INTRODUCTION TO THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AN ACTIVITY BOOK ABOUT THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, STATE SYMBOLS, AND OUR GOVERNMENT
There are three branches of government established by the North Carolina Constitution: the Legislative Branch, the Executive Branch, and the Judicial Branch.

**Legislative Branch**

The Legislative Branch makes laws for North Carolina. It is made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives, which together are known as the General Assembly. The Legislature meets biennially, and all members are elected for two-year terms.

**Executive Branch**

The Executive Branch of government enforces laws made by the legislature. The head of this branch is the Governor, who is elected every four years. Along with the Governor, the Executive Branch also includes the Lieutenant Governor, the Council of State, and many State agencies.

**Judicial Branch**

The Judicial Branch interprets what our laws mean and makes decisions about the laws and those who break them. The Courts of the Judicial Branch are split into three divisions, the Appellate Court Division, the Superior Court Division and the District Court Division.
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The legislative branch is composed of the Senate and the House of Representatives, which together are known as the General Assembly. The Constitution of North Carolina gives the General Assembly the authority to make or enact laws, to establish rules and regulations governing the conduct of the people, their rights, duties and procedures, to prescribe the consequences of certain activities, and to create a state budget. The General Assembly also has the power to amend or repeal existing laws that affect all the people of the State as well as laws affecting the local communities.

Before Raleigh became the Capital of North Carolina, each new session of the General Assembly moved from town to town. They met in Halifax, Hillsborough, Fayetteville, New Bern, Smithfield, and Tarboro between 1776 and 1794. They would meet in courthouses, schools, and local residences or in any structure big enough to hold all the legislators. The Assembly of 1794-95 was the first to meet in Raleigh.

Tryon Palace in New Bern was the State’s first capitol building. It was completed in 1771, but was abandoned during the Revolutionary War because of its exposure to enemy attack. When Raleigh was established as the capital, a simple two-story brick structure was built. It was completed in 1796 and served as the home for all three branches of our state government until it was destroyed by fire in 1831. A new capitol building was built and completed in 1840 and is the building you see on the capitol grounds when you visit Raleigh. As our state grew, the judicial and legislative branches needed more space and their own structures. The current Legislative building became the permanent home of the General Assembly in 1963. The first session held in the Legislative Building convened on February 6, 1963.

The 50 Members of the Senate and 120 Members of the House of Representatives make up the General Assembly of North Carolina. They are elected every two years, from districts established by law. The two-year term is known as a biennium. In order to qualify for election, a person must live in the district they wish to represent for at least one year and be registered to vote in North Carolina. To serve in the Senate, a person must be at least 25 years old. To serve in the House of Representatives, a person must be at least 21 years old. Newly elected legislators take office on January 1, following their election in November.

In the House of Representatives, the Members elect a Speaker, who presides over the House when in session. The Speaker has many responsibilities, one of which is to preserve order while the House is in session. The Speaker Pro Tempore is also elected from among the membership. In the absence of the Speaker, the Speaker Pro Tempore presides over the House. The Lieutenant Governor is the President of the Senate and presides over the Senate. Unlike the Speaker, the Lieutenant Governor is
elected in a statewide election that is held every four years. The members of the Senate elect a President Pro Tempore and Deputy President Pro Tempore from among their membership, who in their turn, preside in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor.

Each house elects a Principal Clerk, who carries out the administrative duties of their respective chambers. The Principal Clerks are responsible for documenting all the actions that are taken on bills and recording these actions in the official record, known as the Journal. The Senate elects a Reading Clerk and a Sergeant-at-Arms. The Speaker appoints a Reading Clerk and a Sergeant-at-Arms for the House. There are a number of leadership roles in both the House and the Senate. These can include a Majority Leader, Minority Leader, Majority Whip, and Minority Whip.

When the House and Senate meet in daily sessions, they assemble in their respective chambers. On occasion, a Joint Session of the General Assembly is held and members of the House and Senate meet in one Chamber. A Joint Session would be held to hear invited guests address the General Assembly. Such guests might include the Governor, for the State of the State address; the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, for the State of the Judiciary Address; or perhaps even the President of the United States. The invited guest speaks from a podium known as the “Well of the House.”

Soon after the beginning of the legislative session, standing committees are appointed. The Speaker appoints the members of the committees in the House and the President Pro Tempore appoints the members of the committees in the Senate. Each committee has one or more Chairs and Vice-Chairs. Committees do much of the legislative work of the General Assembly. Once a bill is filed with the Principal Clerk's office, it is read on the floor (introduced) and referred to a committee. Once in the committee, the bill may be studied, debated or changed. If the committee reports the bill as favorable, it will either be referred to another committee or placed on the Calendar.

The Calendar is the daily schedule of business for the consideration of bills by the full membership of the bodies of both houses. The Senate and the House of Representatives create their own calendars for each day's legislative session. The House uses the color yellow for their Calendar and bill jackets. The Senate uses the color blue for the Senate Calendar and bill jackets. The House of Representatives and the Senate work as two separate memberships during their daily sessions, but all legislation must pass three readings in each body before it can become law or be presented to the Governor.
### HOW AN IDEA BECOMES A LAW

According to the North Carolina Constitution, for a bill to become law, it must meet certain requirements: It must be read three times in each Chamber, passed by each Chamber, and subject to consideration by the Governor (if the bill requires action by the Governor), or sent to the Secretary of State.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>Every law starts with an idea. The idea for a law comes from a citizen, group or Legislator. The bill is drafted and the Legislator sponsors the bill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2)</td>
<td>First Reading. The bill is read for the first time in one of the Chambers. The bill is referred to a committee by the Presiding Officer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3)</td>
<td>Committee Consideration. Members meet in a small group to research, discuss, and possibly amend the bill. The bill may be sent to more than one committee for approval. If the bill is approved, the committee reports their recommendations to the Chamber.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4)</td>
<td>Second Reading. The bill returns to the Chamber and is read for the second time for debate, amendments, and votes. If the bill passes, it receives a third reading in this Chamber.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5)</td>
<td>Third Reading. The bill receives a third reading and votes. The bill may be debated or amended. If the bill passes, it is sent to the other Chamber where the bill receives the first reading and the process is repeated in this Chamber.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6)</td>
<td>Conference Committee. If both Chambers do not agree to pass the bill as it is written, the bill is sent to a conference committee of Members from both Chambers. The committee comes to an agreement on the bill. The bill is sent back to each Chamber for approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7)</td>
<td>Bill Passage. Both Chambers vote and pass the final version of the bill, the bill is signed by the Presiding Officer of each Chamber (enrolled and ratified), and is either: A) Sent to the Governor for consideration, or B) Filed with the Secretary of the State if the bill is not subject to action by the Governor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8)</td>
<td>Governor’s Action. If the bill requires action from the Governor, the Governor can either: A) Sign the bill. B) Take no action within ten days after presentation (not sign the bill) and the bill becomes law, or C) Veto the bill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9)</td>
<td>Veto. If the Governor vetoes the bill, the bill is returned to the Chamber of origin. Three-fifths present and voting of each Chamber must vote to override the veto.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10)</td>
<td>Law. The bill has met the requirements. The idea becomes a law.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOW AN IDEA BECOMES A LAW

Can you put these bill actions in the correct order by drawing a line from the step # to the action it would represent?

Step # 1           Committee Consideration

Step # 2           Governor’s Action

Step # 3           Every law starts with an idea

Step # 4           Third Reading

Step # 5           Bill Passage

Step # 6           Law

Step # 7           Veto

Step # 8           Conference Committee

Step # 9           First Reading

Step # 10          Second Reading
NORTH CAROLINA STATE FLAG

The State flag is divided into three rectangles, two horizontal and one vertical. The upper right rectangle is red and the lower right rectangle is white. The entire background of the rectangle on the left is dark blue. The scroll and the letters, N and C, are gold. The dates on the scroll are dark blue and the star is white.

The State flag displays two dates. May 20, 1775, is the date thought to have been the time of the issuance of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. This document made a bold statement in favor of independence for the colonies. It stated that English laws were no longer in effect in Mecklenburg County. April 12, 1776, is the date of the Halifax Resolves. In this document, North Carolina authorized its delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence from England. These dates celebrate the fact that North Carolina was one of the first colonies to encourage independence from England, well before the famous date of July 4, 1776.
The North Carolina Constitution provides for a State seal and it is called the "Great Seal of the State of North Carolina." Throughout history, several seals have been used by the State. The last change to the seal was made in 1983, at which time the date, April 12, 1776, was added at the bottom to commemorate the Halifax Resolves. This conformed the Seal and the State Flag. The State motto, "Esse Quam Videri," which is Latin for, "To be rather than to seem," appears at the bottom of the Seal.
The NC General Assembly adopted its first state symbol in 1885 recognizing the official State Flag. Since that time, the Legislature has adopted more symbols. Some symbols are emblems or well-known representations of the state’s history and culture that have been important to support the people or the economy of our state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Motto</td>
<td>Esse Quam Videri (To be rather than to seem)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Flag</td>
<td>Recognizing the official State Flag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Song</td>
<td>The Old North State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Flower</td>
<td>Dogwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Bird</td>
<td>Cardinal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Colors</td>
<td>Red and Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Toast</td>
<td>&quot;A Toast&quot; to North Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Tree</td>
<td>Pine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Shell</td>
<td>Scotch Bonnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Mammal</td>
<td>Gray Squirrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Saltwater Fish</td>
<td>Channel Bass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Insect</td>
<td>Honeybee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Precious Stone</td>
<td>Emerald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Reptile</td>
<td>Eastern Box Turtle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Rock</td>
<td>Granite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Beverage</td>
<td>Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Historical Boat</td>
<td>Shad Boat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Dog</td>
<td>Plott Hound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Military Academy</td>
<td>Oak Ridge Military Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Tartan</td>
<td>Carolina Tartan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Watermelon Festivals</td>
<td>Hertford Watermelon Festival and Fair Bluff Watermelon Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Vegetable</td>
<td>Sweet Potato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fruit</td>
<td>Scuppernong Grape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Red Berry</td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Blue Berry</td>
<td>Blueberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State International Festival</td>
<td>Folkmoot USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Wildflower</td>
<td>Carolina Lily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Aviation Hall of Fame and Museum</td>
<td>Asheboro Municipal Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Museum of Aviation</td>
<td>Wilmington International Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Carnivorous Plant</td>
<td>Venus Flytrap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Birthplace of Traditional Pottery</td>
<td>Seagrove area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Folk Dance</td>
<td>Clogging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Popular Dance</td>
<td>Shagging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Christmas Tree</td>
<td>Fraser Fir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Freshwater Trout</td>
<td>Southern Appalachian Brook Trout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Collard Festival</td>
<td>Ayden Collard Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Food Festival</td>
<td>Lexington Barbecue Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Community Theater</td>
<td>Thalian Association in Wilmington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Potato Festival</td>
<td>Albemarle Potato Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Horse</td>
<td>Colonial Spanish Mustang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Honor and Remember Flag</td>
<td>To honor and recognize members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have died in the line of duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Shad Festival</td>
<td>Grifton Shad Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Herring Festival</td>
<td>Jamesville Herring Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Mineral</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Sport</td>
<td>Stock car racing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Shrimp Festival</td>
<td>Sneads Ferry Shrimp Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Butterfly</td>
<td>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fall Livermush Festival</td>
<td>Shelby Livermush Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Spring Livermush Festival</td>
<td>Marion Livermush Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Mullet Festival</td>
<td>Swansboro Mullet Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fossil</td>
<td>Fossilized megalodon shark teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Frog</td>
<td>Pine Barrens Tree Frog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Salamander</td>
<td>Marbled Salamander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Marsupial</td>
<td>Virginia Opossum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Folk Art</td>
<td>Whirligigs created by Vollis Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Art Medium</td>
<td>Clay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Peanut Festival</td>
<td>Dublin Peanut Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Blue Monday Shad Fry</td>
<td>East Arcadia Blue Monday Shad Fry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Veterans Day Parade</td>
<td>Warsaw Veterans Day Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fly Fishing Museum</td>
<td>Fly Fishing Museum of the Southern Appalachians in Bryson City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Outdoor Festival</td>
<td>The North Carolina Outdoor Festival (Montgomery County)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Woolly Worm Festival</td>
<td>Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**JUMBLE**
Unscramble the State symbols and adoptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unscrambled Words</th>
<th>Scrambled Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>BEVERAGE</td>
<td>KILM</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>BIRD</td>
<td>DINALRAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>BOAT</td>
<td>DSAH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>CAPITAL</td>
<td>GHLEIRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>COLORS</td>
<td>DRE EUBL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>DOG</td>
<td>PTTOL ONUHD</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>FLOWER</td>
<td>DOWOGDO</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>FRUIT</td>
<td>GNSOPECPRNU PARGE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>INSECT</td>
<td>EYNHOHEBE</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>MAMMAL</td>
<td>AYGR ELQSRIRU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>MOTTO</td>
<td>SESE AMQU DIVREI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>REPTILE</td>
<td>ENRSTAE XBO RUTLET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>ROCK</td>
<td>RANETIG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>SALTWATER FISH</td>
<td>CLHENAN ASBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>SHELL</td>
<td>TCHOSC NNETBO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>SONG</td>
<td>DLO RTOHN TAETS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>STONE</td>
<td>ALDERME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>TREE</td>
<td>INPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>VEGETABLE</td>
<td>ETSWE TOOATP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>WILDFLOWER</td>
<td>AROCLINA LYLI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GLOSSARY OF LEGISLATIVE TERMS

ACT Legislation enacted into law. A bill that has passed both houses of the legislature, been enrolled, ratified, signed by the Governor or passed notwithstanding the objections of the Governor, and printed. It is a permanent measure, having the force of law until repealed.

ADJOURN The temporary ending of a meeting.

BILL Draft of a proposed law presented to the legislature for consideration.

BUDGET (1) The suggested allocation of state monies presented to the legislature for consideration; (2) a formal document that reflects the authorized expenditures of the State of North Carolina.

CALENDAR (1) A printed list of proposed legislation that is arranged according to the order of business and is scheduled for consideration by a chamber; (2) Agenda of daily legislative business in a chamber.

CAUCUS An informal meeting of a group of the Members; most commonly based on political party affiliation, but may have other bases, such as gender, race, geographic location, interest or specific issue.

COMMITTEE REPORT Recommendations regarding bills and resolutions as adopted by the committee for consideration by the Members.

CONSTITUENT A citizen residing within the district of a legislator.

DEBATE Discussion of a matter according to parliamentary rules.

DISTRICT An area of a state from which a legislator is elected to represent.

ENGROSS The process by which adopted amendments and other changes are incorporated into a bill as it makes its way through the House or Senate.

ENROLLED EDITION The final version of a bill, which has passed both chambers, and is reprinted in preparation for the signatures of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. After these confirmatory signatures, the enrolled bill goes to the Governor or directly to the Secretary of the State if it is a local bill.

HEARING Public discussion and appearance on a proposal or bill; usually scheduled by one of the committees.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 120 Members who serve a term of two years. Members must be 21 years old and have resided in their district one year immediately prior to the general election.
JOURNAL An official chronological written record of the actions taken and proceedings of the House and Senate chambers.

MAJORITY PARTY The political party having the largest number of Members in the legislature or in either chamber.

MINORITY PARTY The political party having the fewest number of Members in the legislature or in either chamber.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE The Lieutenant Governor serves as Senate President and presides over the daily session. The Senate President does not vote, except to break a tie.

PRINCIPAL CLERK A non-legislator officer who is elected by the Members of either the House or the Senate to perform and direct the parliamentary and clerical functions of each respective chamber.

PUBLIC LAW Legislation enacted into law that applies to the public at large, affecting 15 or more counties.

PUBLIC OPINION The expression of views from the general public.

REFERRED The assigning or referring of a bill to committee.

ROLL CALL Names of the Members being called in alphabetical order and recorded; used to establish a quorum or to take a vote on an issue before the Body.

SENATE 50 Members who serve a term of two years. Members must be 25 years old and have resided in the state as a citizen for two years and in the district for one year prior to the general election.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE Presiding officer of the House of Representatives elected by the House Members.

STATUTE A formal enactment of the legislature of a more permanent nature. The term "statute" is used to designate written law, which is different from unwritten law.

VETO Action of a Governor to reject a decision made by the Legislature. The North Carolina governor has had veto power since 1997.

VOICE VOTE Oral expression of the Members when a question is submitted for their determination. When asked by the presiding officer, Members respond "aye" or "nay." The presiding officer then decides which side prevailed.

VOTE Formal expression of a decision by the Body.

WHIP Members of each party that are assistants to the floor leaders who are responsible for mobilizing votes within their parties on major issues.
WORD SEARCH

ACT
ADJOURN
BILL
BUDGET
CALENDAR
CAUCUS
COMMITTEE
CONSTITUENT
DEBATE
DISTRICT
ENGROSS
ENROLLED
HEARING
JOURNAL
MAJORITY
MINORITY
PRESIDENT
PRINCIPAL CLERK
PUBLIC LAW
PUBLIC OPINION
REPRESENTATIVE
REFFERED
ROLL CALL
SENATE
SPEAKER
STATUTE
VETO
VOICE VOTE
VOTE
WHIP
• HOW MANY COUNTIES ARE IN NORTH CAROLINA?
• WHICH COUNTY DO YOU LIVE IN?
• CAN YOU FIND YOUR COUNTY ON THE MAP?
50 FACTS ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA

1. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is the oldest public university in the United States founded in 1798.

2. In 1903, the Wright Brothers made the first successful powered flight by man at Kill Devil Hills near Kitty Hawk. The Wright Memorial at Kitty Hawk now commemorates their achievement.

3. High Point is known as the “Furniture Capital of the World.”

4. Known as "Fishtown" in the early 1700s when Blackbeard frequented the coast, "Beaufort Town" was established as a seaport with the right to collect customs in 1722.

5. Whitewater Falls in Transylvania County is the highest waterfall east of the Rocky Mountains.

6. Shaw University in Raleigh was the first historically black university founded in the southern United States on Dec. 1, 1865.

7. Ft. Bragg in Fayetteville is the largest US Army base in terms of population.

8. North Carolina is the largest producer of sweet potatoes in the nation. Students at a Wilson County school successfully petitioned the North Carolina General Assembly for the establishment of the sweet potato as the official State vegetable.

9. North Carolina’s Coast is often referred to as the “Graveyard of the Atlantic” due to the large number of ships that have been lost, crashed or disappeared off our coast over time.

10. The World War II battleship “USS North Carolina” is permanently berthed on the Cape Fear River at Wilmington. She was saved from the scrap heap in the 1960s by public subscription, including donations of dimes by school children.

11. Sir Walter Raleigh founded the first English colony in America. It was located on Roanoke Island. The colony mysteriously vanished with no trace except for the word "CROATAN" scrawled on a nearby tree.
12. Mount Mitchell in the Blue Ridge Mountains is the highest peak east of the Mississippi. It towers 6,684 feet above sea level. Snow has been recorded on Mount Mitchell in every month of the year.

13. Krispy Kreme Doughnuts was founded in Winston-Salem in 1937.

14. The first miniature golf course was built in Pinehurst in 1916.

15. Beulah Louise Henry, a famous American inventor nicknamed "Lady Edison," was from Raleigh.

16. The Biltmore Estate in Asheville is America's largest home, and includes a 250-room chateau, an award-winning winery and extensive gardens.

17. The first English child born in America was born in Roanoke in 1587. Her name was Virginia Dare.


19. Fontana Dam is the tallest dam east of the Rocky Mountains, at 480 feet high.

20. Blackbeard, also known as Edward Teach, was one of history's most legendary pirates of all time. He spent a lot of time close to Ocracoke Island, his favorite hideout. In fact, there is still an inlet on Ocracoke Island today called "Teach's Hole," named in his honor.

21. In 1992, Grandfather Mountain was accepted into the network of international biosphere reserves. It provides habitat for more globally rare species than any mountain east of the Rocky Mountains.

22. The Mile-High Swinging Bridge near Linville is 5,280 feet above sea level. The bridge actually hangs about 80 feet above the ground.

23. Pepsi was invented and first served in New Bern in 1898.

24. Beech Mountain is Eastern America's highest town at 5,506 feet above sea level.
25. North Carolina is the birthplace of three United States Presidents: Andrew Jackson (7th), James K. Polk (11th), and Andrew Johnson (17th).

26. Arnold Palmer, recognized as the player whose aggressive play and winning personality raised golf to national attention, honed his skills on the championship golf team of Wake Forest University.

27. Texas Pete, the hot sauce, was invented in 1929 in Winston-Salem.

28. Hiram Rhoades Revels, born in Fayetteville in 1827, was the first African American member of the United States Congress.

29. The Universal Product Code or barcode was invented in the Research Triangle Park in 1969.

30. North Carolina has more American Idol finalists than any other state.

31. North Carolina ranks among the leading states in the production of hogs (#2), turkeys (#2), and broilers (#4).

32. North Carolina is the 28th largest state in the nation by area and has the 9th largest population.

33. The Swiss and German settlement of New Bern was named in honor of the founder's home, Bern, Switzerland.

34. The North Carolina Museum of Art was established in Raleigh in 1947 when the General Assembly appropriated $1 million for the purchase of Old Master paintings. By that action, North Carolina became the first state in the nation to use public funds to create an art collection for its citizens.

35. North Carolina was one of the first states in the nation to establish a state symphony. The North Carolina Symphony was founded in 1932.

36. North Carolina has the second largest state-maintained highway system in the United States. The State's highway system currently has 80,000 miles of roads.

37. Vick’s VapoRub was first made in Selma.
38. Bath, the oldest town in the state, was incorporated in 1705.
39. Five of the seven species of sea turtles are found along the North Carolina Coast. The most common in our area is the loggerhead.
40. Babe Ruth hit his first professional home run in Fayetteville on March 7, 1914.
41. North Carolina is the birthplace of many jazz legends including Nina Simone, John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk and Billy Taylor.
42. The North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro has the world's largest natural habitat.
43. Albemarle Sound is the largest freshwater sound in the United States.
44. North Carolina has the largest American Indian population east of the Mississippi River.
45. Famous authors that are native to North Carolina or have spent most of their lives in our state include: Thomas Wolfe, Maya Angelou, Sarah Dessen, William Henry Porter (O. Henry), Nicholas Sparks, and David Sedaris.
46. Our nation's first gold rush took place in 1799 near the the Uwharrie National Forest located in the piedmont region.
47. Cape Hatteras is the largest lighthouse ever to be moved due to erosion problems. At 208 feet, the lighthouse located on the Outer Banks is the tallest lighthouse in the United States.
48. The tallest natural sand dune on the east coast is Jockey's Ridge at Nags Head, which stands 80 - 100 feet, depending on the wind.
49. The Venus Flytrap, which eats and digests insects and other small living things, is found in the sandhills and coastal plain regions.
50. Containing over 200 companies, North Carolina's Research Triangle Park is the largest in the United States.
FILL IN THE BLANK

Use the information in this activity book to find the answers.

1. The North Carolina flag is divided into _____ sections.

2. The President of the Senate is a statewide elected official. What is that title? ________________________________________

3. What is the name of the first capitol building located in New Bern? ________________________________________

4. Which branch of State Government enforces laws made by the legislature? ________________________________________

5. North Carolina state government has _______ branches of government.

6. How many Members are in the House of Representatives? ________________________________________

7. How many Members are in the Senate? ______________________

8. What is the title given to the person who presides over the House of Representatives? ________________________________________

9. The Courts of the Judicial Branch are split into how many divisions? ________________________________________

10. The date of the Mecklenburg Independence that is found on our flag is ______________________.
11. Draft of a proposed law presented to the Legislature for consideration is called a ____________________________.

12. What is the State Motto? __________________________

13. What is the meaning of the State Motto? __________________

14. North Carolina has ________ counties.

15. What document authorized the NC delegates to the Continental Congress April 12, 1776 to vote for independence from England? ________________________________

16. What is the name of the room where Members of the House of Representatives and Senate meet? __________________________

17. How many years do the Members of the House of Representatives and Senate serve in a term? __________________________

18. The document that has the daily schedule of business for the consideration of bills by the full membership of the bodies of both chambers is known as the ____________________________.

19. The official record where all the actions that are taken on bills and the recording of these actions is called the ____________________________.

20. The Legislative branch of government known as the General Assembly is made up of what two groups? ____________________________
ANSWER KEY

JUMBLE

1. Milk
2. Cardinal
3. Shad
4. Raleigh
5. Red, Blue
6. Plott Hound
7. Dogwood
8. Scuppernong Grape
9. Honeybee
10. Gray Squirrel
11. Esse Quam Videri
12. Eastern Box Turtle
13. Granite
14. Channel Bass
15. Scotch Bonnet
16. Old North State
17. Emerald
18. Pine
19. Sweet Potato
20. Carolina Lily

FILL IN THE BLANK

1. Three
2. Lieutenant Governor
3. Tryon Palace
4. Executive Branch
5. Three
6. 120
7. 50
8. The Speaker
9. Three
10. May 20, 1775
11. Bill
12. Esse Quam Videri
13. "To be rather to seem"
14. 100
15. The Halifax Resolves
16. The Chamber
17. Two
18. Calendar
19. Journal
20. House of Representatives, Senate
HOW AN IDEA BECOMES A LAW

Step # 1  Committee Consideration
Step # 2  Governor's Action
Step # 3  Every law starts with an idea
Step # 4  Third Reading
Step # 5  Bill Passage
Step # 6  Law
Step # 7  Veto
Step # 8  Conference Committee
Step # 9  First Reading
Step # 10 Second Reading

WORD SEARCH

CONSTITUENTETUTATS
OUTHVDSIPTPREYDU
MLDPIHWAEOUNIKVN
MJAENGROSSILLRFJG
IODHTKJILLJREETOV
TUAPICHTIXIMLYKLEO
TRJUSBAVYGBZIRTMI
ENCOKTORKBLANTONCC
ERSUCPRWDAAUQALOAŒ
HEARINGIPFWGSTLKLV
CGILNLAZICRUUENCDEO
MQIAIRGNPTOSDEAENT
AOVLMETETANESLLDE
NKOMINORITYOBELLAF
USLREKAPSMNARHORG
WCPLPRESIDENTPQRJO
PYTIROJAMRCCGEEVNEP
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