



The Mini Page

Next Week:
Phases of the moon

Issue 08, 2023

Founded by Betty Debnam

Packed With History



photo by Thomas/GPA Photo Archive

Pennsylvania was one of the original 13 Colonies. The state played an important part in our country's history.

Ever since the Revolutionary War, it has also been a leader in industry. With so many sites to see, Pennsylvania attracts many tourists.

This week, The Mini Page finds out more about this northeastern state.

Where our history began

Pennsylvania is the birthplace of our nation. Both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were adopted and signed in Philadelphia at Independence Hall.



photo by shahvee

Independence Hall

Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia was a leading statesman, inventor, printer, and signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

At **Valley Forge**, George Washington and his troops camped in the winter of 1777.

York was the site of the Continental Congress from September 1777 through June 1778. Later, during the Civil War, **Gettysburg** was the site of the bloodiest battle ever fought on American soil. After it was over, the South never regained the lead in the war. Abraham Lincoln gave his famous Gettysburg Address there.

People

Most Pennsylvanians live in **urban**, or

city, areas. Philadelphia is the sixth-biggest city in the nation. With a population of about 13 million, the state ranks fifth in population among the 50 states.



photo by Peter Miller

Philadelphia

Pittsburgh, the second-largest city in the state, has about 303,000 people. There, two rivers join to form the **Ohio River**, which helped make the city a center of industry, known for steel and glass.

Harrisburg is the state capital. It is named after the founder, John Harris.

The **Amish** people, who live as their ancestors did years ago, have strong communities in **Lancaster County** and elsewhere. They live simply; some do not use modern technology such as electricity.



photo by Kevin Oliver

An Amish horse-drawn carriage in Pennsylvania Dutch country.

The Amish are a part of a unique group called the Pennsylvania Dutch. These people have a German background, but got their name from the word "Deutsch," which means German.

Natural features

Forests cover about 60% of the state. Pennsylvania means "Penn's Woods," named after William Penn, the Colony's founder.

Mountains such as the **Poconos**, **Appalachians**, **Alleghenies** and the **Blue Ridge** attract hikers, fishers and skiers. **Mountain laurel** is the state flower, and the **Eastern hemlock** is the state tree.

Business

Service industries such as banking, health care and tourism are important in Pennsylvania. The manufacturing of chemicals and food products is big.



photo by Melanie

Hershey Park

Hershey has the biggest chocolate factory in the world there, along with a zoo, the Hershey Park amusement park and a museum.

Companies such as US Steel, Heinz foods, Alcoa aluminum and Gulf Oil started there. Textile, glass and paper products and medicines are other important industries.

Steel is still an important product, but it is not as big an industry as it once was. Coal mining has been a major business there for many years.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPPennsylvania

At the library:

- "Saving the Liberty Bell" by Megan McDonald

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Pennsylvania are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

- AMISH, COAL,
- CONSTITUTION,
- DECLARATION, DUTCH,
- FRANKLIN, HARRISBURG,
- HERSHEY, INDEPENDENCE,
- MOUNTAINS, PENNSYLVANIA,
- PHILADELPHIA, PITTSBURGH,
- RANK, STATE, STEEL, YORK,
- ZOO.

W P I T T S B U R G H L A O C
S T E E L G R U B S I R R A H
F O T P E N N S Y L V A N I A
S B K O O Z S N I A T N U O M
E T A T S H E R S H E Y R K I
J P H I L A D E L P H I A R S
I N D E P E N D E N C E N O H
N O I T A R A L C E D A K Y Y
Y S N O I T U T I T S N O C L
F R A N K L I N H C T U D B N



Cook's Corner

Mighty Mushroom Burgers

You'll need:

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (4-ounce) can mushrooms, drained

What to do:

1. Make 4 patties from the ground beef. Place in a casserole dish.
2. Pour soup evenly on top.
3. Top with mushrooms.
4. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 1 hour. Serve burgers on whole-grain hamburger buns with your choice of toppings. Serves 4.

Pennsylvania is a big supplier of mushrooms.



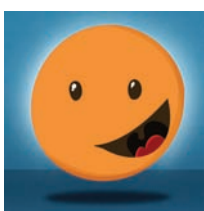
* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

1. in front (5) _____
2. robot car in the movies (11) _____
3. they cover a fish (6) _____
4. give up (4) _____
5. break (6) _____
6. armored rider on a horse (6) _____
7. not sick (7) _____

AGE	QU	EAD	ER
RM	TRAN	GHT	THY
HEAL	AH	LES	DAM
SCA	KNI	IT	SFO



Answers: ahead, Transformer, scales, quit, damage, knight, healthy.

Mini Jokes



Penny: What does it mean if you have small pupils?
Paul: You're a schoolteacher!

Eco Note



Hungry fish living among reefs that suffer from mass coral bleaching are more frequently getting into fights over food, which could threaten their survival. Researchers from Britain's Lancaster University made the discovery after observing 38 species of butterflyfish. When a butterflyfish wants to signal to a competitor that a particular bit of coral is theirs, they point their noses down and raise their spiny dorsal fins. But when the confrontation doesn't resolve the dispute, one fish will chase the other until one gives up.

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For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles that mention Pennsylvania. How many can you find?

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