

# NORTH CAROLINA ACTIVITY PACKET



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North Carolina State Quarter



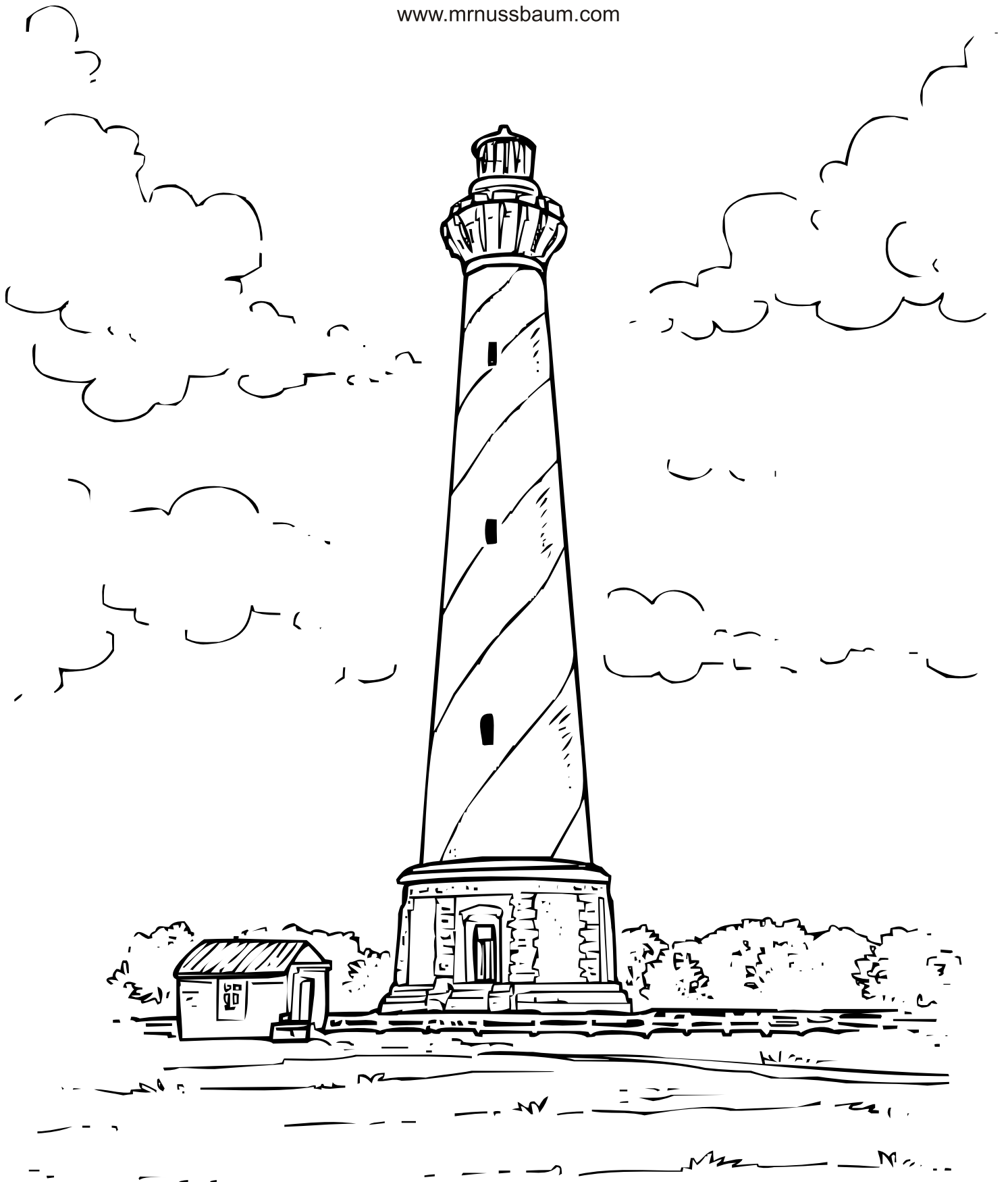


NORTH CAROLINA

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Cape Hatteras Lighthouse



North Carolina Printable Outline Map





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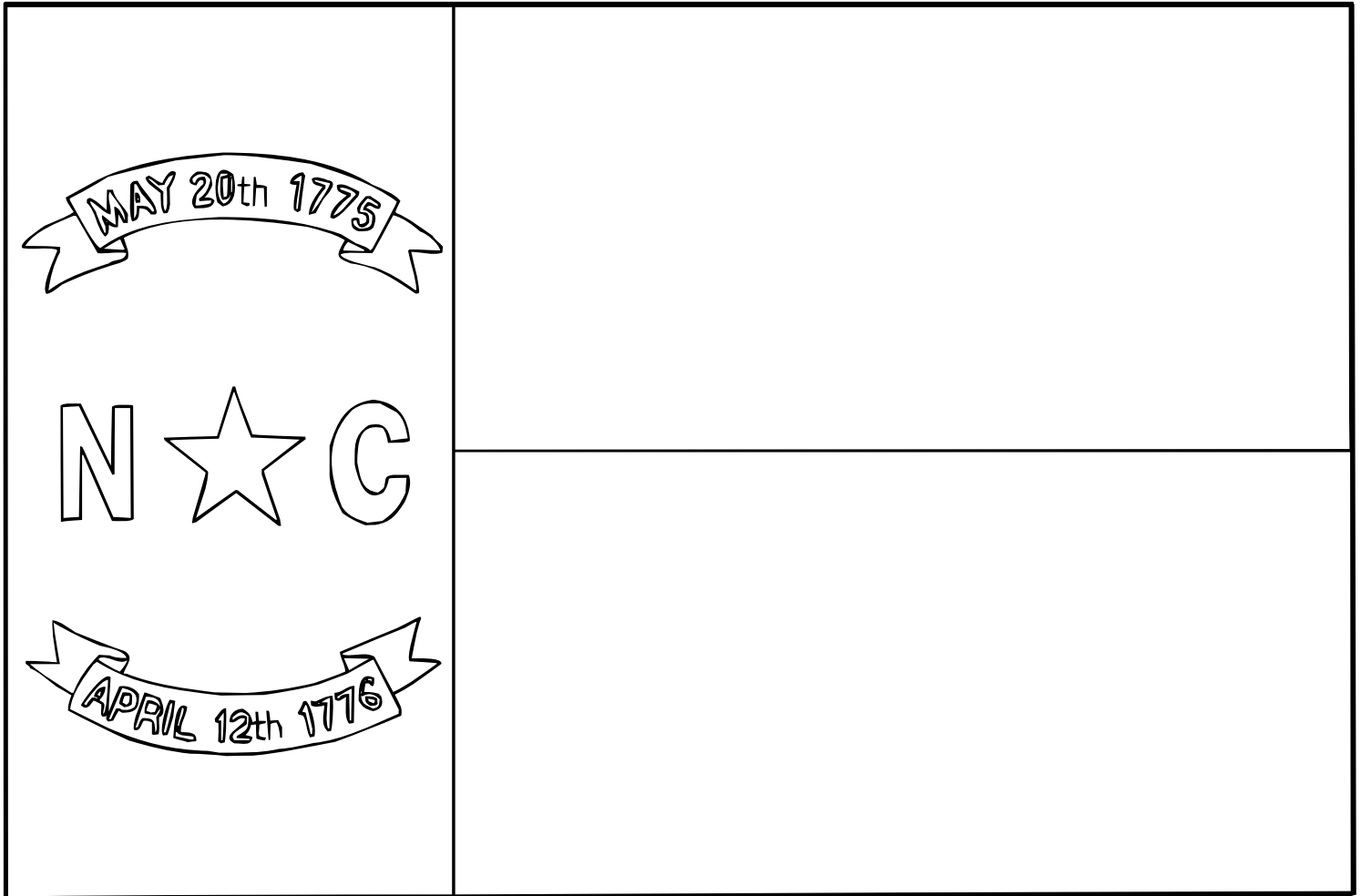
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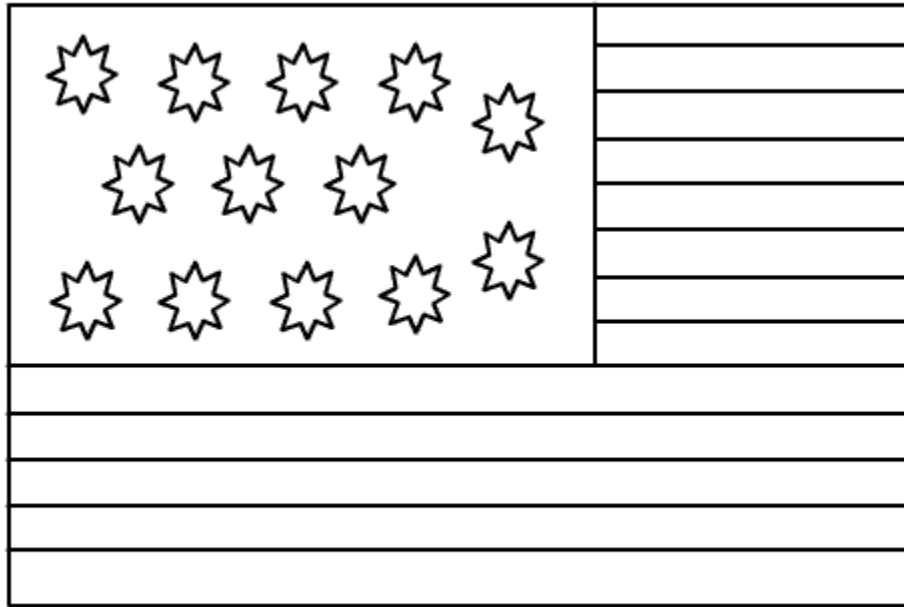


Virginia Dare stamp

5 cents



**NORTH CAROLINA**

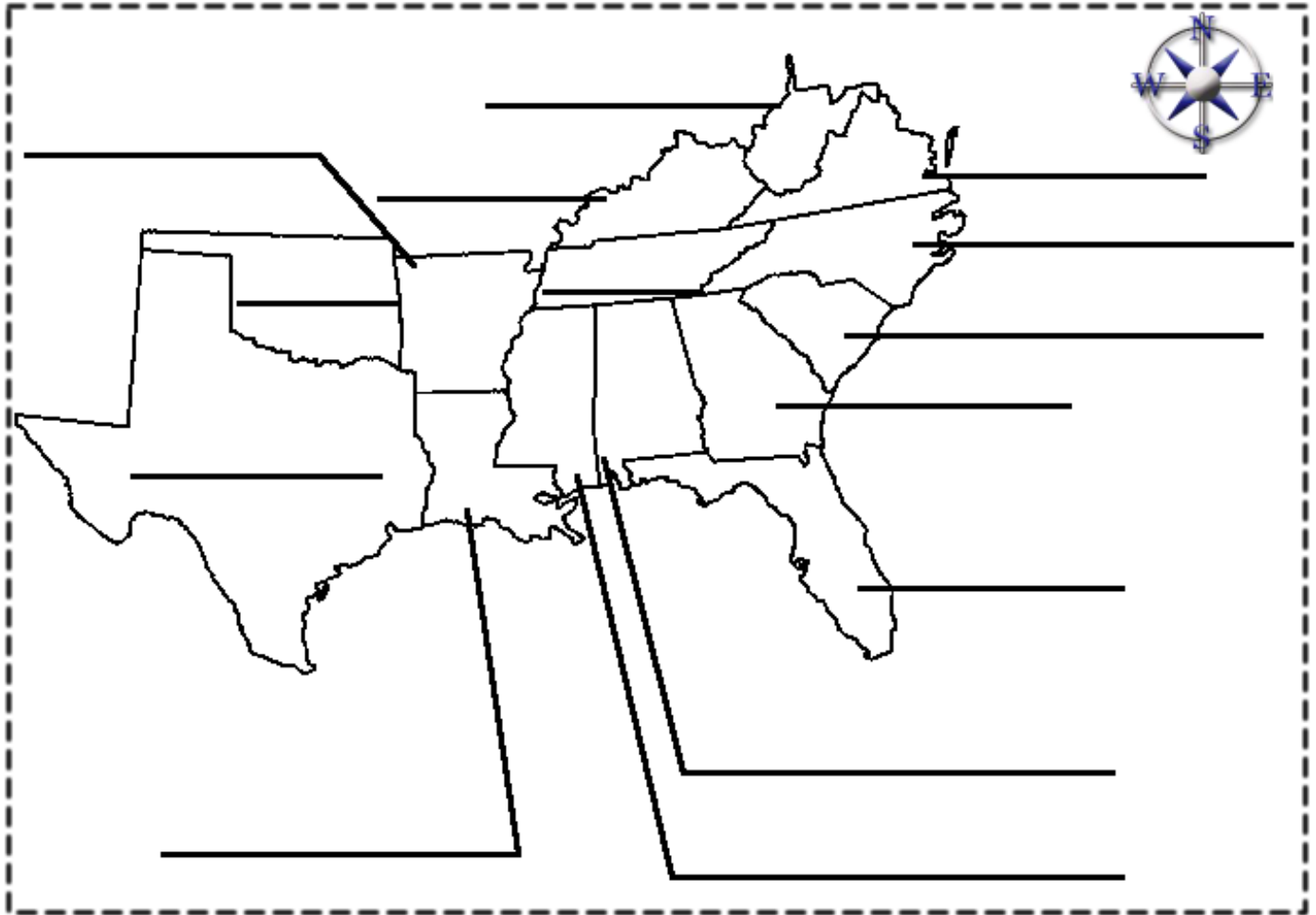


## **Guilford Courthouse Flag**

The Guilford Courthouse flag was flown over the courthouse on March 15, 1781 after Revolutionary forces under the command of Nathaniel Greene, who prevented British forces from advancing inland through the Carolinas, instead, turning them back to the coast. Some historians believe this flag shows a lack of uniformity among the colonial militias as its colors are reversed from those normally seen on American flags, illustrating the point that each army chose its own flag designs.



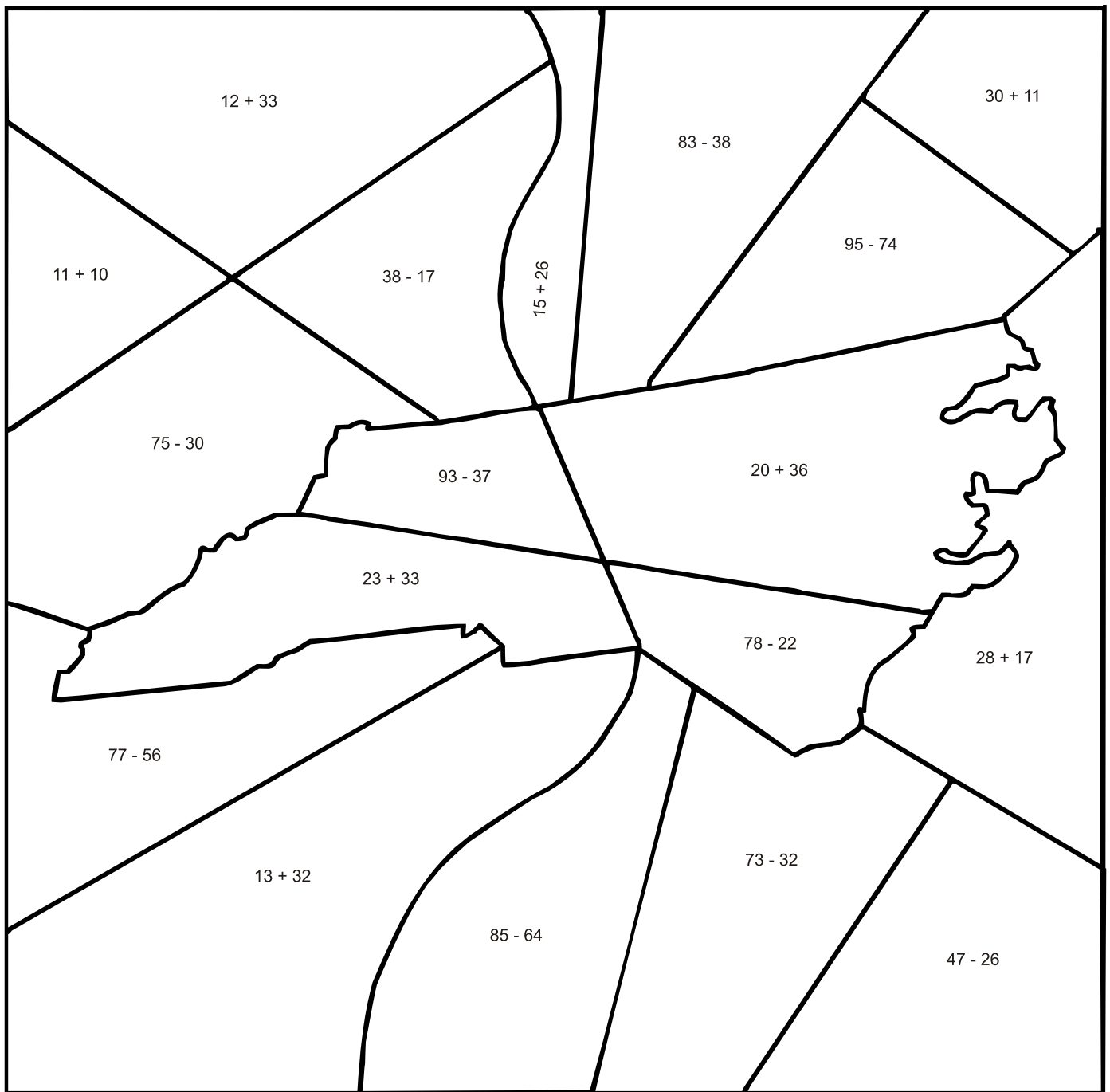
Southern States Label Map





North Carolina stamp

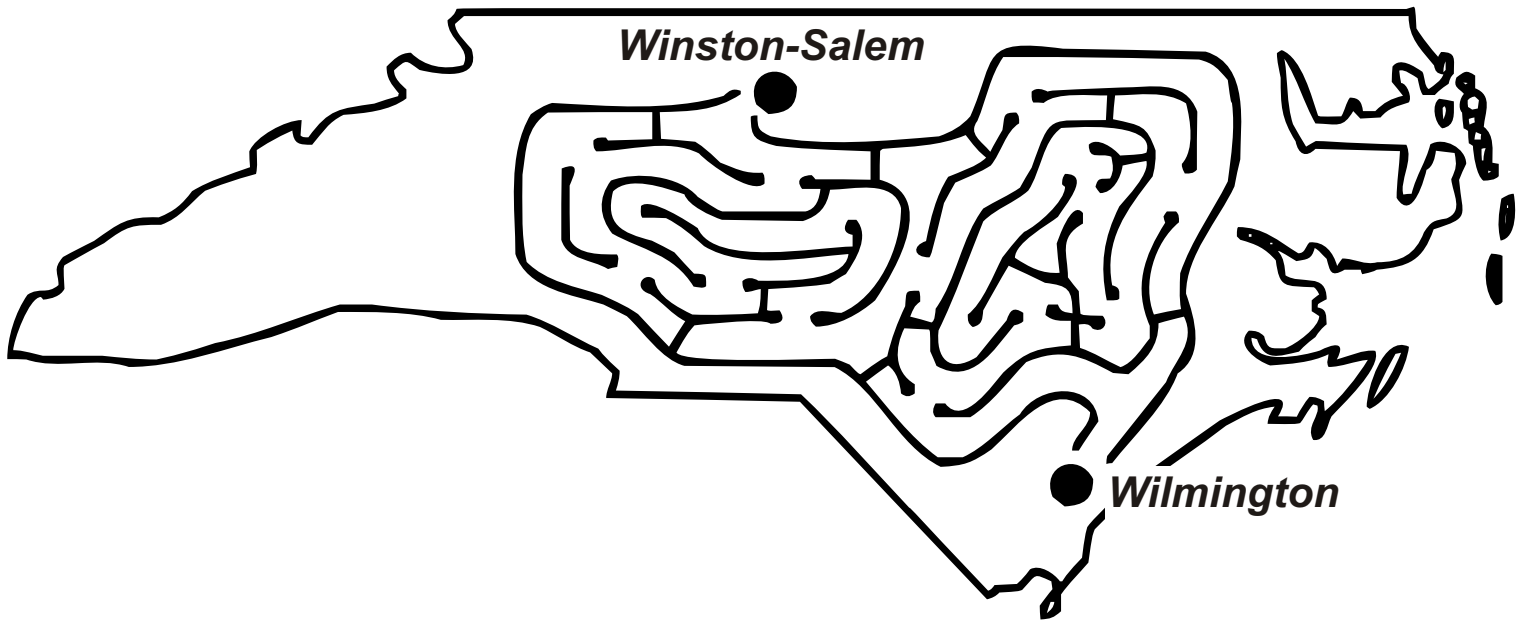
**25** cents

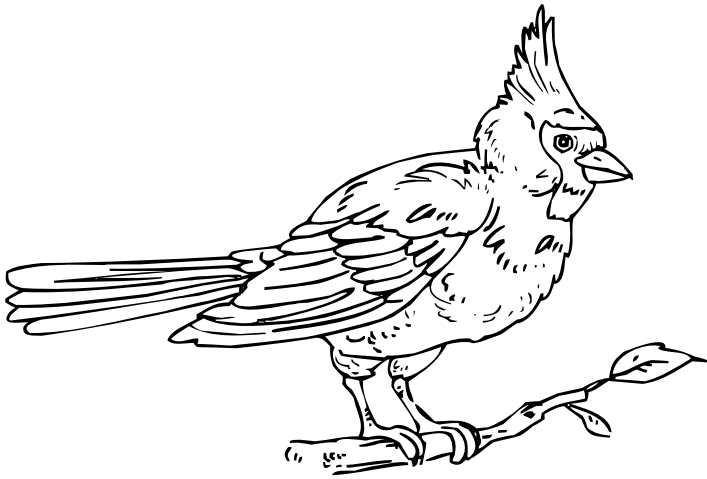


Do you know what state is pictured?

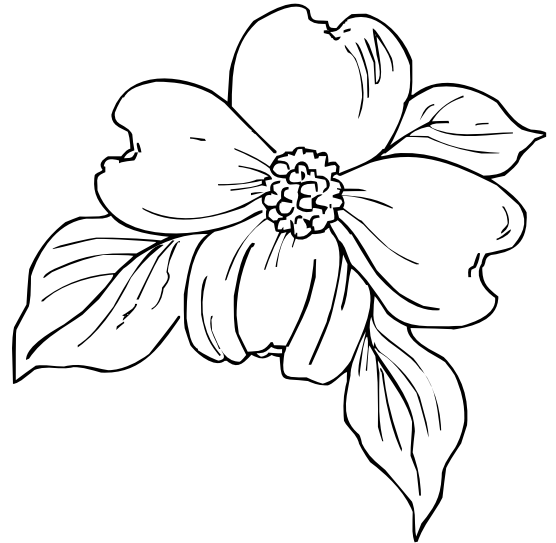
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21 = Blue  
41 = White  
45 = Red  
56 = Light Yellow

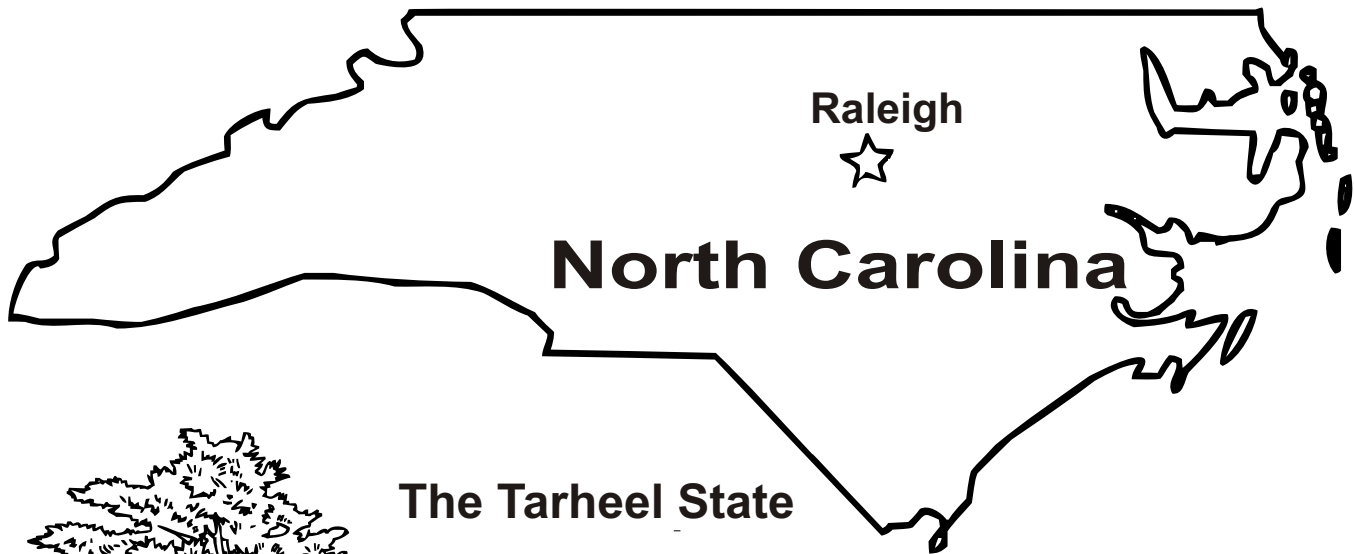




**Cardinal**



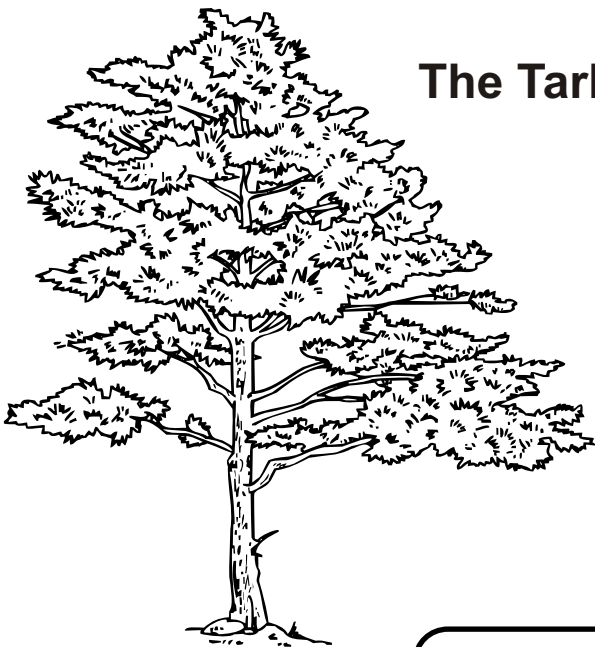
**Flowering Dogwood**



Raleigh

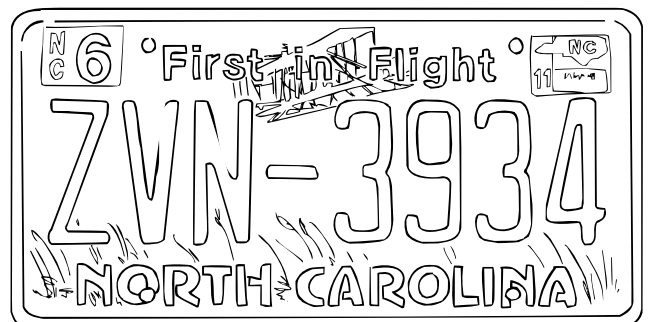
**North Carolina**

**The Tarheel State**



**Pine**

**State license plate**





25 = Brown  
32 = Black  
35 = Red  
39 = Ruby Red  
43 = Green  
46 = Ice Blue



Great Smoky Mountains National Park Printable Reading Comprehension

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Great Smoky Mountains National Park, straddling the mountainous borders of Tennessee and North Carolina, is America's most visited national park, attracting over 11,000,000 people annually. Established in 1934, Great Smoky Mountains National Park was the second national park established east of the Mississippi River.

Located at the southern end of the Appalachian range, the Smoky Mountains are named for the bluish fog that hovers over its peaks and valleys. The Cherokees called the region Shaconage, or, "place of the blue smoke." Great Smoky Mountain National Park features many of the highest peaks in the Appalachian Range, including Clingman's Dome, which rises to 6,643 feet, making it the second highest peak east of the Mississippi River. A total of 16 peaks in the park rise to 6,000 feet or higher.

Because of its varying elevations, the park is home to a wide range of wildlife including thousands of plant species, over 200 species of birds, 50 species of fish and 43 species of amphibians. The park is also inhabited by at least 1,500 black bears. Great Smoky Mountains National Park is a wonderland for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts and features more than 850 miles of trails and unpaved roads.

**1. Great Smoky National Park ...**

- A. was the first national park established east of the Mississippi River
- B. is located in two states
- C. is located at the northern end of the Appalachian Range
- D. has one peak above 6,000 feet in height

**2. What does the following sentence suggest?**

Great Smoky Mountain National Park features many of the highest peaks in the Appalachian Range, including Clingman's Dome, which rises to 6,643 feet, making it the second highest peak east of the Mississippi River.

- A. That Clingman's Dome is the highest peak in the Appalachians
- B. That Clingman's Dome is not located in Great Smoky Mountain National Park
- C. That the Mississippi River has many tall peaks
- D. That there are probably higher mountains west of the Mississippi River

**3. What does “varying” mean in the following sentence?**

Because of its varying elevations, the park is home to a wide range of wildlife including thousands of plant species, over 200 species of birds, 50 species of fish and 43 species of amphibians.

- A. Changing
- B. High
- C. Strong
- D. Uncertain

**4. What question is NOT answered in the passage?**

- A. Are there fish in the park?
- B. How were the Great Smoky Mountains named?
- C. How many peaks are there in the park?
- D. Where is the park located?

**5. What is an “enthusiast” as used in the final sentence?**

- A. Somebody who enjoys something
- B. Someone who is used to hard work
- C. Someone who tries things
- D. Someone who had a lot of wisdom

**6. What is NOT explained about Clingman’s Dome?**

- A. Its rankings in terms of height among North American mountains
- B. How high it rises
- C. Whether or not it is within Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- D. Where it is located relative to the Mississippi River

**7. “Shaconage” could be the answer to what question?**

- A. What does its name mean?
- B. What was the original name of the park?
- C. What native group lived in the region?
- D. What was the region called by the Cherokee?

Michael Jordan Printable Reading Comprehension

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Jordan was born on February 17, 1963, in Brooklyn, New York. Soon after he was born, his parents moved the family to Wilmington, North Carolina. Michael excelled at sports from an early age. Although he was cut from the Laney High School varsity basketball team his sophomore year in high school, he grew four inches over the summer and averaged 25 points per game as a junior. During his senior year, he became the only player in high school basketball history to average a triple-double (at least 10 points, 10 rebounds, and 10 assists per game). That year, 1982, he was named a McDonald's High School All-American and received a scholarship to play basketball at the University of North Carolina. Michael quickly became a star. During his freshman year, he hit the game-winning shot against Georgetown University that resulted in a national championship. After his junior year, Jordan decided to leave North Carolina to enter the NBA draft.

In the draft, the Chicago Bulls picked Jordan third overall. Jordan's impact on the NBA (National Basketball Association) was legendary. During his rookie season with the Bulls, he scored 40 points or more seven times. In addition, Jordan made the NBA All-Star team and won the Rookie of the Year award. After sitting out much of the 1985–1986 season because of a foot injury, Jordan's exploits on the basketball court continued to astound fans, coaches, and fellow players. In the 1986–1987 season, he averaged an unheard of 37.1 points per game, which was the highest of his career.

From making spectacularly unimaginable shots, to winning slam-dunk contents, the high-flying, tongue-wagging Jordan soon became the most popular athlete in the world. Intimidating and extremely competitive, he had a knack for hitting game-winning shots and playing tenacious defense. He established marketing deals with some of the world's largest companies such as Nike, Haines, Gatorade, McDonald's, Wheaties, and MCI. Nike's Air Jordan shoe line became one of the most popular of all time. One Gatorade commercial that featured Jordan and the song "If I Could be Like Mike," is one of the most recognizable commercials involving a professional athlete in TV history. He even starred in the Disney film "Space Jam."

Despite his success both on the court and off, Jordan and the Chicago Bulls failed to make the NBA Finals until 1991, when they finally defeated the rival Detroit Pistons in the Eastern Conference Semifinals. That year, they defeated the Los Angeles Lakers to win the NBA championship and Michael Jordan was named MVP. Jordan and his Chicago Bulls teammates went on to win three consecutive championships from 1991–1993. Michael won the Most Valuable Player in the NBA finals each time. He also won an Olympic gold medal (actually, his second) as one of the captains of America's "Dream Team" in 1992.

In 1994, however, Jordan announced his (first) retirement from basketball to pursue his dream of playing baseball. He played for the Birmingham Barons, a minor league affiliate of the Chicago White Sox. Michael was less than successful in baseball. He only batted .203 and was never called up to the Major Leagues. In 1995, Michael Jordan decided to come back to the NBA and briefly wore the number "45" because "23" had already been retired by the Bulls. He would go on to lead the Bulls to three more NBA championships. Once again, he was selected as the MVP of the NBA Finals each time. On January 13, 1999, with seemingly nothing more to prove or accomplish, Michael Jordan retired for a second time. Despite his retirement, Jordan could not let go of his competitive urges. In 2001–2002, after serving as an executive for the Washington Wizards, Jordan returned to the court as a guard for them. Although his skills had declined, he averaged 22.9 points per game. On February 21, 2003, he became the first 40-year-old player to score 40 points in a game. On April 16, 2003, Jordan played his very last game in the NBA against the Philadelphia 76ers. The normally harsh Philadelphia fans gave him a three-minute standing ovation. In addition, the Miami Heat retired the number "23," even though Jordan had never played for them. Jordan retired forever after the 2003 season. He ended his career as the NBA's third all-time leading scorer with 32,292 total points. He led the NBA in scoring ten times during his career and made the NBA all-defensive team nine times.

Today, Michael Jordan is still involved with the NBA as the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats.

- 1. What happened between Michael's sophomore and junior years in high school?**
  - A. He scored 25 points per game as a junior
  - B. He averaged a triple-double per game
  - C. He grew four inches
  - D. He was offered a scholarship to Georgetown University
- 2. Which of the following was true about Michael's college career?**
  - A. He was part of a team that won a national championship
  - B. He left college after his junior year to enter into the NBA draft
  - C. He attended the University of North Carolina
  - D. All of the Above
- 3. Which of the following statements best describes how Jordan's NBA career started?**
  - A. He had growing pains
  - B. He fizzled out early in his career
  - C. He was an immediate star
  - D. His first two years were the best two years of his career
- 4. If the answer to a question is "1986-1987," what could be the question?**
  - A. In what season was Jordan drafted?
  - B. In what season did Jordan suffer a series foot injury?
  - C. In what season did Jordan have the highest scoring average in his career?
  - D. In what season did the Bulls make its first NBA finals?
- 5. Which is NOT true about Michael Jordan?**
  - A. He also enjoyed a successful baseball career
  - B. He starred in a Disney film
  - C. He was on teams that won six combined NBA championships
  - D. He won two Olympic medals
- 6. Why did Michael Jordan retire for the second time?**
  - A. He was getting old
  - B. He was injured
  - C. He had nothing left to accomplish
  - D. He felt his days of winning NBA championships were over
- 7. Which of the following best supports the notion that Jordan was one of the most respected athletes of all time?**
  - A. He averaged 22.9 points per game with the Washington Wizards
  - B. He became the first player to score 40 points in a game at age 40
  - C. Even the harsh fans in Philadelphia gave him a standing ovation
  - D. He is now the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats

**Carolina Parakeet**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_



Did you know that America was once the home of a kind of parrot known as the Carolina parakeet? These colorful birds were common across much of the eastern and central United States as late as the early 1800s. Unlike most parrots throughout the world, the Carolina parakeet could thrive in non-tropical areas, and may have lived as far north as Canada!

The Carolina parakeet was mostly green. It had a yellow head and red face. It weighed about four ounces, or, about a quarter of a pound. These birds lived in forests and swamps and fed on seeds and fruit. Carolina parakeets were thought to benefit farmers because they ate an agricultural pest known as the cocklebur. For this reason, Carolina parakeets were also thought to be toxic to cats. These birds nested in tree cavities and often congregated in noisy flocks of hundreds of birds. They made easy targets for hunters, who killed them by the dozens.

Hunting and habitat loss played a critical role in the rapid decline of parakeet populations in the mid and late 1800s. Other factors such as disease probably played a large role as well, though scientists still aren't sure how or why the population collapsed so rapidly. By the early 1900s, Carolina parakeets were well on their way to extinction. The last bird, named Incas, died in the Cincinnati Zoo in 1918. Coincidentally, it died in the same cage as Martha, the last passenger pigeon, who died four years earlier.

**1. How was the Carolina Parakeet different from other parrots?**

- A. It had a green body
- B. It had a red face
- C. It lived in non-tropical areas
- D. It fed on seeds

- 2. What probably happened on American farms as populations of Carolina parakeets continued to decline?**
  - A. Pests like the cocklebur became more harmful
  - B. Pests like the cocklebur died out
  - C. Carolina parakeets became easier targets for hunters
  - D. Carolina parakeets moved to more tropical locations
- 3. Which is NOT true about Carolina parakeets?**
  - A. They weighed less than a pound
  - B. They lived north of Canada
  - C. They could sometimes be found in large, noisy flocks
  - D. They were common in America in the 1700s
- 4. Why did populations of Carolina parakeets decline so rapidly?**
  - A. Scientists aren't sure
  - B. Habitat Loss
  - C. Disease
  - D. They were killed by cats
- 5. What do passenger pigeons and Carolina parakeets have in common?**
  - A. They are both extinct
  - B. They are both endangered
  - C. They are both toxic to cats
  - D. They were both still common in the late 1800s
- 6. Which of the following is an example of irony?**
  - A. Incas was the last Carolina parakeet
  - B. Passenger pigeons and Carolina parakeets were both endangered before they became extinct
  - C. Both Incas and Martha died in the same cage
  - D. Habitat loss played a role in the decline of both species
- 7. Which of the following is true?**
  - A. Incas died four years before Martha
  - B. The passenger pigeon became extinct after the Carolina parakeet
  - C. Martha was the last Carolina parakeet
  - D. The Carolina parakeet became extinct after the passenger pigeon



## **NORTH CAROLINA COLONY Reading Comprehension**

North Carolina was first settled in 1587. 121 settlers led by John White landed on present-day Roanoke Island on July 22, 1587. It was the first English settlement in the New World. On August 18, 1587, White's daughter gave birth to Virginia Dare, the first English child born in the New World. By 1590, however, all of the colonists on the island had disappeared. To this day, no one knows what happened to them, though some believe they integrated with and were absorbed by one of the local tribes. Today, the colony is referred to as the "Lost Colony."

The first permanent English settlement in North Carolina occurred in 1655 when Nathaniel Batts, a Virginia farmer, migrated to an area just south of Virginia with the hopes of finding suitable farmland.

In 1663, King Charles II awarded eight noblemen, called the Lords Proprietors, the Province of Carolina (named after the king) in appreciation of their efforts in helping him regain the throne of England. At the time, the Province of Carolina included both present-day North and South Carolina.

In 1665, Sir John Yeamans established a second permanent colony in North Carolina on the Cape Fear River near present-day Wilmington. In 1670, a settlement near present-day Charleston, South Carolina (Charles Town), was established. This settlement grew quickly because it had a natural harbor that allowed easy access to trade with the West Indies. Charles Town soon became the principal seat of government for the entire region. Because of the distance between Charles Town and points in the northern part of the colony, the terms "North Carolina" and "South Carolina" came into use.

In 1729, the Lords Proprietors sold their interests in the Carolina colony back to the English Crown, and North and South Carolina became separate royal colonies.

**1.) The colony at Roanoke Island was...**

- a.) the first English settlement in the New World.
- b.) washed away by a hurricane.
- c.) the last English settlement in the New World.
- d.) permanent.

**2.) What definitely happened at Roanoke Island?**

- a.) The first English child in the New World was born.
- b.) They were killed by a hurricane.
- c.) Everyone had disappeared by 1587.
- d.) The settlers integrated with a local tribe.

**3.) Why did King Charles II award the Lords Proprietors the Province of Carolina?**

- a.) He was grateful to them.
- b.) He was afraid of them.
- c.) He wanted to take over the New World.
- d.) He was interested in making a lot of money.

**4.) Who was the first person to establish a permanent settlement in North Carolina?**

- a.) John White
- b.) Nathaniel Batts
- c.) The Lords Proprietors
- d.) John Yeamans

**5.) What question is answered in the second paragraph?**

- a.) Who was John White?
- b.) How successful was Nathaniel Batts?
- c.) Why did Nathaniel Batts migrate to North Carolina?
- d.) Why was Nathaniel Batts a farmer?

**6.) Where was North Carolina's second permanent settlement?**

- a.) the Lost Colony
- b.) Charles Town
- c.) Roanoke Island
- d.) on the Cape Fear River

**7.) Why did Charles Town grow quickly?**

- a.) Its harbor was close to the West Indies.
- b.) Its harbor was close to inland river ports.
- c.) People were given large land grants.
- d.) It was warm and sunny.

**8.) What does the word "principal" mean in the following sentence?**

Charles Town soon became the principal seat of government for the entire region.

- a.) main
- b.) strong
- c.) large
- d.) federal

**9.) Which of the following do you KNOW about Sir John Yeamans from the passage?**

- a.) The location of his birth
- b.) The location of his residence before founding the settlement
- c.) The date in which he left the settlement he founded
- d.) The location of the settlement he founded

**10.) The EFFECT of the establishment of Charles Town was...**

- a.) the terms "North Carolina" and "South Carolina" came into use
- b.) it had a great natural harbor.
- c.) the Lords Proprietors sold Carolina back to the king.
- d.) it was close to the West Indies.

The “Lost Colony at Roanoke” was a settlement of 117 men, women and children that landed on Roanoke Island in 1587. It was the first English colony in the New World. The colony was funded by Sir Walter Raleigh and led by his friend John White. Raleigh had received a charter from Queen Elizabeth I. The main purpose of the expedition was to find riches in the New World. A secondary purpose of the colony was to establish a base for which the queen’s privateers could attack Spanish treasure galleons. The colonists who settled Roanoke may have first believed their settlement was to be established on the Chesapeake Bay to the north.

Soon after arrival, the first English child in the New World was born, White’s granddaughter, Virginia Dare. It quickly became apparent, however, that the colony needed additional supplies to survive. The settlers convinced John White to return to England to garner the necessary supplies. White, however, was unable to return to the island because of the onset of the Anglo-Spanish War in 1588. Because of the war, White could not procure a ship as all were being used in the war.

White was finally able to return to the colony on August 18, 1590, aboard a privateering vessel. This date also happened to be the third birthday of his granddaughter, Virginia Dare. White was astonished to find the island completely deserted. There was no sign of any of the settlers, nor was there evidence of any fight or struggle. The only clue was the word “Croatoan” carved into a nearby post. All fortifications were dismantled, rather than destroyed, which suggested a departure may have been planned by the settlers.

There are several theories regarding the disappearance of the settlers. One of the leading theories is that the Roanoke settlers integrated with one of the local native groups to ensure their survival. We do know that the colonists arrived at Roanoke Island during one of the greatest droughts the region had ever experienced. This would have made it very difficult to grow crops or find drinking water. Others believe the colonists may have been killed by the Spanish, or, by other native groups. The Algonquin chief Powhatan, father of Pocahontas, claimed to have killed the Roanoke settlers.

The mystery of the Roanoke Island settlement lives on today. Scientists will probably never know what fate befell those settlers, but do know the failure of the colony led the English to establish the Jamestown Colony, the first permanent, successful English settlement in the New World, in 1607.

- 1. Which of the following could describe the purpose of the Roanoke Colony?**
  - A. Primarily to find riches but also to spread religion

- B. Primarily to set up a base for privateering but also to find riches
- C. Primarily to spread religion but also to find riches
- D. Primarily to find riches but also to set up a base for privateering

**2. Who was Sir Walter Raleigh?**

- A. The man who paid for the Roanoke settlement
- B. The man who led the Roanoke settlement
- C. One of the settlers of Roanoke
- D. The man who gave the charter to the settlers of Roanoke

**3. Why did John White leave the Roanoke Colony?**

- A. He was sick and needed to get back to England
- B. There was a war going on between England and France
- C. He needed to pick up more settlers to bring to Roanoke
- D. He needed to pick up more supplies from England

**4. What was the effect of the Anglo-Spanish war on the Roanoke settlers?**

- A. Life became very dangerous at Roanoke
- B. Roanoke settlers could not get supplies they needed
- C. The colony fell apart and the settlers integrated with native groups
- D. John White left for England in 1587

**5. Which is NOT true about the settlement at Roanoke?**

- A. It was the site of the first English child born in the New World
- B. The region was enduring one of the worst droughts in its history
- C. The colonists believed they would be landing near the Chesapeake Bay
- D. When John White returned, he saw the fortifications were destroyed

**6. What could be a synonym for “procure” in the following sentence?**

Because of the war, White could not procure a ship as all were being used in the war.

- A. Obtain
- B. Sell
- C. Require
- D. Barter

**7. Which of the following is a theory?**

- A. The word Croatoan was carved into a nearby post on Roanoke Island
- B. The fortifications at Roanoke were dismantled rather than destroyed
- C. John White returned to Roanoke on his granddaughter’s third birthday
- D. The Colonists integrated with local native groups to ensure their survival



### Unsolved Mysteries

The story of the Lost Colony of Roanoke remains one of the great unsolved mysteries in American history. The only clue to the disappearance of the first English colony in the New World, was the word “Croatoan” carved into a post or tree. According to John White, the founder of the colony, there was no evidence of a struggle, a hurried exit, or of any sudden danger. These happenings would have been marked by the presence of a carved cross. In fact, he was said to have been comforted by the carving, as it suggested to him that the settlers had moved inland, possibly to integrate with the local Hatteras (Croatoan) native group, led by Manteo. While the above might be the best and most widely accepted theory concerning the fate of the colony, it is likely the world will never have a definitive answer.

Mysteries are not only a part of history, but also of everyday life. Mysteries also play a prominent role in entertainment. There are books, movies, board games, and video games based on mysteries. Today, many kids play the game Among Us, which can be considered a complex mystery game. In the spaces provided below, detail a mystery that has occurred in your own life and explain your theory on what happened. If you can't think of an example from your life, detail one from history, current events, literature, movies, or video games.

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## Imagine: Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Imagine you are visiting Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Read the description and draw the picture to the best of your ability.

A still fog rises over and across the ancient hills, shrouding them in an ashy, haze, through which only hints of black forest escape to visibility. But soon, the sun powers through the cloak of thickness and casts an eerie, pink glow which fills the smoky scene with splashes of morning color.





## Venus Fly Trap Reading Comprehension

Name \_\_\_\_\_

What has a gaping red mouth, long fearsome teeth, and can snap food from the air in the blink of an eye? A dragon? Some frightening beast? Few people would guess that this frightening creature is the humble Venus fly trap, a plant smaller than the size of your hand.

The fleshy “mouth” of a fly trap is not like the mouths of people or dogs or any other creatures. This trap is made of a tough plant fiber and snaps shut when crawling or flying insects brush past. Unlike many other carnivorous creatures, which have complex systems for processing food, all of the work of digestion in a Venus fly trap happens in its leafy trap. First, the trap has to ensure that insects cannot easily escape to freedom. Long tooth-like pieces called cilia frame the opening of the trap. The cilia cage the insects and prevent them from escaping the trap’s leafy jaws. From here, the fly trap faces a challenge. In the wild, pieces of debris can fall from passing animals and other plants to trigger the trap. Instead of wasting precious energy on inedible objects, the plant waits to feel the object move before beginning digestion. If the object is still, the trap will soon open and release the debris. The plant can then await its next victim. If a live insect is sensed, however, the trap will flood with wet digestive juices that will break down the body of its victim into usable nutrients.

Scientists believe that the hunt for nutrients is the reason why the ancient ancestors of Venus fly traps evolved methods to attract and digest insects. Venus fly traps and other carnivorous plants most commonly grow in bogs. The soil in boggy habitats is acidic and lacks sufficient nutrients for many plants to grow. It is possible that some bog plants developed a taste for insects as a novel way of obtaining nutrients. The snapping leaves of the Venus fly trap, however, are unique even among carnivorous plants. Other carnivorous plants use slippery leaves or sticky hairs to trap insects. Scientists think that the Venus fly trap is most closely related to the sticky hair type of carnivorous plant. The development of a trap mechanism meant that the Venus fly trap could better hold on to wriggly insect prey than its relatives with simpler sticky mechanisms.

**1. What is the author's purpose in the first paragraph?**

- a.) To excite the reader
- b.) To inform the reader
- c.) To persuade the reader
- d.) To confuse the reader

**2. Which part of a Venus Fly Trap is most similar to a human mouth?**

- a.) The cilia
- b.) The trap
- c.) The digestive juices
- d.) The sticky hairs

**3. What might happen to a Venus Fly Trap that is missing its cilia?**

- a.) The Venus Fly Trap would catch more prey than usual
- b.) The Venus Fly Trap would be stickier
- c.) The Venus Fly Trap would not spring closed as quickly
- d.) The Venus Fly Trap would have more prey escape its trap

**4. Based on the following sentence, what could be the best definition for the word "debris"?**

*In the wild, debris can fall from passing animals and other plants to trigger the trap.*

- a.) Leaves
- b.) Gravel
- c.) Particles
- d.) Trash

**5. Which of the following is not a step of the Venus Fly Trap's eating process?**

- a.) Digestive juices flood the trap
- b.) The plant waits to feel for movement from the caught object
- c.) Plant fibers move the insect into place for digestion
- d.) The trap springs shut when an object brushes by

**6. What would be the best choice as a heading for the final paragraph?**

- a.) "Unique Plants of the Bogs"
- b.) "The Family Tree of the Venus Fly Trap"
- c.) "Mechanisms of Carnivorous Plants"
- d.) "Nutrient Processing of the Venus Fly Trap"

**7. Which feature does the Venus Fly Trap not share with the other carnivorous plants?**

- a.) Lives in bog habitats
- b.) Eats insects to obtain nutrients
- c.) Lives in acidic soil
- d.) Uses a snapping trap mechanism to catch prey