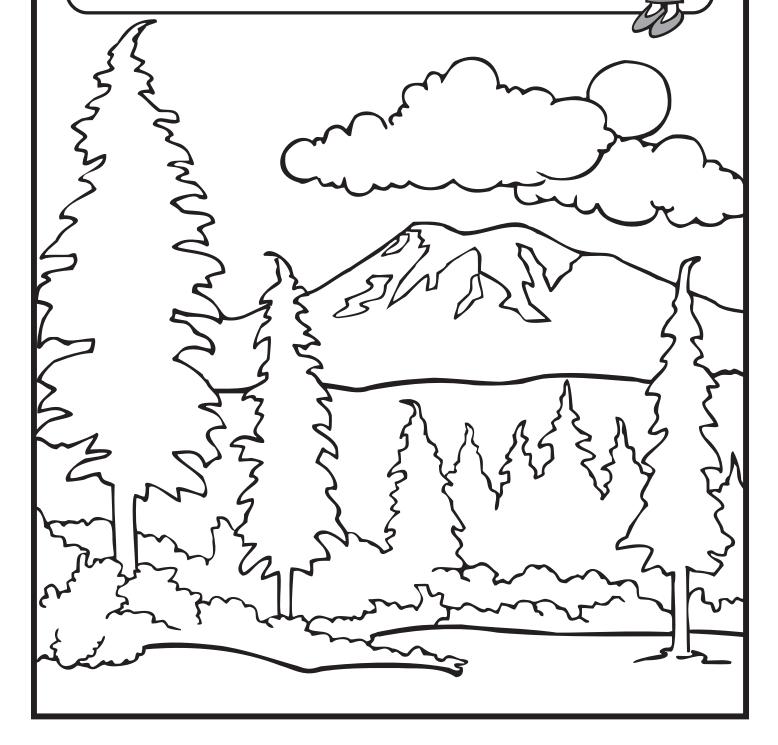
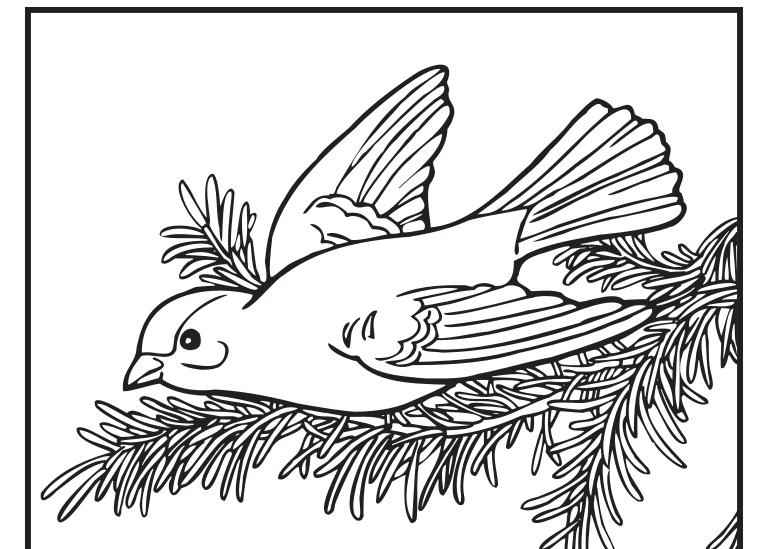


"The Evergreen State" was created as the state nickname by C.T. Conover, a Seattle pioneer, realtor, and historian who chose the nickname to represent the abundant evergreen forests found in Washington.

The Western Hemlock was selected as our state tree in 1946 after an Oregon newspaper kidded Washington for lack of a symbol and chose one for us. It was debated in the Legislature before being signed into law by then Governor Mon C.Wallgren.





The Willow Goldfinch is the state bird. It is a small, yellow species with black wings, a black patch on its head, and a winning voice. In 1951, legislators called on school children for the second time in 20 years to let them decide by voting between the goldfinch and the meadowlark. The rest is history.

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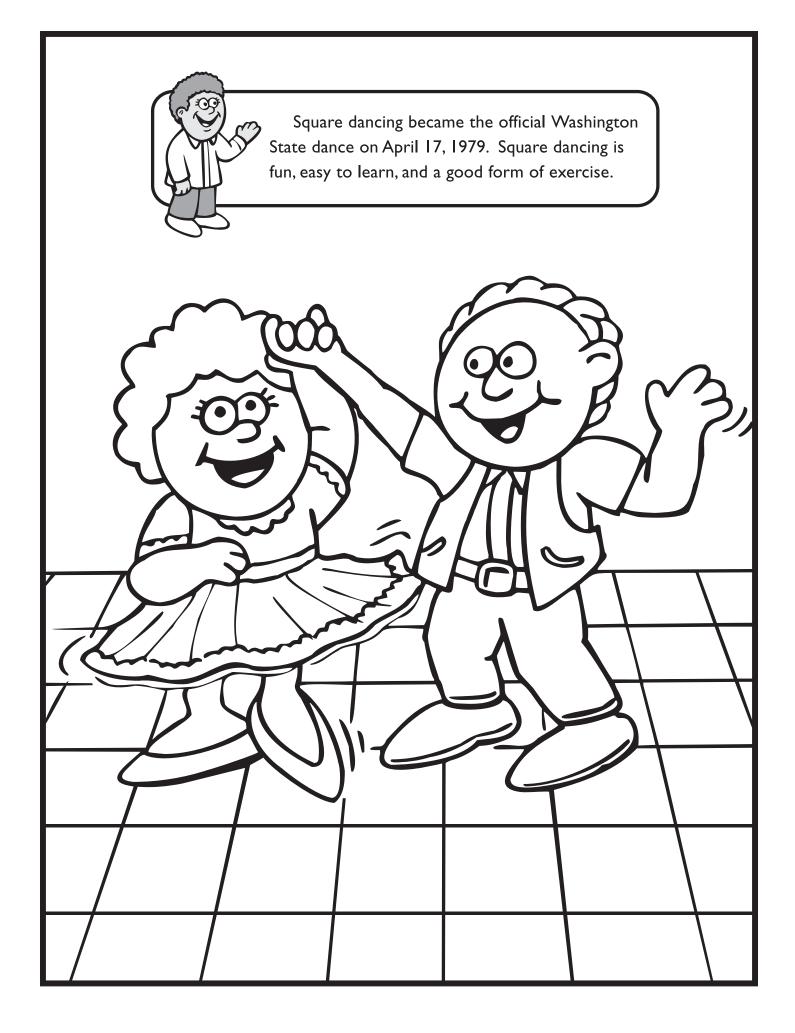
Washington's most famous (and infamous) volcano is Mount St. Helens, which erupted in May of 1980, flattening every tree in a 120-square mile area. Today, it is still active, but it has simmered down enough for the curious to see the gigantic crater up close.



6

You can see Seattle, and the Puget Sound, aboard the largest ferry system in the United States. Hop a ferry to the Olympic Peninsula, the San Juan Islands, or even Canada. Look for seals and maybe an orca whale en route!

The orca whale was named the state marine mammal in 2005 following a 2-year campaign by students in Oak Harbor.





white, red or purple in color. Also known as the "Rhodie," this floral species was chosen in a vote by state women in 1893 over the clover plant. Can you find the Pacific chorus frog? Our state amphibian is charming, makes beautiful sounds and is useful because it eats insects, including mosquitoes. It is recognizable by the black stripe through the eye to the shoulder, and can be brown, tan, grey or green. It's no wonder the apple is the state fruit. Washington produces 6 of every 10 apples eaten in the U.S. and supplies markets around the world. In the ideal mix of warm sunny days, cool crisp nights, and nutrient-rich soil, apples, cherries, apricots, peaches, nectarines, prunes and plums thrive. The long, moist days in the Puget Sound region are perfect for strawberries, raspberries and blueberries, and cranberries flourish in the coastal breezes

of our marine environment. The Walla Walla sweet onion is the official vegetable of the state of Washington. This sweet onion is wellsuited for the climate of the Walla Walla

> valley in southeastern
> Washington. It is
> delicious with your favorite meal.

