WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL FACTS AND SYMBOLS

State Seal: [State Seal Image]
State Capital: Olympia
Governor: Jay Inslee

1579: Sir Francis Drake sailed up the Pacific Northwest Coast and named the entire region New Albion.
1775: Spain laid claim to the area.
1792: Many of our state landmarks named by Captain George Vancouver. Captain Robert Gray explored the lower reaches of the Columbia River.
1805-06: Lewis and Clark expedition explored the Northwest and reached the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River.
1818: Fort Walla Walla built by the North West Company. This enabled the United States to claim joint occupancy of the Oregon Territory with England.
1819: Spain gave the United States any and all rights claimed by Spain to the Oregon country.
1846: Oregon Territory became a part of the United States when the United States and Great Britain agreed to the 49th parallel as the northern U.S. boundary.
1848: Oregon Territory was established with Washington as the northern part of the territory.
1853: Washington Territory, separate from Oregon, was created. Isaac Stevens was the first territorial governor.
1863: Idaho Territory was created from part of the Washington Territory.
1889: Washington admitted to the United States on November 11 as the forty-second state. Elisha Ferry was the first elected governor of Washington State.
1941: Grand Coulee Dam completed.
1980: Mount St. Helens erupted in May.
1989: Washington celebrated 100 years of statehood on November 11.

Nickname: The Evergreen State
Song: "Washington, My Home" by Helen Davis
Tree: Western Hemlock
Colors: Green and Gold
Bird: Willow Goldfinch
Flower: Coast Rhododendron
Motto: Alki, meaning "bye and bye"
Folk Song: "Roll On Columbia, Roll On" by Woody Guthrie
Fish: Steelhead Trout
Fruit: Apple
Dance: Square Dance
Arboretum: Washington Park Arboretum

Tartan: Background: green, (rich forests) perpendicular bands: blue (lakes, rivers and ocean); white (snow-capped mountains); red (apple and cherry crops); yellow (wheat and grain crops); black (eruption of Mt. St. Helens).
Gem: Petrified Wood
Grass: Bluebunch Wheatgrass
Insect: Common Green Darner Dragonfly
Fossil: Columbian Mammoth of North America

Marine Mammal: Orca
Endemic Mammal: Olympic Marmot
Vegetable: Walla Walla Sweet Onion
Amphibian: Pacific Chorus Frog
Ship: "Lady Washington"