

Travel USA

New York

Instructor Notes

General Notes

- New York was one of the original 13 colonies that formed the United States. It is bordered by New Jersey and Pennsylvania to the south and Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont to the east. It is the fourth most populated state with New York City making up 40% of the state's population.
- New York is known as the Empire State. This nickname has been incorporated into the names of several state buildings and events, and is commonly believed to refer to the state's wealth and resources. However, the origin of the term remains unclear.

Flag

- The flag of NY consists of a blue field on which the state coat of arms is embroidered.
- The NY coat of arms features a shield displaying a sailing ship on the Hudson River, bordered by a grassy shore and a mountain range in the background with the sun rising behind it. On each side of the shield:
 - On the left, Lady Liberty standing on a crown which represents freedom from the British Monarch.
 - On the right, Lady Justice is wearing a blindfold (representing impartiality) and holding scales (representing fairness).
- The state motto, "Excelsior", a Latin word translated to "ever upward", appears below.
- On top of the coat of arms is an eagle upon a world globe.

Landmarks & Places to Visit

- **Times Square** is a major commercial intersection, tourist destination, entertainment center and neighborhood. It is one of the world's most visited tourist attractions, drawing an estimated 50 million visitors annually and about 330,000 people pass through Times Square daily. It is home to Broadway and the New Year's Eve Ball Drop.
- **Central Park** is the most visited urban park in the United States, with 40 million visitors in 2013, and one of the most filmed locations in the world. The park is 843 acres which would be about 1112 football fields.
- **Niagara Falls, NY** is a city that shares the Niagara Falls with Ontario, Canada.
- **Statue of Liberty** is a huge sculpture gifted to the United States from France. The statue represents freedom and has become an icon of New York and the United States. There are many replicas of the Statue of Liberty around the world including one in France that was a gift from the US.
- **Ellis Island** in New York Harbor was the first stop for over 12 million immigrants starting a new life in the U.S. from 1892 until 1954.
- **Adirondack Park** is the largest publicly protected area in the contiguous U.S., covering six million acres in northern New York—bigger than Yosemite, Yellowstone, Glacier, Grand Canyon, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Parks combined.

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New York Cuisine

New York is known for its diverse cuisine altered from recipes brought into the United States over the years. Foods such as fried chicken and waffles, hamburgers, hotdogs, and black & white cookies were all originated in NY from immigrant recipes. NY is also known for apples. It grows the 2nd most of any state.

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is the world's largest parade and it is presented by Macy's department store. The parade lasts for 3 hours and the parade route is 6 miles long. There are about 16 giant, character balloons, 27 mini balloons, and 26 floats in the parade. There are about 8,000 people in the parade.

Use site: <https://www.macys.com/social/parade/> for an interactive experience.

Woodstock was a musical festival in 1969 that attracted 400,000 people. It was hosted on a dairy farm in southern New York. It is regarded as a pivotal moment in popular music history and an icon for that generation.

Snacks for Kids:

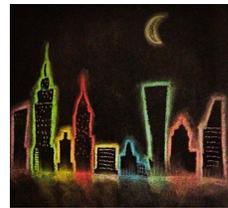
- Apples
- Black & White Cookies



Crafts & Activities

Activities, Arts & Crafts

- Skyline art with chalk painting.
- Skyline lamp.
- Put on a Broadway show.
- Make Black Tap Milkshakes



STEM Activities

- Explore oxidation with the Statue of Liberty. Use pennies to recreate the reaction.
- Build large skyscrapers such as the Chrysler building, the Empire State building and One World Trade center using an array of building materials such as Legos, toothpicks, clay, etc.
- Explore transportation and subway systems using tubes, straws, and other materials.
- Learn about buoyancy with apples.

