Beverage by the General Assembly of 1985. Dairy farming is an important part of Arkansas agriculture.

The white-tail deer was adopted as the Arkansas State Mammal by the General Assembly of 1993. The deer raises the white underside of its tail when frightened. Young white-tail deer have a white-spotted red coat which changes to brownish-gray before the end of its first year.



Bauxite was adopted as the Arkansas State Rock by the General Assembly of 1967. Bauxite is used to make aluminum which is used to make soft drink cans and aluminum foil. Arkansas is home to the largest bauxite deposits in the United States, located in Saline County.

The quartz crystal was adopted as the Arkansas State Mineral by the General Assembly of 1967. Quartz crystals are mined in the Ouachita Mountains and are used in computers and sold to visitors to our state. Sometimes called "Arkansas diamonds", quartz crystals are not true diamonds.

The square dance was adopted as the Arkansas State American Folk Dance by the General Assembly of 1991. Square dancers perform a variety of steps which are usually told to them during the dance by a person known as a square dance caller.

1. Draw a star where the state capital, Little Rock, is located.
2. Color the county where you live.
3. Write in the name of the county seat of your county.

October morning in the Ozark Mountains,
Hills ablazing like that sun in the sky.
I fell in love there and the fire's still burning
A flame that never will die.

CHORUS

Oh, I may wander, but when I do
I will never be far from you.
You're in my blood and I know you'll always be.
Arkansas, you run deep in me.

Moonlight dancing on a delta levee,
To a band of frogs and whippoorwill
I lost my heart there one July evening
And it's still there, I can tell.

REPEAT CHORUS

Magnolia blooming, Mama smiling,
Mallards sailing on a December wind.
God bless the memories I keep recalling
Like an old familiar friend.

REPEAT CHORUS

And there's a river rambling through the fields and valleys,
Smooth and steady as she makes her way south,
A lot like the people whose name she carries.
She goes strong and she goes proud.

REPEAT CHORUS

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as an Official State Song.

It's the spirit of the mountains and the spirit of the Delta,
It's the spirit of the Capitol dome.
It's the spirit of the river and the spirit of the lakes,
It's the spirit that's in each and every home.
It's the spirit of the people and the spirit of the land,
It's the spirit of tomorrow and today.

CHORUS

Oh Arkansas, oh Arkansas, Arkansas U.S.A.
It's the spirit of friendship, it's the spirit of hope.
It's the Razorbacks every game they play.
Oh Arkansas, oh Arkansas, Arkansas U.S.A.

It's the spirit of the forest, it's the spirit of the eagle.
It's the spirit of the country that we love.
It's the spirit of pride that we all feel deep inside,
It's the spirit that shines from above.
It's the spirit of our fathers, it's the spirit of our kids,
It's the spirit of the music that we play.

Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas U.S.A.
Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas U.S.A.
Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas U.S.A.

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as an Official State Song.

I am thinking tonight of the Southland,
Of the home of my childhood days,
Where I roamed through the woods and the meadows
By the mill and the brook that plays;
Where the roses are in bloom
And the sweet magnolia too,
Where the jasmine is white
And the fields are violet blue,
There a welcome awaits all her children
Who have wandered afar from home.

CHORUS

Arkansas, Arkansas, tis a name dear,
'Tis the place I call "home, sweet home";
Arkansas, Arkansas, I salute thee,
From thy shelter no more I'll roam.

'Tis a land full of joy and of sunshine,
Rich in pearls and in diamonds rare,
Full of hope, faith and love for the stranger,
Who may pass 'neath her portals fair;
There the rice fields are full,
And the cotton, corn and hay,
There the fruits of the field,
Bloom in winter months and May,
'Tis the land that I love, first of all, dear,
And to her let us all give cheer.

REPEAT CHORUS

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as the Official State Anthem.

On a lonely road quite long ago,
A trav'ler trod with fiddle and a bow;
While rambling thru the country rich and grand,
He quickly sensed the magic and the beauty of the land.

CHORUS

For the wonder state we'll sing a song,
And lift our voices loud and long.
For the wonder state we'll shout hurrah!
And praise the opportunities we find in Arkansas.

Many years have passed, the trav'lers gay,
Repeat the tune along the highway;
And every voice that sings the glad refrain
Re-echoes from the mountains to the fields of growing grain.

REPEAT CHORUS

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as the Official State Historic Song.

1. From what Indian tribe did Arkansas get its name? _____

2. What does the Latin phrase "Regnat Populus", our state motto, mean?

_____

3. How many stars are there on the Arkansas flag? _____

4. What is our state gem? _____

5. What is our state tree? _____

6. What is our state bird? _____

7. What is our state flower? _____

8. What is our state insect? _____

9. What is our state fruit and vegetable? _____

10. What is our state instrument? _____

11. What is our state beverage? _____

12. What is our state mammal? _____

13. What is our state rock? _____

14. What is our state mineral? _____

15. What is our state American folk dance? _____

_____

Connect the dots starting at number one; then answer the questions above to see what you have learned about Arkansas in this book.

Proclamation

This is to certify that

_____

has completed a study of
the Great State of

ARKANSAS

and promises to continue
to learn more about his/her state.

Secretary of State

Teacher's or Parent's Signature

Date

THE ARKANSAS CREED

I BELIEVE IN ARKANSAS AS A LAND OF OPPORTUNITY AND PROMISE.

I BELIEVE IN THE RICH HERITAGE OF ARKANSAS AND I HONOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO CREATED THIS HERITAGE.

I BELIEVE IN THE YOUTH OF ARKANSAS WHO WILL BUILD OUR FUTURE.

I AM PROUD OF MY STATE, I WILL UPHOLD ITS CONSTITUTION, OBEY ITS LAWS, AND WORK FOR THE GOOD OF ALL ITS CITIZENS.