



LOW HANGING FRUIT

March 4, 2015 is Idaho Day!

By Teresa Lipus

To honor Idaho’s heritage, in 2014 the Legislature established and the governor proclaimed an official Idaho Day, to be observed each year on March 4. With ceremonies, programs, and activities to honor Idaho’s heritage, Idaho Day is envisioned as an annual program that will serve as a lasting legacy of the Get Territorial: Idaho at 150 Commemoration. Residents throughout the state can commemorate Idaho from many perspectives—its land, history, and people, from its rich past to the present day.

To find online resources and classroom activities to enhance school celebrations of Idaho Day 2015, refer to the state agencies listed on ISHS entry in Links to More Learning. These organizations have partnered to create an online resource for Idahoans to discover, connect, and educate about all things Idaho.

Did You Know:

Colorado was nearly called Idaho? The Senate discovered that the word “Idaho,” touted as an Indian word meaning “gem of the mountains, actually was not a word at all, and so chose the name Colorado. Later, when it was time for Lincoln to sign the bill creating Idaho Territory, no one challenged the name. So, here we have Idaho.



Earlier this fall, State Representative Linden Bateman sent a letter to school principals around the state inviting them to participate in Idaho Day 2015. A number of school districts are already gearing up to take part.



Historic Idaho Seal: Photo Credit: ISHS

Stories, traditions, memories, hopes, and dreams inextricably connect us, one generation to the next. To discover how to commemorate Idaho Day, visit the Idaho Day website, and post your favorite Idaho things on using the hastags #myidaho.

LINKS TO MORE LEARNING



Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS)

ISHS has a list of suggestions of places to see to learn more about Idaho’s history. From Old Mission State Park to Heyburn State Park, there is something close to nearly everyone.

<http://history.idaho.gov/discover>

Ideas for Idaho Day

Representative Linden Bateman’s list of ideas to use with individual students, classes, or school-wide.

http://history.idaho.gov/sites/default/files/uploads/idahoday_ideas.pdf

Official Website of the State of Idaho

Explore the links on the banner!

<http://www.state.id.us/>

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS



Idaho Virtual Capitol Tour

Take your students on a tour of the Idaho Capitol without leaving the school! This tour of the Idaho statehouse is all online and on your schedule. The online experience includes background information, video, and building maps. Explore at <http://idahoptv.org/productions/specials/capitoloflight/tour.cfm>

Make it Interactive

Interactive virtual tours are available for school groups 3rd grade or higher. Contact CapitolVirtualTour@Iso.idaho.gov or call 334-4850 to schedule an interactive online tour for your class.

DIGITAL TOOLS



State Symbols Bookmark

This colorful bookmark highlights Idaho’s state symbols. Start with the bookmark, then students can discover additional Idaho symbols including the state fruit, state fossil, and state vegetable. Print on cardstock with a color printer: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/bookmarks-idaho-symbols-print-setup.compressed.pdf>

Idaho Citizen Resources

Find links to watch the Idaho legislature “In Session,” a self-paced workshop about how news media works, and [STACKS] the online repository for Idaho state documents.

<http://lili.org/citizen>

