

The State Symbols of Michigan

Look at the list of Michigan's state symbols in the box. Match the names with descriptions on pages 1 and 2. Assemble a woven book on page 3. Make a timeline of Michigan's symbols by writing the date on a square and putting the description on the square next to it.

Kalkaska Soil Robin Redbreast Dwarf Lake Iris Apple Blossom
Chlorastrolite (Greenstone) Petoskey Stone White Pine State Flag
Painted Turtle White-tailed Deer Brook Trout Wolverine State

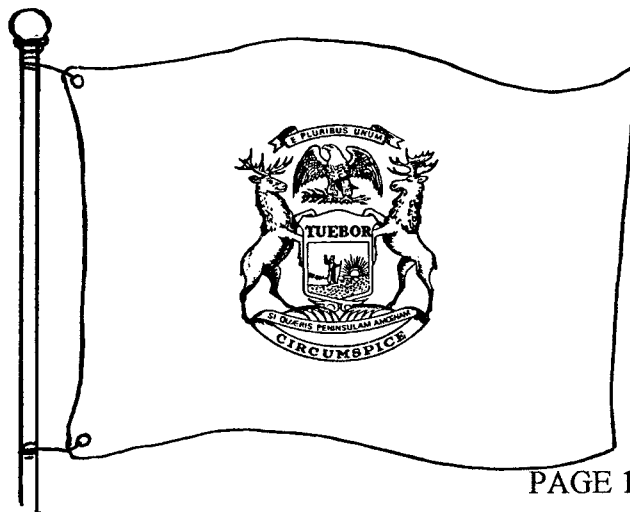
Michigan's official state bird was adopted in 1931. It was chosen by Michigan's school children in a contest. It is brown with a red breast. The nest is built of twigs and mud. It lays bright blue eggs. It does not spend the winter in Michigan.

The state fish is a native of Michigan. It lives in freshwater lakes, rivers and streams throughout the state. It is brown with black spots. It is good to eat. A law passed in 1988 made it the official state fish.

Michigan's state wildflower is native to the state. It can be found on rocky shorelines in the Great Lakes Region. It is purple. It was adopted as the state wildflower in 1998.

Michigan's official state soil was formed in sandy glacial deposits from rotting vegetation. It is made up of many layers. It covers nearly a million acres in twenty-nine counties in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas. It was adopted as the state soil in 1990.

The state gem is a mineral formed by lava flows. It can be found on rocky beaches in Michigan's copper country and on Isle Royale. It was named Michigan's state gem in 1972.



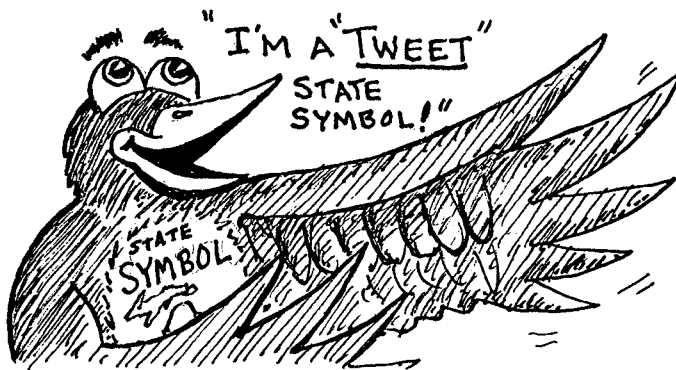
PAGE 1

Michigan's state stone is made up of fossil fragments of corals. It is found in the northern counties of the Lower Peninsula, along the shores of Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and inland lakes. It is gray with dark spots that show up best when wet. It was adopted as the state stone in 1965.

Michigan's state flower was adopted in 1897. It is the blossom of a fruit tree found throughout the state. It has five pink and white petals with a yellow stamen.

The state mammal can be found throughout Michigan. It can run up to forty miles per hour. It is brown and has a white tail. It became the state's mammal in 1997 resulting from efforts of a fourth grade class in Zeeland.

The state reptile is found throughout Michigan. It is four to ten inches in length and has yellow and red markings on it. It became the state reptile in 1995 after students from Niles contacted their legislators asking why Michigan did not have a state reptile.



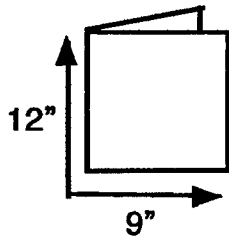
The state tree is one of the tallest pines. It grows in eastern North America. During the great lumbering era, it was cut extensively. It is widely used in construction. Its needles are two or three inches long and are in bundles of five. It became the state tree in 1955.

How and when Michigan got its nickname is a mystery. The University of Michigan's football team and many businesses in Michigan have adopted the nickname. This animal may have lived in Michigan when the climate was much colder.

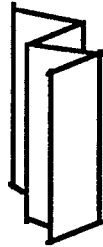
It was adopted in 1911. It is blue and Michigan's Coat of Arms is in the center. Three Latin phrases are on it: *E Pluribus Unum* (from many, one), *Tuebor* (I will defend) and *Si Quaeris Peninsulam Amoenum Circumspice* (If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you.).

WOVEN BOOK

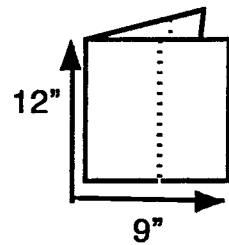
1. Fold a 12" x 18" paper in half.



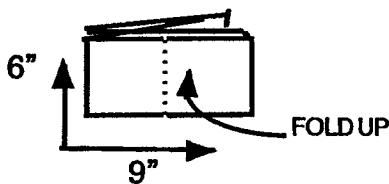
2. Fold each edge back to meet the first fold (accordion fold). Crease.



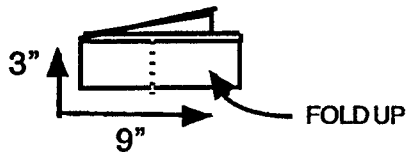
3. Open to the first fold.



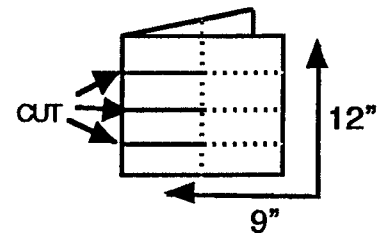
4. Fold in half the other way.



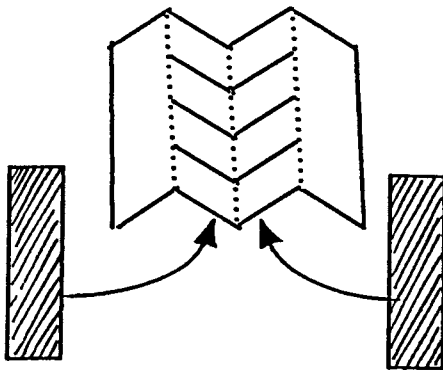
5. Fold one more time. Crease well.



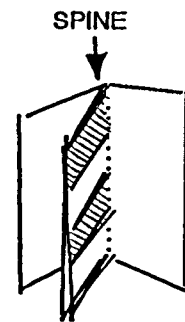
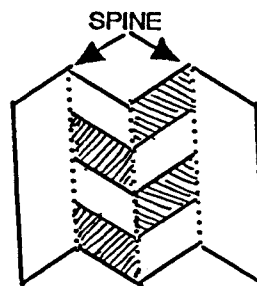
6. Unfold to the first fold. Cut on the creased lines, from the fold to where the creased lines intersect.



7. Open the paper with the center fold facing you. Weave two 12" x 4" strips of another color paper through the slits.



8. Refold as in step 2, with the center fold facing you. Press the spine together.



9. Leave the spine together and pull the center fold apart, separating the two colors. You have a four page book. Use the sections to categorize the State Symbols. Example:

- Row 1: List the State Symbol.
- Row 2: Draw a picture of the State Symbol.
- Row 3: List the year the symbol was adopted.
- Row 4: Write a fact about the symbol.

