



# I Am Oklahoma— Oklahoma's Story Through Its People

## *THE OKLAHOMA HERITAGE ASSOCIATION and THE GAYLORD-PICKENS OKLAHOMA HERITAGE MUSEUM*

Founded in 1927 by Anna B. Korn, the Oklahoma Heritage Association (OHA) is dedicated to preserving Oklahoma's incredible history through its most valuable resource—its people. From the mid-1970s through 2006 the OHA was housed in the former home of Judge and Mrs. Robert A. Hefner near downtown Oklahoma City. In May, 2007, the OHA opened its new home, the Edward L. Gaylord-Boone Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum in the historic Mid-Continent Life Insurance building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A gift from the late Edward L. Gaylord, this historic structure has allowed the OHA to expand its programming and outreach. Holdenville native T. Boone Pickens launched the renovation of the structure.

### *“I AM OKLAHOMA” CERTIFICATE*

The goal of the “I Am Oklahoma” certificate is to encourage young Oklahomans, ages 8-17, to explore their own Oklahoma story through their family, community, and Oklahoma's rich history. With this process will come a sense of pride in being an Oklahoman and celebrating the unique history of our great state.

### *TO EARN THE CERTIFICATE*

Participants will complete the required number of activities in each of the four sections: My Individual Oklahoma Story, My Community Story, the State of Oklahoma Story, and Oklahoma and the World.

<b>Age</b>	<b>4 Required Flags</b>	<b>Choose 1 State Symbol</b>	<b>Choose 2 Additional State Symbols</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
8-11	Oklahoma Flag from each section	from any 3 sections		4 Flags 3 State Symbols
12-17	Oklahoma Flag from each section	from each section	from any section	4 Flags 6 State Symbols

- All activities will be completed on pages provided. Blank pages are provided if needed, but not required for completion.
- Participants are required to design a cover for the packet.
- Completed packets should be mailed to the Oklahoma Heritage Association and will be returned with certificate and passes. Please allow ten business days for processing.



## RESOURCES

There are a variety of resources available to you to in pursuing your “I Am Oklahoma” patch.

*Primary sources are the best resource and include:*

- Original documents—written records
- Artifacts—three-dimensional objects that serve as a record
- Witnesses/Participants—people provide first-hand experience or knowledge

*Secondary sources include:*

- Books
- Magazines
- Newspapers

*Visual resources include:*

- Photographs
- Maps
- Drawings
- Paintings
- Time/Period Specific Printing

*Brick-and-Mortar Resources:*

- Historical Societies
- Museums
- Libraries
- Government Agencies

*World Wide Web:*

The World Wide Web allows access to many resources not available otherwise. However, ensure the credibility and safety of websites.

*Oklahoma-Related Websites:*

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|---|--|
| Oklahoma Heritage Association                   | <a href="http://www.oklahomaheritage.com">www.oklahomaheritage.com</a>                         |
| 50 States.com                                   | <a href="http://www.50states.com">www.50states.com</a>   |
| Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Dept.             | <a href="http://www.travelok.com">www.travelok.com</a>   |
| National Cowboy and<br>Western Heritage Museum  | <a href="http://www.nationalcowboymuseum.org">www.nationalcowboymuseum.org</a>                 |
| Oklahoma Historical Society                     | <a href="http://www.okhistory.org">www.okhistory.org</a>                                       |
| Office of the Governor                          | <a href="http://www.governor.state.ok.us">www.governor.state.ok.us</a>                         |
| Office of the Lieutenant Governor               | <a href="http://www.ltgov.state.ok.us">www.ltgov.state.ok.us</a>                               |
| Oklahoma State Fair                             | <a href="http://www.okstatefair.com">www.okstatefair.com</a>                                   |
| Oklahoma Genealogy & History                    | <a href="http://www.rootsweb.com">www.rootsweb.com</a>   |
| Oklahoma City National Memorial                 | <a href="http://www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org">www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org</a> |
| Oklahoma State Parks                            | <a href="http://www.oklahomaparks.com">www.oklahomaparks.com</a>                               |
| Records of the Works<br>Projects Administration | <a href="http://www.archives.gov">www.archives.gov</a>   |

## Section One

# MY INDIVIDUAL OKLAHOMA STORY



## STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITIES

*All activities to be completed on one of the State Symbol Activity Sheets provided in this packet.*

1. Make a list of at least 10 words that best describe you. Create a collage from the words on your list and pictures/illustrations supporting the words you chose.
2. Ask family members to share stories about relatives from different generations. Compare the similarities and differences between the generations.
3. Make a family tree identifying as many generations as possible.
4. The five characteristics of every Oklahoman are individualism, pioneer spirit, generosity, perseverance, and optimism. List the five characteristics and give examples of your actions that personify each one. You may either draw or write your examples.
5. Choose a member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, complete list available at [www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com), which best demonstrates the characteristics from No. 4. Identify the Hall of Fame member and describe how these characteristics have played a role in the Hall of Fame member's life.
6. Write a paragraph that reflects your philosophy on what it means to be an Oklahoman. Choose a historical figure from Oklahoma's past that best exemplifies your philosophy and explain why.
7. Choose an Oklahoman associated with an occupation that you are interested in pursuing. What personal talents and characteristics did that person have that contributed to his/her success? Explain how your talents and characteristics will help with your career choice.
8. Choose a family member who you believe has made a positive impact on the State of Oklahoma. Give examples of their contributions and the resulting impact on the state.
9. Discuss what you appreciate most about your area of the state and what you have learned from it. (i.e. terrain, natural resources, location, people)
10. As a young Oklahoman, what do you believe has been your most-significant contribution to the state? Explain.



## OKLAHOMA FLAG ACTIVITY—REQUIRED

### *ARTIFACTS and MY INDIVIDUAL STORY*

Choose an artifact that helps to tell your individual story. It can be a keepsake related to a favorite activity, place, or event, or an object that is important to you. Follow the directions below in answering questions or providing information about your artifact.

1. Identify and describe your artifact. Draw your artifact in the box.

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2. How does your artifact connect to other people in your life?

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3. What kind of feelings, thoughts, or ideas does your artifact represent? Why?

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4. What time or event in your life does the artifact represent? Why is it important to you?

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5. What changes in your life are represented by your artifact?

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6. Summarize what the artifact says about you.

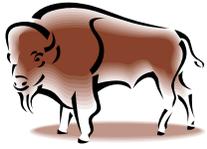
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## Section Two

# MY OKLAHOMA COMMUNITY STORY



## STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITIES

*All activities to be completed on one of the State Symbol Activity Sheets provided in this packet.*

1. Make a banner or bumper sticker with a motto that relates to the history of your community. Include a symbol that supports your motto. Explain how the motto represents your community.
2. Interview a person who has lived in your community for 25 years or more. Use pages 16 and 17, *I Am an Oklahoma Reporter* and *Oklahoma Community Memories*. Ask questions about what the community was like then and now. Ask them to tell you an exciting or memorable story about a person and/or event in the community.
3. Create a history map showing five historic places in your community. You may draw your own map or print a map from the Internet. You may choose a historical marker, a history or heritage museum, cemetery, monument, historic house, and/or an archaeological site.
4. The State Fair of Oklahoma celebrates unique and special features of Oklahoma each year. What celebrations does your community have to honor its history and heritage? Design a poster informing people of the community celebration.
5. Find a street, building, or park named after someone in your community. Discover why the location was named after this person. Write a brief play about the person's contribution to your community. Include the script in your packet.
6. Draw a community web connecting you to places in your community that are important to you. Places may include the location of club meetings, a place of worship, museum, or school. Place yourself in the middle of the web. Pick one of the connections and give a brief history of the place. Include when it was built, what the place has been used for over time, how it has changed over time, and why it is important to your community and you.
7. Check with your local Chamber of Commerce to find out the anchor businesses and industries in your community. Investigate how people's jobs have changed over the course of your community's history.
8. Advertise a community business. On the top half of your paper, design an advertisement for a business or industry that was a part of your community 50 years ago. On the bottom half, make an advertisement for a current business or industry in your community.



## OKLAHOMA FLAG ACTIVITY—REQUIRED

### *ARTIFACTS and MY COMMUNITY STORY*

Visit a historical society, museum, or a historic place in your community. Take this sheet with you on complete it during your visit.

1. Where did you go?

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2. When did you visit (date and time).

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3. What history did you explore at the place you visited?

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4. Why is the history of the place you visited important to your community?

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5. Draw your favorite artifact from the place you visited. Look at the object and read its written label. What story does it tell?

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## Section Three

# THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA STORY



## STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITIES

*All activities to be completed on one of the State Symbol Activity Sheets provided in this packet.*

1. Read a story about Oklahoma's early beginnings. Create a bookmark with the main character on one side and his/her contributions and characteristics on the other.
2. Create an illustrated timeline showing five major events in Oklahoma's history that helped shape the identity of your community.
3. How did you become an Oklahoman? Trace your family's arrival in Oklahoma by mapping their route. Include a short paragraph explaining why they came to Oklahoma.
4. Induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame is the highest award an Oklahoman can receive from the state. Honorees receive a Hall of Fame Medallion and framed certificate upon their induction. Design an award you believe would best depict this high honor.
5. Choose the governor/lieutenant governor that you believe has made the most significant impact on the State of Oklahoma. Explain.
6. Choose one Oklahoman, living or deceased, that would best represent our state to the world. Who did you choose? Why?
7. Draw or print a map of Oklahoma that outlines the counties. Identify five counties in your region of the state and name an Oklahoman who has contributed significantly to Oklahoma's growth from each. Label each county with the individual's name, hometown, and their contribution.
8. Design an Oklahoma travel brochure that focuses on the three most exciting attractions, chosen by you, in Oklahoma. Provide a photo, the location, and description of each attraction.
9. Oklahoma is known for many industries. Design a poster for the industry you believe makes the largest impact on the state economy.
10. Spell O-K-L-A-H-O-M-A down the left side of the page and list a characteristic of Oklahomans for each letter.



## OKLAHOMA FLAG ACTIVITY—REQUIRED

### THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA IDENTITY

What is the Oklahoma identity? What makes an Oklahoman and Oklahoman? Do you have to be born in Oklahoma to be an Oklahoman? What are the characteristics of every Oklahoman?

### CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The Oklahoma population is diverse. Do your research and name ten different cultures/tribes that called Oklahoma home at the time of statehood.

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|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

### WORD SEARCH

Circle or highlight the five characteristics of every Oklahoman.

INDIVIDUALISM      PIONEER SPIRIT      PERSEVERANCE  
OPTIMISM      GENEROSITY

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

**CHARACTERISTIC EXAMPLES**

Give an example of how the five characteristics best describe Oklahoma as a state and you personally.

	OKLAHOMA	YOU
Individualism	_____	_____
Generosity	_____	_____
Pioneer Spirit	_____	_____
Perseverance	_____	_____
Optimism	_____	_____

**OKLAHOMA SLOGAN**

Prepare a slogan to promote Oklahoma that includes at least one of the five characteristics.

## Section Four

# OKLAHOMA and the WORLD



## STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITIES

*All activities to be completed on one of the State Symbol Activity Sheets provided in this packet.*

1. Create a postcard with the one image of Oklahoma you believe is recognizable in other parts of the world.
2. Choose one male and one female Oklahoman that you believe have made the most significant contributions to the world. List the individuals, their contributions, and the impact they have made on our state, the nation, and the world.
3. You have been chosen to be Oklahoma Ambassadors at an international conference. Design a poster introducing yourself at the conference. Include what makes you and your community unique.
4. Research and describe an international effort you could become involved with from your hometown. As an Oklahoman, what contributions could you make?
5. Choose one Oklahoma industry that exports products/technology to three other countries. Provide a brief description of industry, draw or print a world map, and draw lines from Oklahoma to the capital of each country. Calculate the miles between Oklahoma City and each country's capital and label on the map.
6. If you had to choose one industry that has made the largest global impact, what would that be and why?
7. The State of Oklahoma is comparable to what country(s) based on:
  - square miles?
  - population?
  - terrain?
8. What do you believe is the most valuable resource/commodity Oklahoma has to offer to the world? Explain.



## OKLAHOMA FLAG ACTIVITY—REQUIRED

### *OKLAHOMA and the WORLD*

During Oklahoma's first century, Oklahoma's identity has become more recognizable worldwide because of the connections of Oklahomans to other countries. List five Oklahomans, and their field of endeavor, that have become known worldwide.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### COMING TO OKLAHOMA

Interview an Oklahoma immigrant and learn how life in Oklahoma compares to life in their native land. Use the "I Am an Oklahoma Reporter" activity sheets found in this packet to aid in conducting the interview.

Person interviewed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Native State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrived in Oklahoma: \_\_\_\_\_

We talked about:

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What did you learn about your interviewee's thoughts about moving to Oklahoma?

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How did his/her experiences compare and contrast to those of immigrants you have read about?

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**IMPRESSIONS OF OKLAHOMA**

Survey three people from other states/countries about the images or perceptions they had about Oklahoma before visiting.

Interviewee No. 1

Impressions before they came:

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Impressions now:

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Interviewee No. 2

Impressions before they came:

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Impressions now:

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Interviewee No. 3

Impressions before they came:

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Impressions now:

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## I AM AN OKLAHOMA REPORTER

Oral histories are stories passed on through memory. They are considered primary sources. You are the reporter. It is your job to decide who to interview, what questions to ask, and what you will share in your packet.

### ORAL HISTORY TIPS

- Choose a topic.
- Start close to home and find the right person to interview by asking relatives, teachers, adults in your neighborhood, and community leaders. You can expand your search to senior citizen centers, cultural organizations, libraries, and museums.

- Arrange to meet with the person being interviewed at a time and place convenient for him/her.

Always take an adult with you to do the interview.

- Prepare four to six open-ended questions to ask. Open-ended questions allow the person being interviewed to elaborate on a topic. (i.e. What was it like growing up in this community? How has the community changed over the last twenty-five years?)
- If you plan to use a recording device, try it before the interview to make sure it is working properly. Bring batteries, a usable tape, a microphone, and electrical cord with you to the interview.
- If you are writing the responses, make sure you have room after each question for the answer and additional comments.
- Before you begin asking questions, make a note of who you are interviewing, ask him/her to spell their name, the date, place, purpose, and topic so you can complete the top section of page 10, *Oklahoma Community Memories*.
- Limit interview to one hour or less.
- Thank the person you interviewed and follow-up with a thank you note.

# OKLAHOMA COMMUNITY MEMORIES

Person interviewed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

What history did you learn about your community?

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How does the information you learned contribute to the story of your community?

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How was the history you learned about publicized when it occurred?

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What will you do with the information you gathered? How will you share it?

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# STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITY SHEET #I

Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity No. \_\_\_\_\_

## STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITY SHEET #2

Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity No. \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITY SHEET #3

Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity No. \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITY SHEET #4

Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity No. \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITY SHEET #5

Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity No. \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE SYMBOL ACTIVITY SHEET #6

Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity No. \_\_\_\_\_



# I Am Oklahoma—

## Oklahoma's Story Through Its People

### STUDENT INFORMATION:

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Name

Grade

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Address

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City, State, Zip Code

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E-Mail

Telephone

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School

### Students Submitting Completed Packets Will Receive:

- "I am Oklahoma" Certificate
- Passes for 4 to the Gaylord-Pickens Museum
- One-Year Student Membership in the Oklahoma Heritage Association (OHA)
- Special Offers and Educational Opportunities
- Copy of Work Placed in Permanent Collection of OHA Archives

### Mail Completed Packet To:

"I Am Oklahoma" Certificate  
Oklahoma Heritage Association  
1400 Classen Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

### Questions/Additional Information:

Gini Moore Campbell, Director of Publications & Scholarship  
Oklahoma Heritage Association/Gaylord-Pickens Museum  
405/523-3202 gmc@oklahomaheritage.com