

My Name is _____

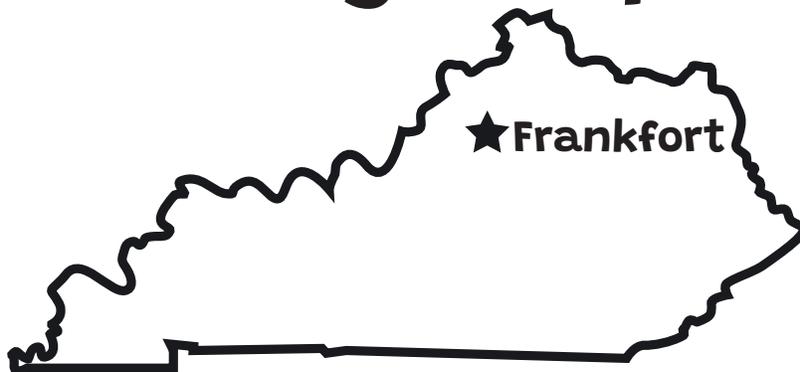
My Senator is _____

My Representative is _____

Kentucky's Capitol



Kentucky's Capital



State Capitol



Kentucky became a state on June 1, 1792. The legislature in 1901 voted to spend \$1 million for a new capitol building. The building was dedicated in 1910. The total cost of the building and furnishings was \$1,820,000—a modest price, even in 1910. It is the state's fourth capitol building. Frank Mills Andrews designed the Capitol and combined the form of Greek architecture with French styling. Andrews included French features on the inside of the Capitol with sculptured archways and cornices, hand-painted murals, stained-glass

skylights, and dark mahogany wood. The Rotunda features statues of important Kentuckians, and the dome is patterned after the dome of Napoleon's tomb in Paris. The elegant interior includes 36 large columns of Vermont granite. The Governor's Office and other executive branch offices are on the first floor. The Supreme Court, the seat of the judicial branch of government, is on the second floor. The Senate and the House of Representatives meet in chambers at opposite ends of the third floor.

Capitol Dome



Kentucky's Capitol dome is modeled after one in Paris, France. Above the four corners of the Rotunda are murals that depict Kentucky's rich history and diverse culture, professions, landmarks, and architecture. They represent the unique landscapes of eastern, western, northern, and southern Kentucky. The murals were part of the original design of the Capitol when it was

first on the architect's drawing table. However, money ran out and the murals were not completed until 2009, as the Commonwealth prepared to celebrate the centennial of the 1910 dedication of the capitol building. Two generous donors provided the money to hire artists to carry out the original vision for the beautiful Rotunda.

4 Famous Kentuckians' statues



Abraham Lincoln

1809-1865



Abraham Lincoln was born in Hardin County and had little formal education in his early years. As an adult, Lincoln became a self-taught lawyer and settled in Illinois. He greatly admired Henry Clay. Lincoln served in the military and then was elected to the Illinois legislature and later won election to the US House of Representatives. His talent for strong debate and eloquent speeches earned him national recognition. He was the Republican nominee for president in 1860 and became the 16th president in 1861. Soon after, the Civil War began over the issue of slavery. Lincoln opposed slavery and in 1863 issued his famous Emancipation Proclamation declaring slaves in Confederate states free. Lincoln won reelection as president in 1864. Lincoln's strategy to end slavery was showing success. However, he never lived to see his most important accomplishment: Lincoln died of an assassin's bullet on April 15, 1865. The Union accepted the Confederate surrender on April 26.

Alben W. Barkley

1877-1956



Alben Barkley was born on a farm near Lowes in Graves County and worked as a janitor to pay for college and law school. He served in the US House of Representatives from 1913 until 1927. He served in the US Senate from 1927 until he became vice president in 1949. Barkley was the last vice president to routinely preside over the Senate. After his term as vice president ended in 1953, Barkley returned to Kentucky. In 1954, he again ran for and won a seat in the US Senate, where he served until his death in 1956, at the age of 78. His grandson called him "The Veep," which caught on and became his nickname for the rest of his life.

are placed in the Capitol Rotunda



Ephraim McDowell
1771-1830



Ephraim McDowell was born in Virginia but moved to Kentucky with his family when he was 12. After studying medicine in Scotland, he returned to Kentucky to set up his medical practice in Danville. McDowell married Sarah Shelby, the daughter of Isaac Shelby, Kentucky's first governor. McDowell also set up an apothecary shop. In 1809, he performed a groundbreaking surgery to remove a 22-pound ovarian tumor from Jane Todd Crawford, who was mistakenly thought to be pregnant. The surgery was successful, and she lived many, many more years. The statue includes a depiction of the tumor, in a bowl on the table behind McDowell.

Henry Clay
1777-1852



Henry Clay was born in Virginia but moved to Lexington to establish his law practice in 1797. He became a major landowner and a successful livestock breeder and farmer. He also was a successful lawyer and became an important statesman. He was elected to the Kentucky General Assembly and went on to become a member of the US Senate, the speaker of the US House of Representatives, and secretary of state. He was known as the "Great Compromiser" because his negotiating skill became invaluable to the future of the United States. His accomplishments include negotiating the Missouri Compromise and helping to secure the Treaty of Ghent to end the War of 1812 between the US and Great Britain. Upon his death, Clay was the first person to be honored by a funeral ceremony in the US Capitol Rotunda.

Old State Capitol



The legislature approved the construction of a new state capitol building in 1827 after the first two were destroyed by fire. Gideon Shryock, a Lexington architect, designed the building. Most of the building is made of “Kentucky River marble,” a local form of limestone. One of the most famous features of the building is the circular stone staircase. Each step fits into the one above it, and all are held in place by a keystone landing on the second floor. The staircase has no visible support.

The Old Capitol was the center of Kentucky politics for nearly 80 years. In 1900, the grounds became the site of a murder. The 1899 election for governor was too close to call, and the state legislature met to

decide who would be the official winner. As William Goebel, the Democratic candidate, walked toward the building, he was shot by a gunman hiding in a nearby office. Afterward, armed citizens and soldiers threatened to fight each other. A peaceful solution was finally reached in court. There is a marker today on the grounds of the Old Capitol where William Goebel fell after being shot.

The Old Capitol was replaced by the current Capitol in the early 1900s, but it is still open today for guided tours.

2 Famous Kentucky Women



Mary Elliott Flanery
1867 - 1933

← Shortly after women won the right to vote, Mary Elliott Flanery became the first woman elected to the General Assembly in 1921 and served in the House of Representatives from 1922-1923. She also has the distinction of being the first woman elected to a legislature in a southern state. She was born in what is now Elliott County and attended the University of Charleston in West Virginia and what is now the University of Kentucky. Flanery was a public school teacher and a journalist and fought for education reform. After her term as a legislator ended, Flanery was still active in politics and served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1924. She was active in the Kentucky Equal Rights Association, and throughout her life was an advocate for women's rights, particularly in marriage and divorce laws.

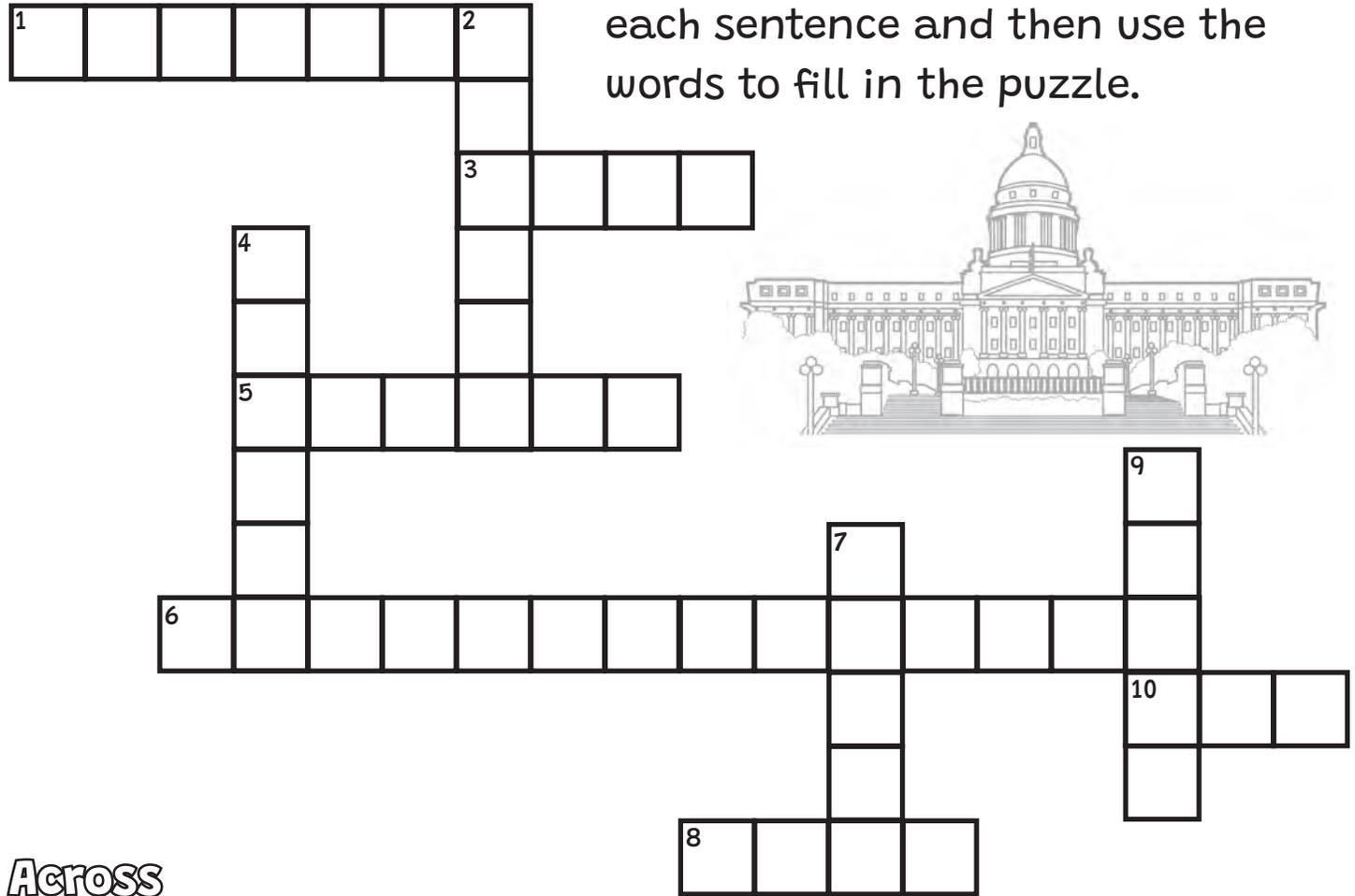
Amelia Moore Tucker
1902 - 1987

→ In 1961, Amelia Moore Tucker was the first African American woman elected to the General Assembly and served in the House of Representatives from 1962-1963. She was born in Alabama and eventually moved to Louisville with her husband. She attended Alabama State Teachers College and the University of Louisville and became a minister. As a legislator, Tucker worked to pass legislation that would make it illegal for businesses to discriminate based on race—the public-accommodation bill. Although the bill failed, part of it did pass that allowed cities to pass their own civil rights measures. She remained active in politics and social justice efforts. Tucker served on the Jefferson County Republican Executive Committee and on President Richard Nixon's advisory board on ethnic groups.



Capitol Crossword

Choose the right word to complete each sentence and then use the words to fill in the puzzle.



Across

1. Members of the legislature are _____ by the citizens of a state.
3. A _____ that is signed by the governor becomes a law.
5. When a bill is signed, it takes _____ days to become a law.
6. A _____ is elected every 2 years.
8. When the governor rejects a bill, it's called a _____.
10. When voting, the legislators vote "yea" for yes and "_____" for no.

Down

2. When the legislators discuss their opinions on an issue, it's called _____.
4. A senator is a member of the _____.
7. The _____ is the building where our governor and legislature work.
9. To change a bill is to _____ it.

Word Bank

- Amend
- Bill
- Capitol
- Debate
- Elected
- Nay
- Ninety
- Representative
- Senate
- Veto



Governor's Mansion

The Governor's Mansion is on the east lawn of the capitol grounds overlooking the Kentucky River. It was designed by Kentuckians CC and EA Weber of Fort Thomas. Nearly 80 feet wide and 200 feet long, the 25-room mansion is made of solid brick and limestone. Since 1914, Kentucky's governors and their families have lived there. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 and is one of the few executive residences in the United States open for guided tours.



Floral Clock

Kentucky's floral clock measures off the minutes a foot and a half at a time, with giant hands weighing about a quarter of a ton apiece. The face of the giant clock is 34 feet across. The minute hand is 20 feet long, and the hour hand is 15 feet long. The planter that holds it weighs 100 tons. Dedicated in

1961, the floral clock was a project of the Commonwealth and the Garden Club of Kentucky.

It takes more than 10,000 plants to fill the clock, all grown in the state's own greenhouses near the Capitol. Coins from the pool are used to benefit young people in Kentucky.



General Assembly Word Search

R	N	A	R	W	A	A	J	V	Q	F	E	B	S	A
A	U	O	Y	K	M	D	E	W	R	E	V	I	O	L
R	M	L	I	V	C	T	J	A	U	B	I	L	O	N
O	L	E	E	T	O	L	N	O	J	A	T	L	O	D
N	G	C	N	S	C	K	P	O	U	D	A	I	V	E
R	C	A	A	D	F	E	T	C	I	R	T	S	S	D
E	O	P	M	O	M	U	L	R	Q	U	N	U	R	U
V	M	I	R	K	Q	E	C	E	T	B	O	Y	E	Y
O	M	T	E	T	O	V	N	I	J	H	S	W	T	C
G	I	A	Z	S	Z	T	T	T	Q	N	E	I	A	N
C	T	L	E	G	I	S	L	A	T	U	R	E	N	L
P	T	S	P	O	N	S	O	R	Q	O	P	K	E	H
A	E	S	F	O	X	H	U	S	J	F	E	B	S	T
E	E	B	C	X	D	S	R	A	R	G	R	E	A	Q
L	O	T	I	P	A	C	M	I	N	O	R	I	T	Y

Adjourn

Amendment

Bill

Capital

Capitol

Committee

Constitution

Election

Frankfort

Governor

House

Law

Legislature

Majority

Minority

Rules

Senate

Sponsor

Veto

Vote

Know Your Legislature

What is the legislature?

The legislature is the branch of government that makes new laws and changes old ones. Our state legislature makes laws only for Kentucky. It is made up of 138 members. These men and women represent the views and concerns of the people in their legislative districts.

What are houses?

The Kentucky legislature is divided into two bodies, called houses—the Senate and the House of Representatives. The 38 senators are elected to 4-year terms; 100 representatives are elected to 2-year terms.

What are political parties?

The members of the two houses also are divided into political groups, called parties. The two major parties are Democrats and Republicans. The group having the larger number of members is called the majority party. The other group is the minority party.

Who can be a legislator?

Senators must be at least 30 years old and immediately before the election must have lived in Kentucky for at least 6 years, the last year in their district. Representatives must be at least 24 years old and must have lived in the state for 2 years, the last in their district.

What are legislative districts?

Kentucky is divided into legislative districts: 38 Senate districts and 100 House of Representatives districts. Each district has about the same number of people in it. The residents of each district elect one senator and one representative. New district boundaries are drawn every 10 years after an official count called a census. A census counts how many people live in the state and where they live.

When does the legislature meet?

Kentucky's General Assembly meets on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January. Even-year sessions last 60 working days and must adjourn no later than April 15. Odd-year sessions last 30 working days and must adjourn no later than March 30. The governor may call the legislators into a special session at any time to discuss important issues.

Road To Passage...



1

Bill is introduced in the Senate or House of Representatives. Revenue and tax bills must begin in the House.

2

Committee on Committees sends bill to a committee for study.



3

Bill is acted upon in committee or ignored and left to die.

4

Bill is given its first reading and placed on the calendar.

5

Bill is given its second reading and sent to the Rules Committee.

6

Rules Committee places on Orders of the Day, or sends bill back to committee for more study.

7

If approved, bill is sent to the other chamber, where it goes through the same process.

8

If the two chambers pass different versions of the same bill, they may appoint a conference committee to work out the differences and send a final bill back to each chamber.

9

If passed by both chambers, bill goes to the governor.

10

Bill is signed by the governor into law, becomes law without signature, or is vetoed.

11

If bill is vetoed, it goes back to each chamber. If approved by a constitutional majority in each chamber, the veto is overridden and the bill becomes law.



How A Bill Becomes A Law

Amendment - a change to an existing bill. Amendments can be as simple as changing a few words or as complex as rewriting the entire bill.

Bill - a written proposal to create or change a law.

Budget - a bill that determines the state's taxes and spending. Budget bills generally begin in the House of Representatives.

Calendar - a list of bills that have had one reading and are ready for a second reading (to become law, bills must have three readings).

Committee on Committees - a group of legislative leaders that assigns each bill to the appropriate committee for study.

Constitutional Majority - half of all the members of a chamber, plus one. A constitutional majority is needed to pass certain types of bills as well as to override a governor's veto.

Floor - where each chamber meets. The term also is used to refer to each chamber as a whole, as in "sending a bill to the House floor."

Orders of the Day - a list of bills and resolutions that are ready in each chamber to be debated or adopted that day.

Rules Committee - a group of legislative leaders and other members that prepares the Orders of the Day.

Simple Majority - half of all the votes cast, plus one.

Statute - another word for a law.

Veto - the governor's rejection of a bill passed by the General Assembly. If each chamber then approves the bill again by a constitutional majority vote, the veto is overridden and the bill becomes law.



4 State Symbols



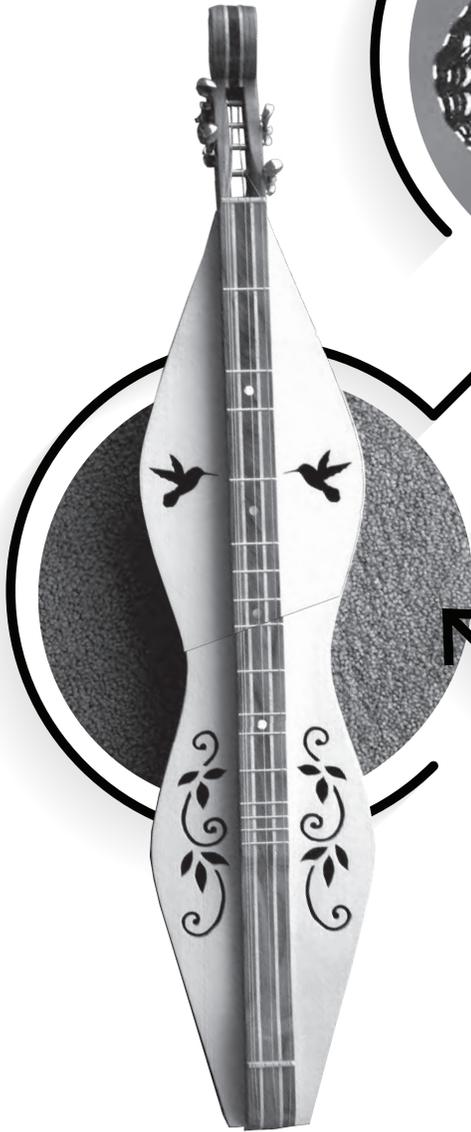
The viceroy butterfly (*Limenitis archippus*) was adopted as the state butterfly in 1990.



The male cardinal has a vivid red plumage. The female is light brown with red highlights.



The blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*) was adopted as the state fruit in 2004.



Settlers from Europe brought the dulcimer with them to Kentucky. It is still important to Kentucky's music tradition.

Kentucky Word Jumble

1. NYKUECTK

2. AGSULSBRE

3. MWLAOCOTMNHE

4. UDTARNO

5. RABAMHA NOILNLC

6. KFOTFNARR

7. NAETSE

8. UHSOE FO RRENEATSITPEVS

9. OGHTURHOERBD

10. PTAOCLI



Answers: 1. Kentucky 2. Bluegrass 3. Commonwealth 4. Rotunda 5. Abraham Lincoln 6. Frankfort 7. Senate 8. House of Representatives 9. Thoroughbred 10. Capitol

Kentucky Facts

☞ Is the grass really blue? Kentucky's nickname is the Bluegrass State even though our grass is actually green! Bluegrass is a common type of grass found throughout the state. In the spring, the grass produces a blue flower that makes fields look blue from a distance.

☞ Kentucky was the 15th state to join the Union and officially became a state on June 1, 1792.

☞ Frankfort became the state capital in 1792.

☞ Mammoth Cave is the world's longest cave system, with more than 336 miles of mapped passages. It is 379 feet deep and contains at least 5 levels of passages. It's second only to Niagara Falls as the most popular tourist attraction in the US. It became a national park on July 1, 1941.

☞ Cumberland Falls is known as the "Niagara of the South." The waterfall is 125 feet wide, falling 60 feet. The mist of Cumberland Falls creates a moonbow visible only on a clear night during a full moon. This unique phenomenon appears nowhere else in the Western Hemisphere.

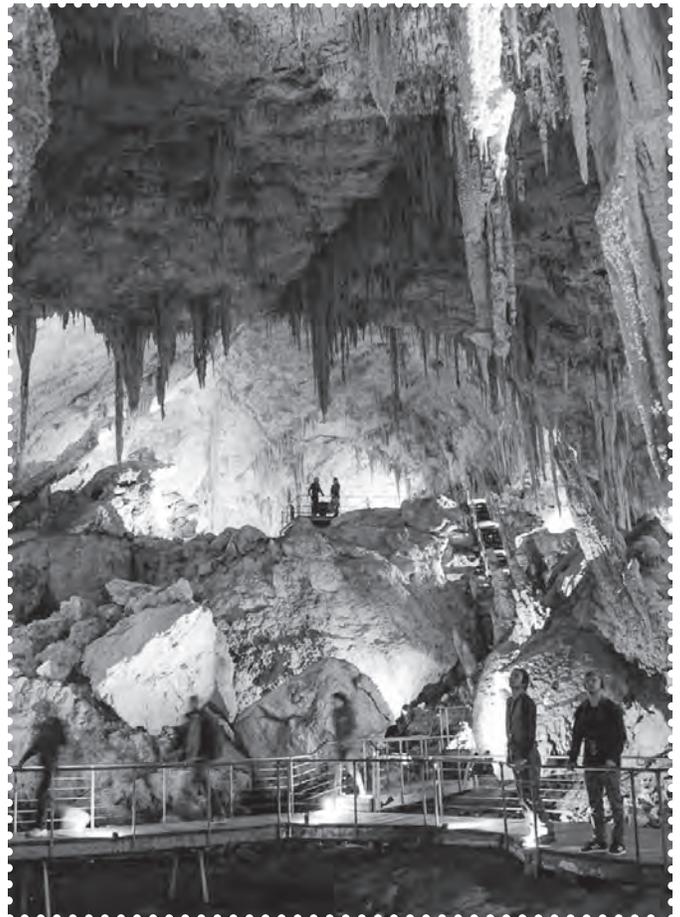
☞ Middlesboro is the only city in the United States built within a meteor crater.

☞ More than \$6 billion worth of gold is held in the underground vaults of Fort Knox. This is the largest amount of gold stored anywhere in the world.

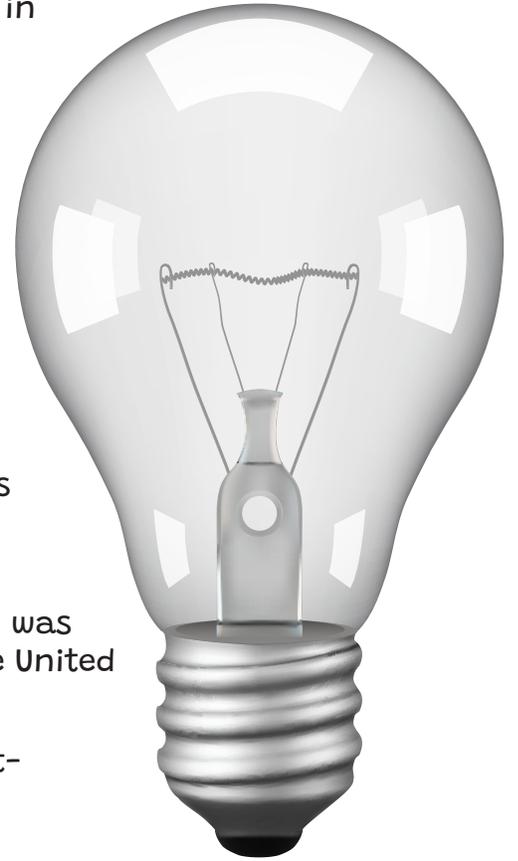
☞ Kentucky has 12.7 million acres of commercial forest land—50 percent of the state's land area—and ranks 3rd among hardwood-producing states.

☞ Kentucky ranks 37th in land size, with 39,732 square miles.

☞ The Ohio River flows 664 miles along the northern and western borders of the state. Kentucky's highest point is Black Mountain in Harlan County, 4,145 feet above sea level; its lowest point, the Mississippi River in Fulton County, is 257 feet above sea level.



- ☞ Kentucky has more miles of running water than any other state except Alaska. The numerous rivers and water impoundments provide 1,100 commercially navigable miles.
- ☛ The first observance of Mother's Day was in Henderson by teacher Mary S. Wilson in 1887. It was made a national holiday in 1916.
- ☞ The World Peace Bell in Newport is the world's largest free-swinging bell. It weighs 66,000 pounds and is 12 feet in diameter and 12 feet tall. Its clapper alone weighs a whopping 6,878 pounds!
- ☛ "Happy Birthday to You" was written in 1893 by sisters Mildred and Patty Hill from Louisville.
- ☞ Thomas Edison first introduced his incandescent light bulb at the Southern Exposition in 1883 in Louisville.
- ☛ More than 100 Kentuckians have been elected governors of other states.
- ☞ High Bridge, located near Nicholasville, was the first cantilever bridge constructed in the United States and was the highest railroad bridge over navigable water in the United States when it was built in 1877.
- ☛ The Jif plant in Lexington is the world's largest peanut-butter-producing facility.



Glossary

Adjourn - when the legislature stops proceedings for the day.

Capital - the city that is the seat of government.

Capitol - the building in which government operates.

Committee - a group of legislators assigned to consider an issue or question.

Constitution - a written document that defines and limits the duties and powers of a government and guarantees certain rights to the people who live within the area it governs.

Election - the process of selecting a person to occupy an office.

Frankfort - the state capital of Kentucky.

General Assembly - the entire body of senators and representatives who make our laws; also called the legislature.

Governor - the chief executive officer of a state.

Law - a bill that has been accepted by both the Senate and House of Representatives and signed by the governor. Most laws take effect 90 days after the end of the session in which they passed.

Legislator - a senator or representative; a lawmaker.

Legislature - the body elected by state citizens under the power of the constitution to enact laws.

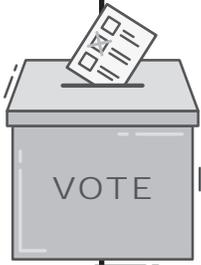
Rules - the code of procedure adopted by each house of the legislature to govern its operation.

Sponsor - the legislator responsible for presenting an item of legislation to the body.

Vote - a decision on a question, either yes or no.



Get Involved



Look around at something you'd like to change or see happen in Kentucky.

Listen to different options and ideas.

Learn as much as you can about the issues and the different options.

Just because you are not old enough to vote doesn't mean you can't have a voice in Kentucky government.

Talk to someone who can vote.

Share your feelings and ideas with your parents, neighbors, friends, relatives, and community leaders.

Join forces!

Work with other people or groups that have the same ideas that you have and tell them to contact their legislators.

Write your legislators.

You may contact your state legislators about a current law, a law that is being considered, or an idea you have for a law. One of the best ways to share your ideas or concerns is to write your legislators a letter.

Find out more about your legislators on our website:
legislature.ky.gov

What Did You Learn?

1. In what year did Kentucky become a state?

2. In what year was the current capitol building dedicated?

3. What is unique about the circular staircase in the Old State Capitol?

4. Who was Kentucky's first governor?

5. What is an "amendment"?

6. What branch of government makes laws?

7. What is a "simple majority"?

8. How many state representatives are there?

9. How many state senators are there?

10. What is the youngest age that a state senator can be?

11. What is the youngest age that a state representative can be?

12. What is a "constitutional majority"?



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