

Learning with Stamps - Ideas

2025 The Postal History Foundation treasure chests and stamp files contain MILLIONS of United States and Foreign stamps. We use stamps to learn about the United States and the World, as well as history, geography, math, science, and art, and more. To order stamps for learning go to www.postalhistoryfoundation.org and click on the Education tab, Education Store, or contact the education director at education@phftucson.org 520-623-6652 x 102

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 a 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 U.S. Presidents and make a booklet - Research the presidents 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 research it in the library. Write a paragraph, poem, or sentence. Attach the stamp to the top of your page. Draw a picture to go with it.

Geography

- ⇒ Find stamps from different countries and attach them to a wall map of the world. Or find stamps that commemorate U.S. States and attach them to a U.S. 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 are on our web page under activities.)
- ⇒ Find U.S. state stamps and attach them to a U.S. map or make a passport of states. Also find state birds, flags, and other stamps that connect with the states.

Math

⇒ Use stamps to create math problems. Glue the stamps on a piece of paper to design a problem.

- ⇒ Find stamps that add up to postal costs listed below:
Letters - 73¢ Postcards - 62¢
2 oz. letter - \$1.01
1 oz. letter to another country - \$1.65
- ⇒ Number Recognition. Make a booklet or chart of stamps with as many different numbers as you can find. Put them 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, any topic, to create a sequence pattern. Have the child finish the pattern and/or create their own.
- ⇒ Have students sort stamps by topic: living verses non-living, planes vs. trains, flowers vs. trees, anything they should learn to recognize.
- ⇒ If you are a math wiz, study how the denominations on stamps have change over the years. Figure out % change.

Art

⇒ Think about a person, place or thing that you think is worthy to be on a stamp.

- Research information about your topic in the library or on the internet. 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 continues what you think would be in the picture.
- ⇒ Use stamps in a comic strip that you draw.