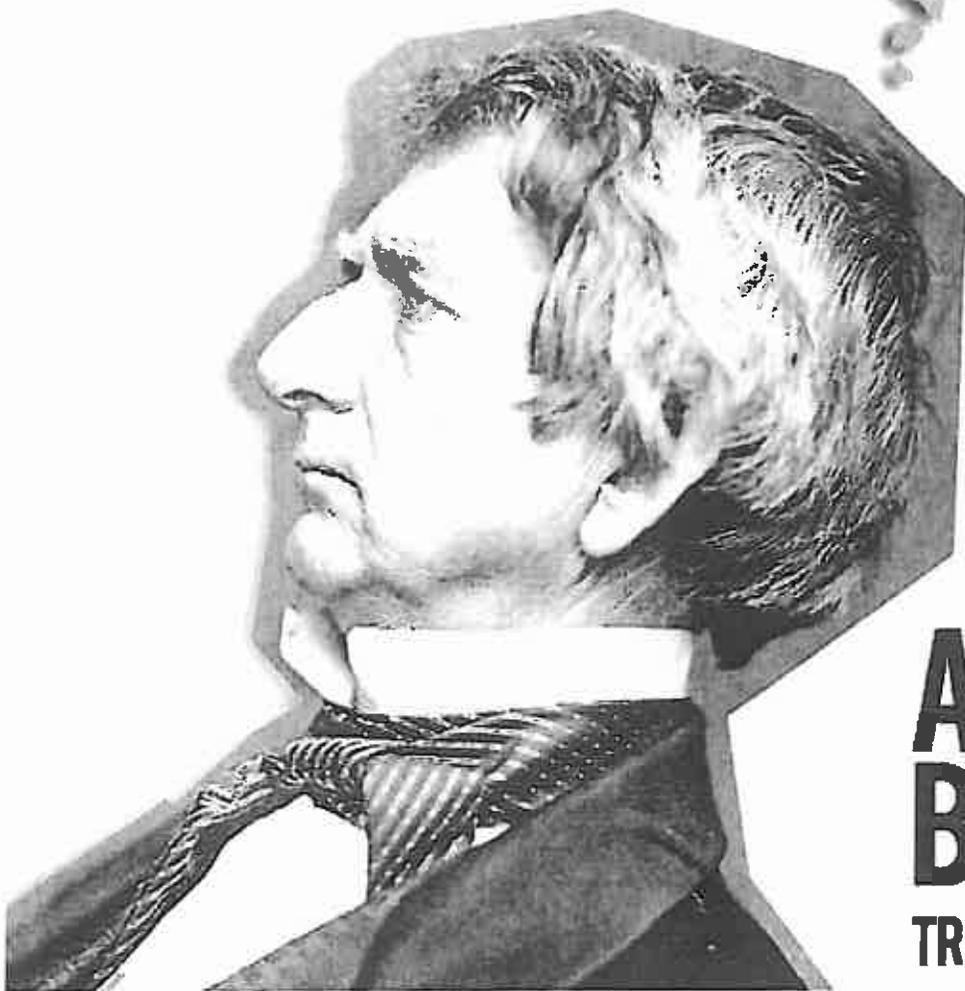


SEWARD'S  
SO-CALLED  
GOLLY



**ACTIVITY  
BOOKLET**  
TRIUMVIRATE THEATRE

**Who's Who**

**What's What**

# The Purchase of **ALASKA**

Match the Person, Place or thing that fits best!

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) Alexandre Baranov   | a) Ambassador to the United States   |
| 2) 1853  | b) Secretary of State  |
| 3) Eduard Andreevich Stoeckl   | c) The Crimean War begins  |
| 4) Manifest Destiny  | d) President of the United States During the Purchase of Alaska  |
| 5) William H. Seward   | e) Ruler over Alaska in which the Russian – American Company had free reign in the fur company   |
| 6) Lyndon B. Johnson   | f) The name of the document that made the purchase of Alaska possible.   |
| 7) The Treaty of Cession   | g) Good reasons to sell Alaska   |
| 8) 1867  | h) An American Belief that the United States getting all the land in the Americas is not only their right but is going to absolutely happen. |
| 9) Fur trade, Gold, Fishing, Timber, it would open up trade to Asia, Strengthen Friendships with Russia.   | i) Year Alaska was purchased   |
| 10) Fur trade depleted, it cost too much to run, Shipping is expensive, The British were going to take it. | j) Good Reasons to purchase Alaska   |



# ALASKA PURCHASE TRUE OR FALSE

*Circle True or False*

- T F 1. Russia fought against the British, French and the Ottoman Empire in the Crimean War.
- T F 2. Alaska was purchased from Russia for 15 million dollars in gold.
- T F 3. Manifest Destiny is a rock band that existed in Alaska when Baranov was the ruler.
- T F 4. William H. Seward was the Secretary of State that thought it was a great idea to purchase Alaska.
- T F 5. The first American Flag with 49 stars that was raised in Alaska was raised in Juneau, Alaska
- T F 6. Sitka held a secret ceremony to be the first city in Alaska to raise the American flag with 49 stars.
- T F 7. The Emperor of Russian gives his consent to the Treaty of Cessions over the Government Cable.
- T F 8. All the American Newspapers were excited for the purchase of Alaska.
- T F 9. Some of the ideas for naming Alaska were: Seward's Folly, Polario, Seward's Icebox, President Johnson's Polar Bear Garden.
- T F 10. A group of U.S. Military assembled to attend the ceremony in Alaska that would change over Russian Rule to the United States.
- T F 11. Jefferson Davis that was in charge of the Military was also the President of the Confederacy during the Civil War.
- T F 12. General Rosseau was the Emperor of Russia who transferred the Territory of Alaska to the United States.
- T F 13. William H. Seward never made it to Alaska before his death.
- T F 14. In 1898 Gold was found in Alaska and many people came to Alaska and left rich!



# BE A POET!

## WHAT MAKES ALASKA GREAT!

The poet Robert Service wrote many poems about Alaska! He was famous! You can be a famous poet too! First list some things that make Alaska great! Then think of some rhyming words that you could use to create a poem about Alaska and why you think it is a great place to live. Next write your poem!

Reasons I think Alaska is great. Ideas might be the mountains, the fishing, hiking, the snow etc.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### Rhyming words:

When writing poetry many authors use a pattern to make the last words in lines rhyme. This can be every other line or every line. You may not want your poem to rhyme at all. Write some rhyming words about Alaska to help you brainstorm some ideas for your poem.

\_\_\_\_\_ rhymes with \_\_\_\_\_





# ACROSTIC POEM OF ALASKA

A simple way to write a poem is to use the letters of a word as the beginning lines!  
Use **Alaska** to write an Acrostic Poem about Alaska.

**A** \_\_\_\_\_

**L** \_\_\_\_\_

**A** \_\_\_\_\_

**S** \_\_\_\_\_

**K** \_\_\_\_\_

**A** \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

### **Samples of Acrostic poems:**

**S**ummer ends and school begins

**C**hildren come to school to learn

**H**omework is a daily thing

**O**h it is fun to learn with friends

**O**utside the children run and play

**L**asting memories are made at school.

**S**unny days

**U**ltimate fun

**M**emories made

**M**ountains to climb

**E**venings with lasting light

**R**esting on the beach

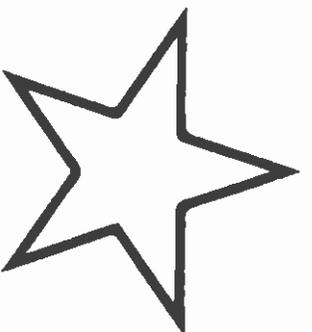
**D**igging holes

**O**odles of fun

**G**oing for walks

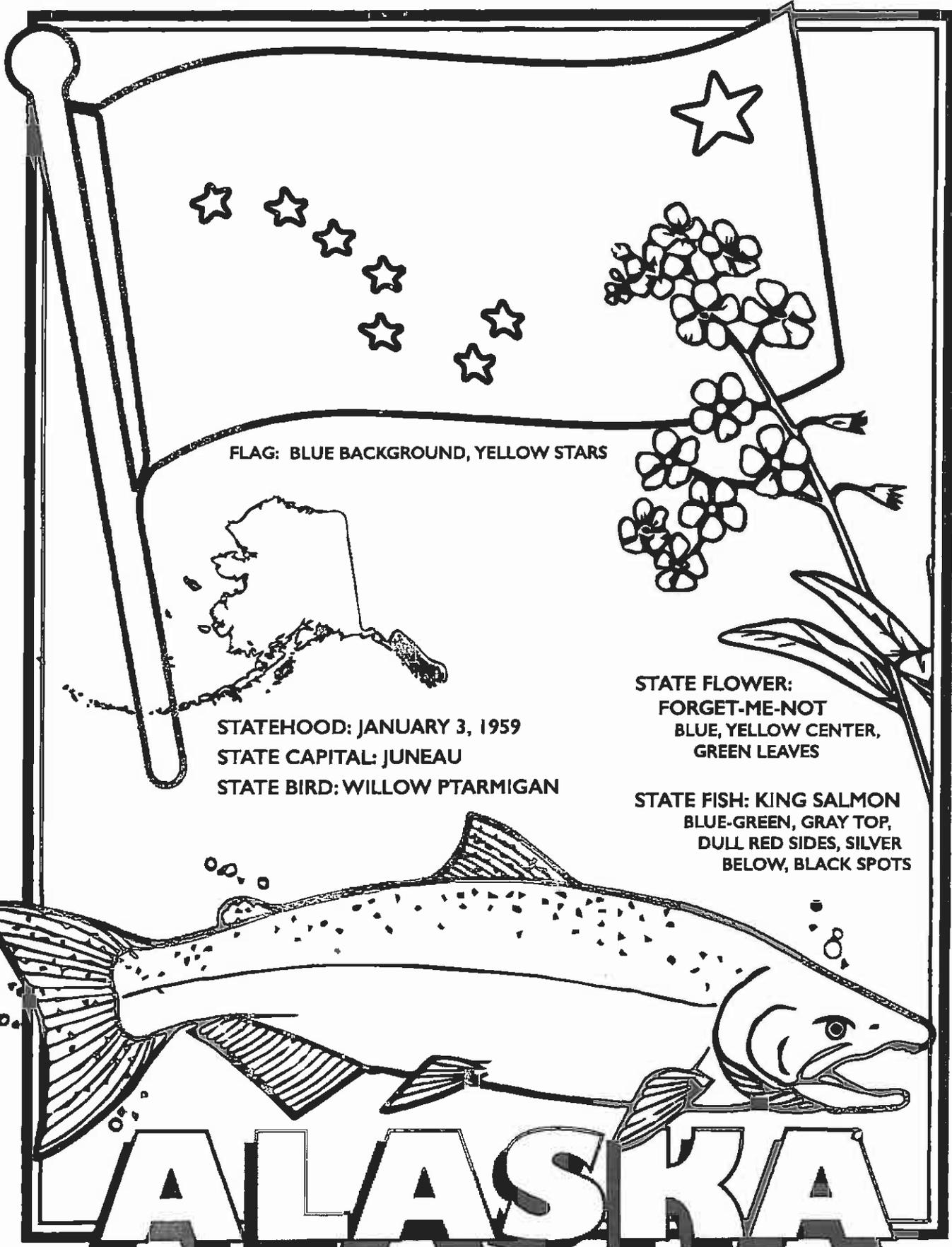
**S**omeone's best friend





# ALASKA FLAG

A PRODUCTION OF TRUMPHMATE THEATRE, GENEROUSLY FUNDED THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



FLAG: BLUE BACKGROUND, YELLOW STARS

STATEHOOD: JANUARY 3, 1959  
STATE CAPITAL: JUNEAU  
STATE BIRD: WILLOW PTARMIGAN

STATE FLOWER: FORGET-ME-NOT  
BLUE, YELLOW CENTER,  
GREEN LEAVES

STATE FISH: KING SALMON  
BLUE-GREEN, GRAY TOP,  
DULL RED SIDES, SILVER  
BELOW, BLACK SPOTS

**ALASKA**

# **“ALASKA’S FLAG”**

**WRITTEN BY MARIE DRAKE**  
**COMPOSED BY ELINOR DUSENBURY**

*Adopted on February 23 1955.*

## ***1st Verse of Alaska’s Flag Song***

*Eight stars of gold on a field of blue,  
Alaska’s flag, may it mean to you,  
The blue of the sea, the evening sky,  
The mountain lakes and the flowers nearby,  
The gold of the early sourdough’s dreams,  
The precious gold of the hills and streams,  
The brilliant stars in the northern sky,  
The “Bear,” the “Dipper,” and shining high,  
The great North Star with its steady light,  
O’er land and sea a beacon bright,  
Alaska’s flag to Alaskans dear,  
The simple flag of a last frontier.*

## ***2nd Verse of Alaska’s Flag Song***

*— Words by Carol Beery Davis*

*A Native lad chose the Dipper’s stars  
For Alaska’s flag that there be no bars  
Among our culture. Let it be known  
Through years the Native’s past has grown  
To share life’s treasures, hand in hand,  
To keep Alaska our Great-Land;  
We love the northern midnight sky,  
The mountains, lakes and streams nearby.  
The great North Star with its steady light  
Will guide all cultures, clear and bright,  
With nature’s flag to Alaskans dear,  
The simple flag of the last frontier.*



# ORIGIN OF ALASKA'S FLAG SONG

*The words to the song Alaska's Flag were written by Marie Drake and The Territorial Legislature adopted Alaska's Flag as Alaska's official song in 1955.*

"Alaska's Flag" written by Marie Drake a long-time employee of the Alaska Department of Education, and set to music composed by Elinor Dusenbury, who husband was commander of Chilkoot Barracks at Haines from 1933 to 1936 was adopted as the official state song in 1955, and was gifted to the University of Alaska in April 1960. Carol Beery Davis wrote the second verse to "Alaska's Flag" and gifted the words (protected by copyright) to the University of Alaska Foundation in February 1987.

Carol Beery Davis, an Alaskan pioneer and poet laureate, as the maker of the second verse. While the official Alaska state song recognizes and describes Alaska's flag, the words of Davis in the second verse of "Alaska's Flag", "A Native lad chose the Dipper's stars, For Alaska's flag that there be no bars", provides recognition of Bennie Benson who designed Alaska's official flag in 1927. Benny Benson described his design of the flag:

*"The blue field is for the Alaska Sky and the forget-me-not, an Alaskan flower. The North Star is for the future of Alaska, the most northerly in the union. The Dipper is for the Great Bear - symbolizing strength."*

- Marie Drake

Marie Drake, author of the words to Alaska's Flag, the state song, was born February 11, 1888. In 1907 she married James Drake in Van Wert, Ohio, where she was engaged in social work with the Y.W.C.A. and the Red Cross. They came to Alaska when her husband was assigned to work with the Bureau of Public Roads. In 1917, Lester Henderson was appointed first commissioner of education, and he hired Marie Drake as his secretary. She remained with the Department for 28 years, retiring July 1, 1945.

Marie Drake assumed the post of assistant commissioner of education in 1934. She edited and wrote most of the material for the department's School Bulletin, that was circulated throughout the territorial school system. The poem that later provided the words for the official state song first appeared on the cover of the October 1935 School Bulletin. In recognition of her devotion to the young people of Alaska, Marie Drake received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from the University of Alaska in 1958. She died March 5, 1963.

*Alaska Blue Book 1993-94, 11th ed., Juneau, Department of Education, Division of State Libraries, Archives & Museums*

## IDEAS FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

### Play the song "Alaska's Flag"

Have the children draw pictures of the things the song is about.

Have the children design a flag to replace the one we have.

Show the words to the song and have a discussion about Alaska and what the song means to them. How does it make them feel? Can they visualize the things the song mentions? Do the words of the song help you understand the flag of Alaska more clearly? Does the song give you feelings of pride in our great state?

### Writing Prompts

Do you think the purchase of Alaska was a good deal?

What makes Alaska a great place to live?

If you were the President of the United States would you purchase Alaska? Give three reasons to support your decision.

After attending the performance what are some things that you learned and what are some things that you already knew about the purchase of Alaska?

Part of the show was done in a radio drama. Write a radio drama about an event in your life.

Research a different event in the history of Alaska and write a skit based on that event.

