



Learning is FUN with STAMPS!



The Postal History Foundation treasure chests and stamp files contain MILLIONS of United States and foreign stamps. We can use them to learn a lot about the United States and the World as well as have fun with reading, writing, history, geography, math, and art. Below are ideas for learning with stamps. Stamps provided are for educational use only and cannot be sold or used on letters as they are cancelled. For more information visit our website at www.postalhistoryfoundation.org, contact YES at education@phftucson.org, or visit the PHF at 920 N. First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719. 502-623-6652 M-F 8am -2:30 pm

Language Arts

- ⇒ Make an alphabet book using stamps. Example: Find a stamp that shows a picture of something that starts with A, and then B, and so on. A = apple, airplane, etc.
- ⇒ Make a vocabulary (dictionary) booklet. Glue the stamp on the booklet page and write the word that goes with the stamp. Write a sentence using the word in it. Identify the word as a noun, verb, adjective, etc.
- ⇒ Write a story or sentences using stamps for the nouns.
- ⇒ Use stamps as story starters or to inspire a poem.

History

- ⇒ Find US. Presidents and make a booklet - Research the president in the library or on the internet and write basic facts about each one.
- ⇒ Make timelines of historical events using stamps. Some examples are space exploration, decades, wars, etc.
- ⇒ Find a stamp about a famous, person, place or thing and look it up in the library. Read about it and write a paragraph, poem, or sentence. Attach the stamp to the top of your page. Draw a picture to go with it.

Geography

- ⇒ Pick out stamps from different countries and attach them to a world map. (We suggest buying a large wall map.)
- ⇒ Make your own international passport book and find stamps from countries that you want to visit. Use the library or internet to get information about the countries such as population, currency, capital, language, etc. (Basic passport forms can be found on our web page.)
- ⇒ Choose stamps connected with each U.S. state and attach them to a US map. (A large wall map is more fun!)
- ⇒ Find stamps about individual U.S. states to put in a US passport booklet. Include important information.

Math

⇒ Use stamps to make up math problems. Glue the stamps on a piece of paper to make a problem.

- ⇒ Find stamps that add up to postal costs listed below:

Letters—50¢ Postcards—35¢
 71¢ - 2 oz. letter
 \$1.15— 1 oz. letter to another country

- ⇒ Use stamps for number recognition. Make a booklet of as many different numbers as you can find in order.
- ⇒ Use the smaller (definitive) stamps to teach counting. Separate one stamp from a pile and say the number "one", separate two stamps and say "two."
- ⇒ Parents or teachers can choose multiples of a few stamps to create a sequence pattern. Have the child finish the pattern. Children can make their own sequences.
- ⇒ Have students sort stamps by topic: living verses non-living, planes vs. trains, flowers vs. trees, anything they should learn to recognize.
- ⇒ Use stamps to learn how to make bar graphs.
- ⇒ Study the denomination change on stamps over the years to figure out the % of change.

Art

⇒ Think about a person, place or thing that you think is worthy to be on a stamp and design your own stamp. Research information about your topic in the library so you can design a stamp that reflects what that person, place or thing is all about. Make sure you include USA and Forever on the edge of your picture. Use our stamp outline on our web site.

- ⇒ Choose an artist on a stamp and study that person's style and technique. Use our blank stamp outline or blank paper to create a picture in the style of that artist. Attach the artist's stamp to the top of the picture.
- ⇒ Find a stamp you like, glue it to the middle of a piece of paper and create an extension of the picture with colored pencils, crayons, or paint. In other words, draw a picture that connects with the stamp. Or use stamps in a comic strip that you draw.