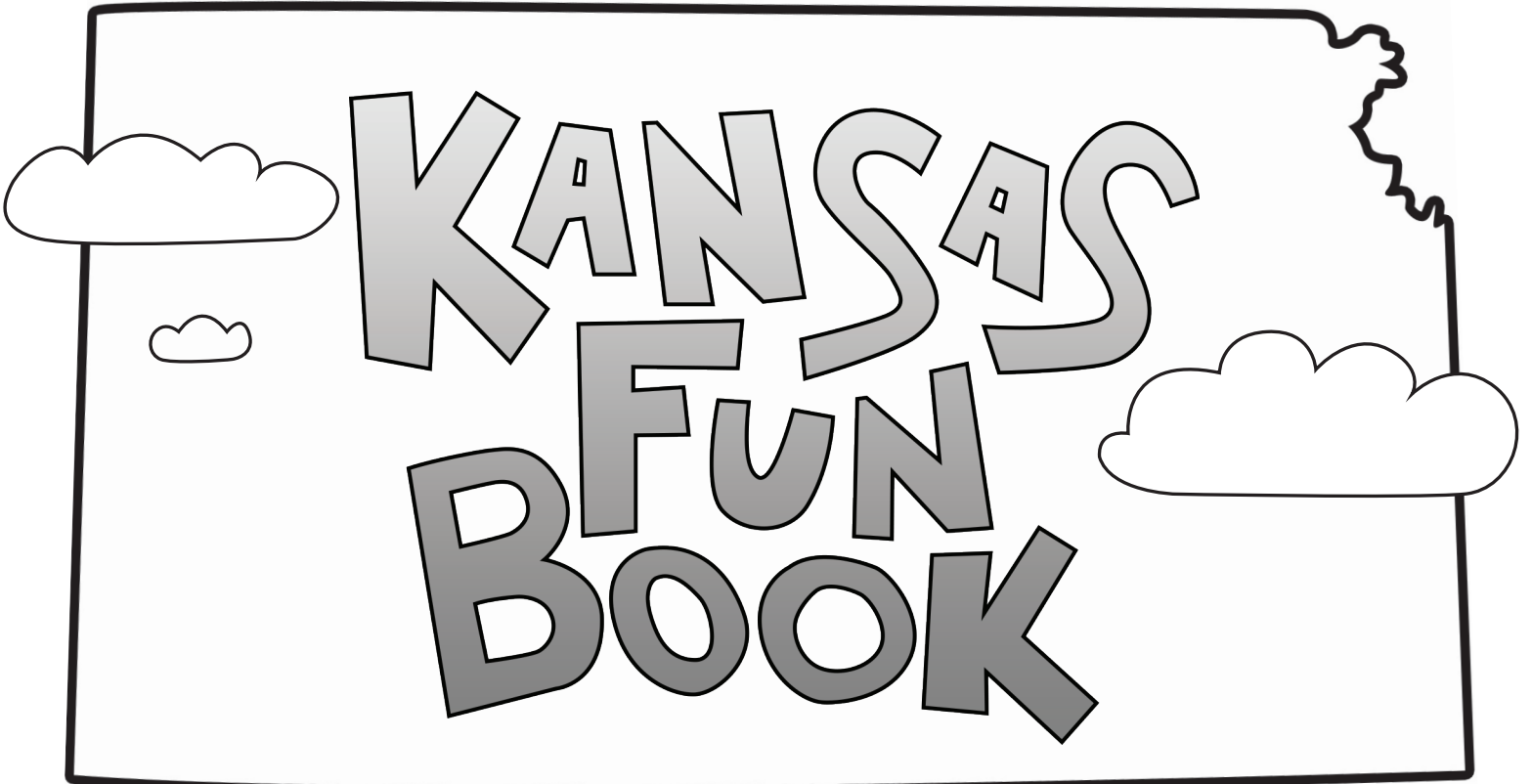
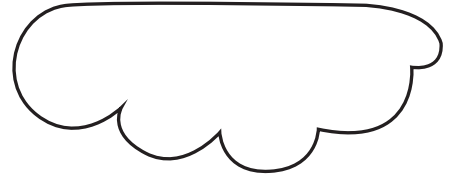
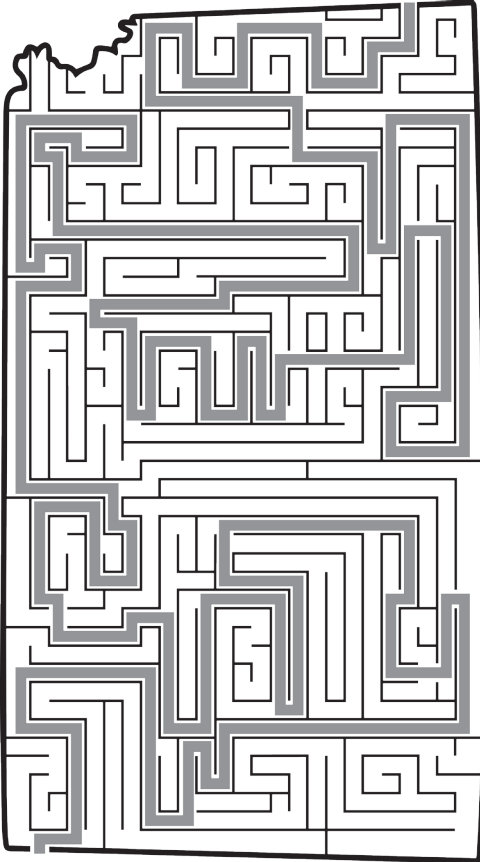




Provided by the Office  
of Secretary of State  
Kris W. Kobach

For more Kansas facts and fun visit  
**Kansas Kids**  
([www.sos.ks.gov/resources/kansas\\_kids.html](http://www.sos.ks.gov/resources/kansas_kids.html))  
and  
**CyberCivics**  
([www.civics.ks.gov](http://www.civics.ks.gov))





## Solutions to the puzzles!

### Mascots



Emporia State



Fort Hays State



K-State



KU



Pittsburg State



Washburn



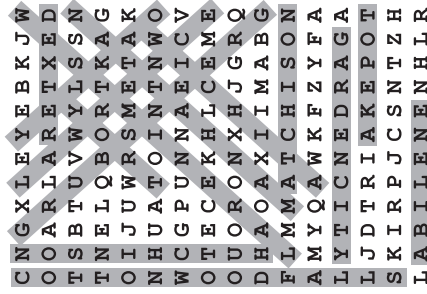
Wichita State

### Word Jumble

1. Cottonwood
2. Buffalo
3. Honeybee
4. Meadowlark
5. Sunflower

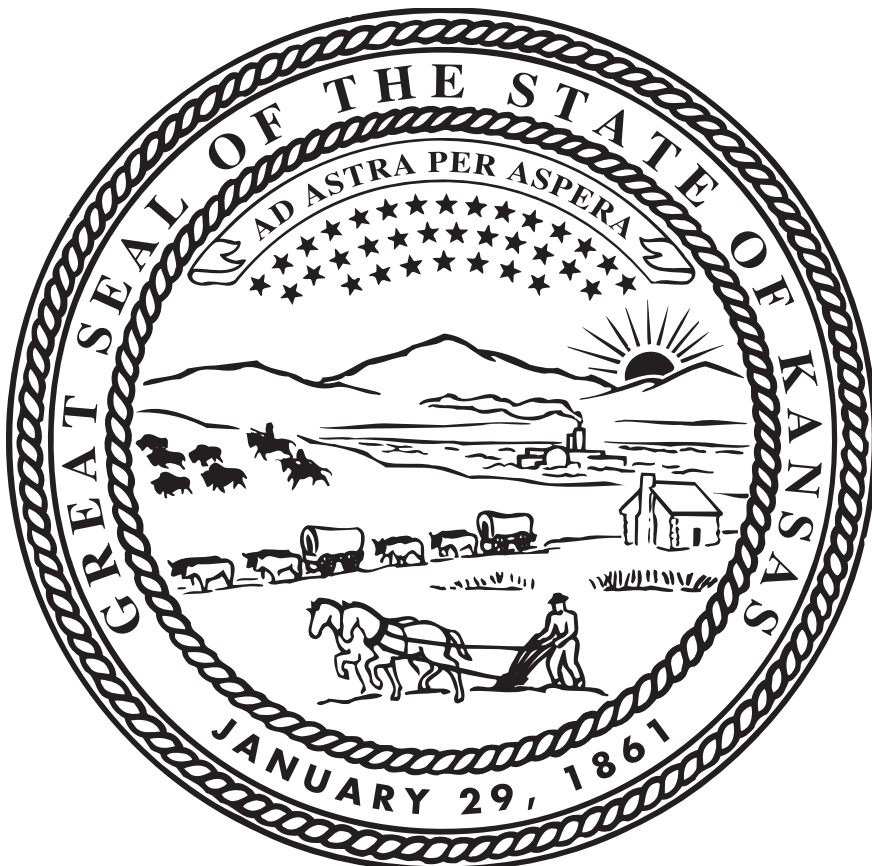
### Crossword

- Across**
3. Ichabods
  6. Lark
  8. Eisenhower
  11. Astra
  12. Wichita
- Down**
1. Tigers
  2. Wheat
  4. Sunflower
  5. Reptile
  7. Topeka
  9. Earhart
  10. Helium



### True or False

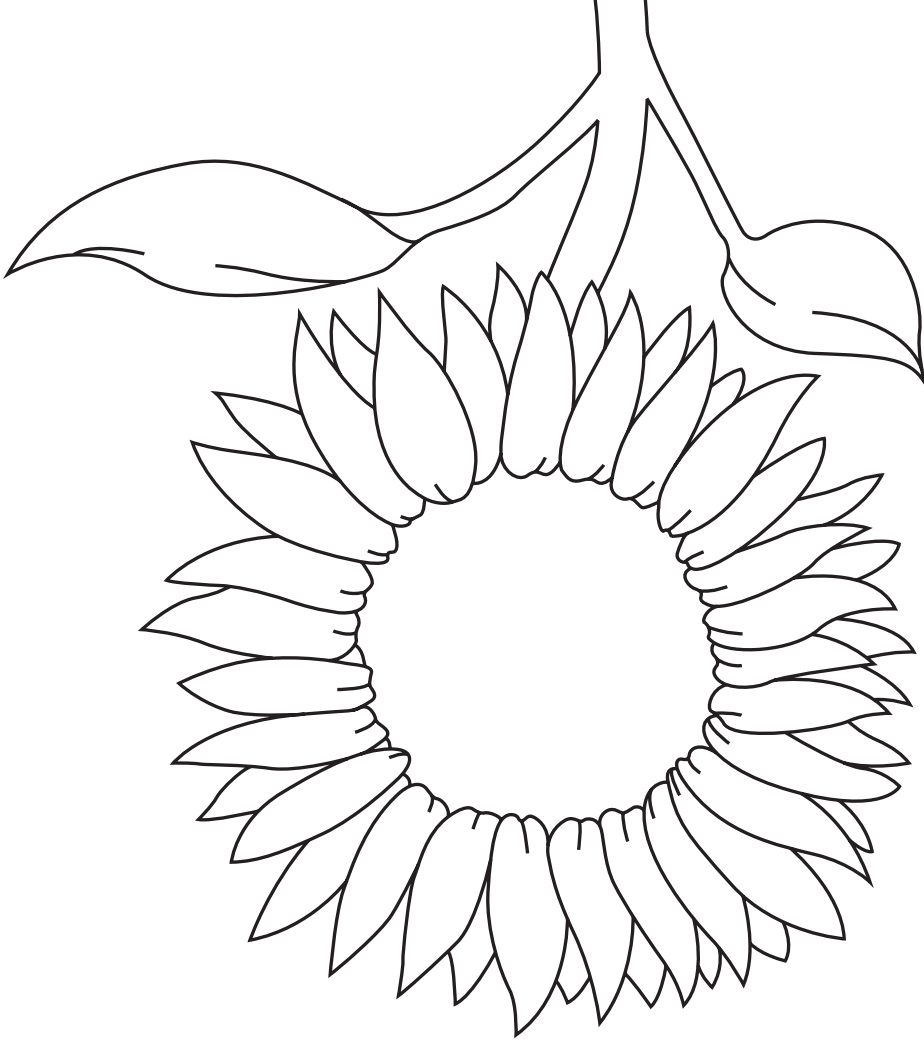
1. **False.** He was a general in the U.S. Army
2. **False.** Western Meadowlarks have yellow underbellies.
3. **True.**
4. **True.** 5. **False.** *The Keeper of the Plains* stands on the Arkansas and Little Arkansas rivers.
6. **True.** 7. **False.** The state tree of Kansas is the Cottonwood.
8. **True** 9. **False.** Helium was discovered in Kansas in 1903.
10. **True.**



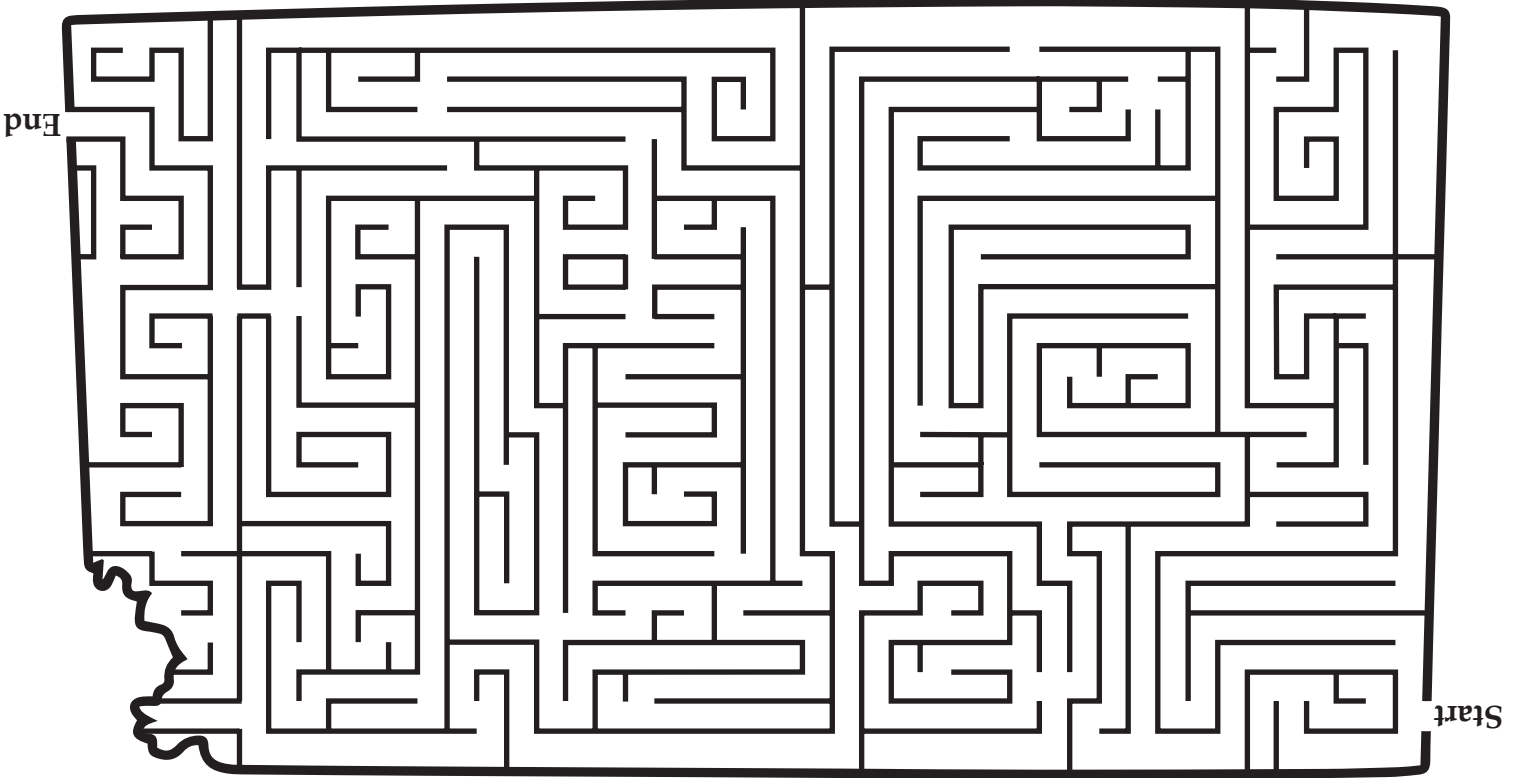
On May 25, 1861, the legislators of Kansas established the **Great Seal** that the state uses to this day. In the resolution, they described it:

“The east is represented by the rising sun, in the right-hand corner of the seal; to the left of it, commerce is represented by a river and a steamboat; in the foreground, agriculture is represented as the basis of the future prosperity of the state, by a settler’s cabin and a man plowing with a pair of horses; beyond this is a train of ox-wagons, going west; in the background is seen a herd of buffalo, retreating, pursued by two Indians, on horseback.”

Kansas’ state motto, “ad astra per aspera,” is Latin for “to the stars through difficulties” and sits above 34 stars, which represents Kansas’ position as the 34th state to enter the Union.



The state flower is the **sunflower**. The center of the flower is made up of many florets, or small flowers, and grow naturally in a beautiful spiral formation. Its seeds make oil, butter, and a great snack for birds and people!



Can you unscramble these words to learn what some of the state symbols of Kansas are?

The state tree of Kansas is the:

**(TOTONODWOC)**

\_\_\_\_\_

The state animal of Kansas is the:

**(FFULOBA)**

\_\_\_\_\_

The state insect of Kansas is the:

**(NOHBEEYE)**

\_\_\_\_\_

The state bird of Kansas is the:

**(KDOERAAWML)**

\_\_\_\_\_

The state flower of Kansas is the:

**(FLNEUWORS)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Now that you've learned so much about the state of Kansas, give these true or false questions a shot. Some of these you've learned, and for some, you might have to guess:

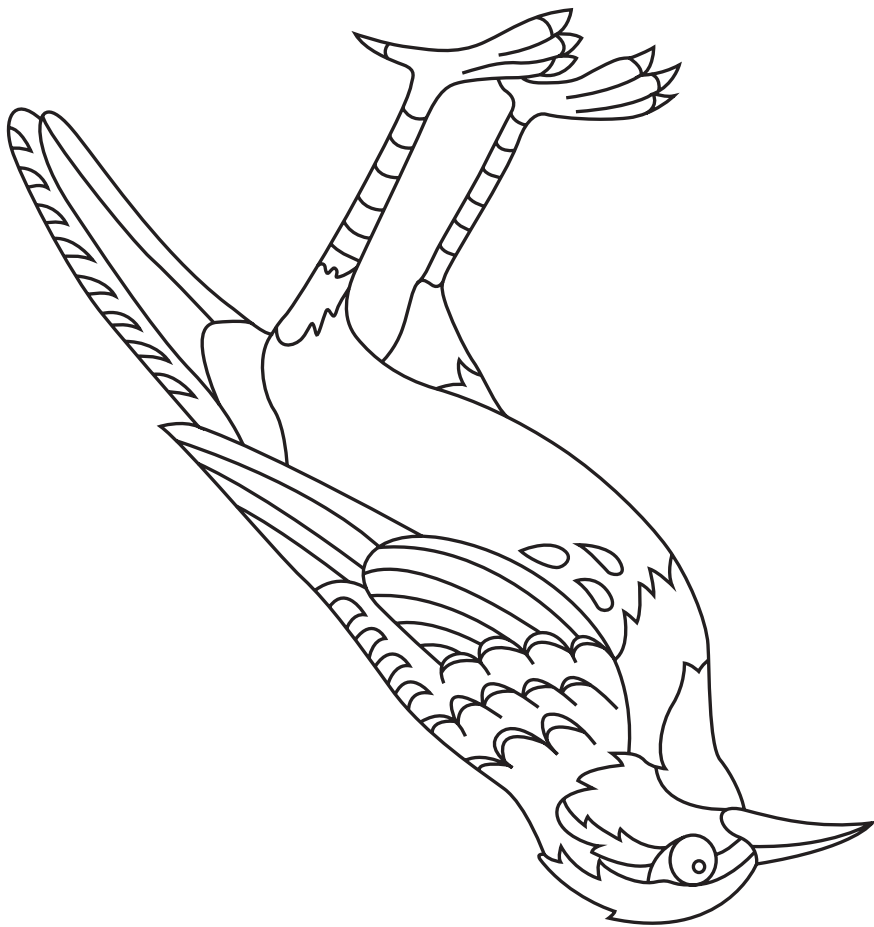
1. Dwight D. Eisenhower was an admiral in the U.S. Navy before becoming President of the United States. T / F
2. Western Meadowlarks have red underbellies. T / F
3. Six players on the first U.S. Olympic basketball team were from McPherson. T / F
4. The Great Seal of Kansas has 34 stars to represent Kansas being the 34th state to enter the Union. T / F
5. *The Keeper of the Plains* sculpture stands at the confluence of the Kansas and Big Blue rivers. T / F
6. Kansas grows nearly 15% of all wheat produced in the United States. T / F
7. The state tree of Kansas is the oak tree. T / F
8. The mascot of Kansas State University is the Wildcats. T / F
9. Hydrogen was discovered in Kansas in 1903. T / F
10. Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean. T / F



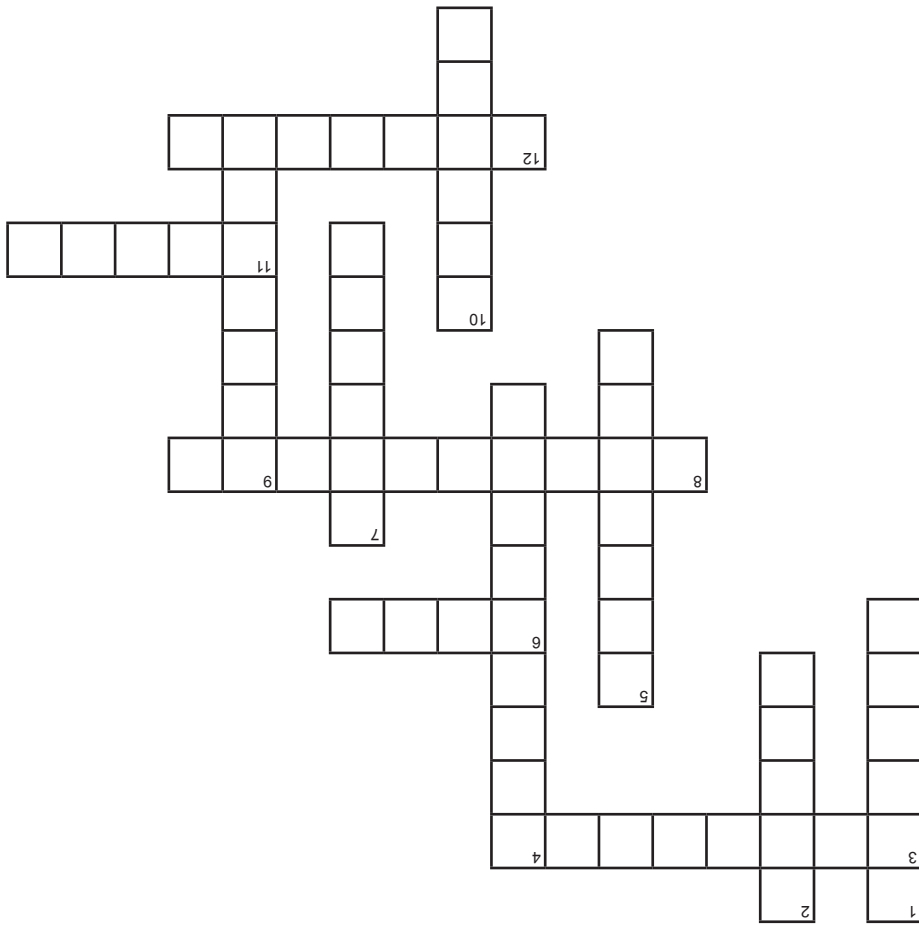
Kansas lies in a region of the country known as the **Great Plains**. Because of its fertile soil and right climate for crops, Kansas grows much of the wheat and sunflowers used in the United States. Draw what you think you'd find on a Kansas prairie – tall grass, cows, a town, or maybe even your family on a picnic!



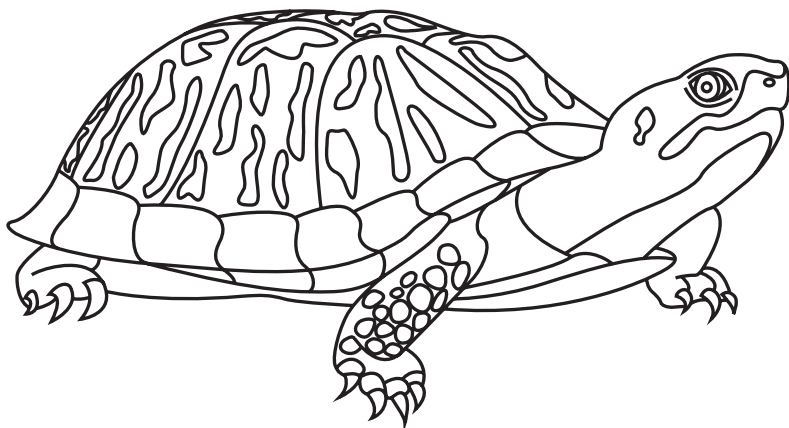
The **Western Meadowlark** is the state bird of Kansas. They have yellow underbellies and intricately patterned brown, black and buff wings and upperparts, but you can color this little guy however you like!



- Across**
- The mascot of Washburn University \_\_\_\_\_ is the state bird of Kansas
  - He was an army general and president
  - The state motto is "Ad \_\_\_\_\_ Per Aspera"
  - Kansas' largest city by population
- Down**
- The mascot of Fort Hays State University
  - Kansas' most produced crop
  - The highest point in Kansas is at Mt. \_\_\_\_\_
  - The ornate box turtle is the state \_\_\_\_\_ of Kansas
  - This city is the capital of Kansas
  - She was the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean
  - This resource was discovered in Kansas in 1903



The state amphibian of Kansas is the **Barred Tiger Salamander**, designated in 1994. This type of salamander is mainly nocturnal and will often eat anything it can catch, including various insects, slugs, and earthworms. They live near bodies of water and other damp places where they can easily burrow into the ground. The tiger salamander has a dark body with yellow spots and can grow up to 14 inches in length. Wouldn't that be a sight to see!



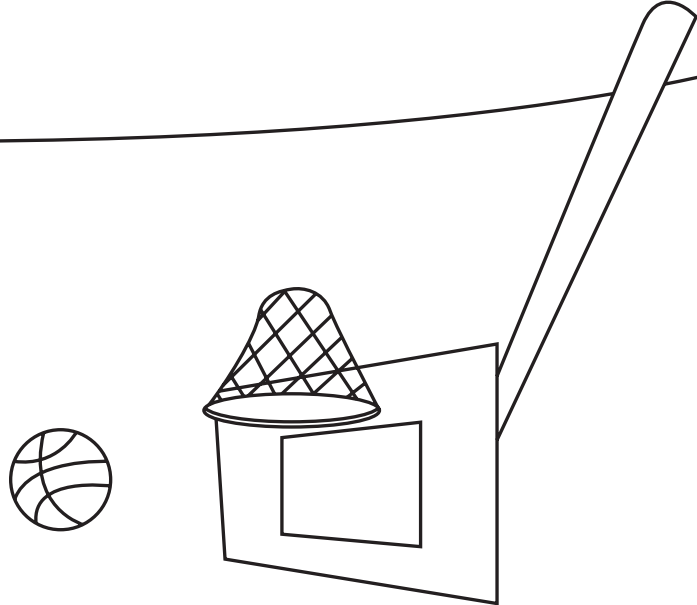
The state reptile of Kansas is the **Ornate Box Turtle**, designated in 1986. It is a relatively small turtle and is usually found in grasslands and on land rather than in water. The ornate box turtle is an omnivore - meaning it eats both plants and other animals - and has a life span of 32-37 years. It's shell color is usually brown or gray with yellow spots. Have you ever caught an ornate box turtle?

Below are some interesting facts about various towns in Kansas. See if you can find those towns in the word search to the right!


- President Dwight D. Eisenhower called **Abilene** home.
- **Atchison** was home to Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean.
- **Cottonwood Falls** has the oldest operating courthouse in Kansas, built in 1873.
- Helium was discovered in the town of **Dexter** in 1903.
- The world's largest outdoor municipal concrete swimming pool is located in **Garden City**.
- **Greensburg** is home to the world's largest hand-dug well.
- **Hutchinson** is home to the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center, the Kansas Underground Salt Museum and the Kansas State Fair.
- The Kansas Jayhawks are found in **Lawrence** while their rivals are the Kansas State Wildcats from **Manhattan**.
- Buffalo Bill Cody earned his legendary nickname in **Oakley**.
- The capital city of Kansas is **Topeka**.
- On his only visit to Kansas, Abraham Lincoln spoke in the town of **Troy** on December 1, 1859.
- Big Brutus, the world's second largest electric mining shovel lives in **West Mineral**.
- Because of its importance in the aircraft industry, **Wichita** is known as "the Air Capital of the World."



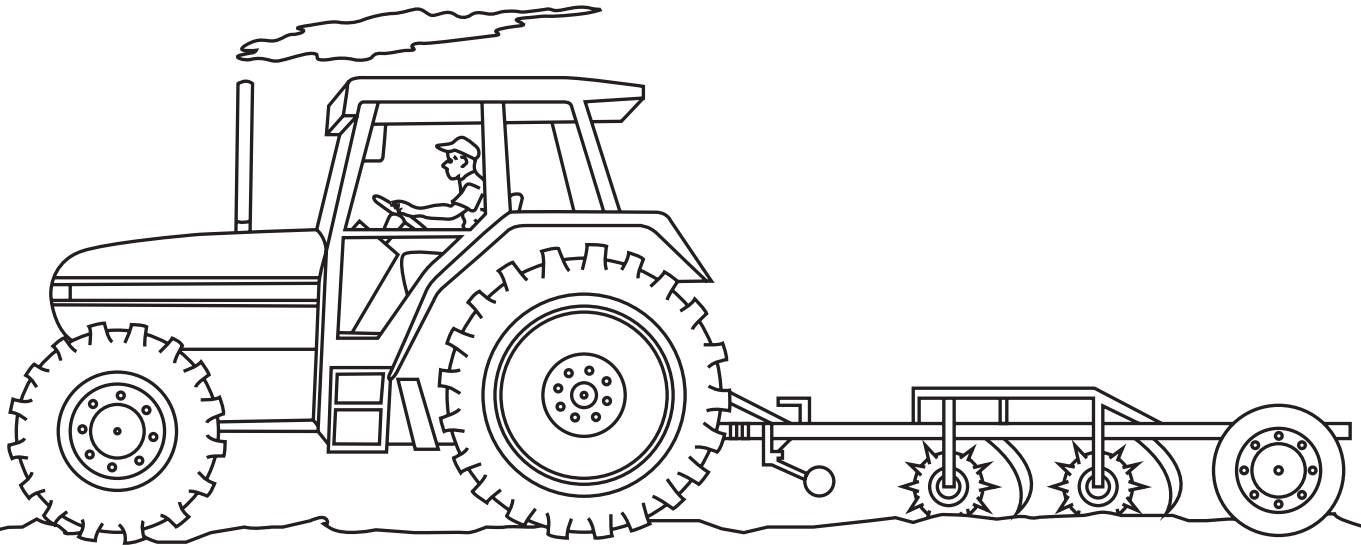
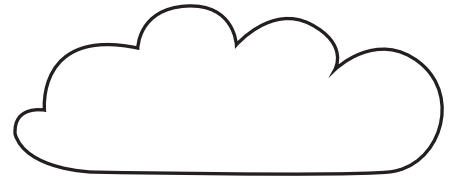
**Basketball** is an important sport to the state of Kansas. The creator of the game, James Naismith, spent much of his life as a coach and teacher at the University of Kansas. Thanks to another Kansas coach, Phog Allen, basketball became an Olympic sport in 1936. There, a U.S. team featuring six players from McPherson won gold medals – presented by Naismith. Draw yourself and your friends playing basketball on this court. Is it in a big arena, or your neighborhood park?



Kansas has seven state universities who field top notch athletic teams each year. Do you know what the mascot of each of these universities is? Draw a line from the name of the university to its mascot.

			
			
Wichita State	Washburn	Pittsburg State	K-State
Emporia State	KU	Fort Hays State	

**Agriculture** is one of the main industries in Kansas with nearly 50 million acres of land devoted to farming. Kansas is the leading state in wheat production, growing nearly 15 percent of all wheat produced in the United States.



Before becoming the 34th President of the United States, Abilene native **Dwight D. Eisenhower** served as a five-star general in the U.S. Army, and as Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces during World War II. Eisenhower served two terms as President, spanning the years of 1953 to 1961, during which he oversaw the beginning of the space race, the construction of the highway system, and the end of the Korean War. A library and museum in his honor can be found in Abilene.



*The Keeper of the Plains* stands in Wichita at the confluence of the Big and Little Arkansas rivers with hands raised in supplication to the Great Spirit. Since the sculpture's installation it has become a symbol for the city of Wichita and a tribute to the Native American tribes who continue to gather at this sacred site.

The 44-foot Cor-Ten steel *Keeper of the Plains* sculpture was created by renowned Native American artist Blackbear Bosin and donated to the citizens of Wichita in 1974 to commemorate the United States' bicentennial.

