

You're going on a vacation!



Introduction:

Your parents have told you that you can go anywhere in our beautiful state for a day IF YOU do the planning!

The Task:

You will need to take a virtual tour of our state to discover its many symbols and places of interest. You will work independently to research several Connecticut attractions and take your notes in a WebQuest Journal. You will discover:

- Symbols of our state
- Our borders (Hint: we're a small state!)
- Our capital city and what important work happens there
- Where your family can go to learn and have fun

As an expert on Connecticut, you will create a rationale for your vacation. Then, as a class, you will create a mural of Connecticut showing all the places about which you have written. The murals will be exhibited in the main hallways at Osborn and will be open to the public during school hours.

The Process: 1. Start your virtual tour of Connecticut by clicking below to see a chart of Connecticut symbols. You might want to share your new knowledge with your family!

- **choose three** symbols you think might want to learn more about
- **draw them in the three boxes** in the journal (with notes about what you've read, of course!)

<http://www.kids.ct.gov/kids/cwp/view.asp?a=2731&q=314204>

Some of our state symbols you might want to read about are:

Flower	Tree	Bird	Insect
Mammal HINT:(look for the word <i>animal</i>)	Ship	Fossil	Aircraft

2. You need to know what our state looks like on a map.

You need to know what borders it, too.

Click below to see a map of Connecticut.

Using the map in your Connecticut WebQuest Journal,

- **Label our state.** (Be sure to spell it correctly!)
- **Mark, then label where Fairfield is.**
- **Label the states and the body of water that border Connecticut**

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/cgi-bin/nytmmaps.pl?connecticut>

*Extra: What was the population of CT in 2000?

* Extra, extra (you may want to come back to this site later!)
Click on the link below to choose a waterfall and mark and label it on your map. Be sure to take one note about it!

<http://www.ctwaterfalls.com/falls/tour.php>

3. You might want to show a picture of Connecticut's capital city. Click [here](#) to find out which city is our capital.

There is a special building in the capital where our senators and representatives (the state legislative body) work. What is it called?

Write the name of our capital city and that special building in your Connecticut WebQuest Journal. Hint: Watch out for the **red letters: (a and o)** in the keywords!

4. Many people don't know that Connecticut has many State Parks and Forests. Choose **3**. Name the **park or forest**, and **sketch** a picture from the photograph on the web page to help you remember how special that place is. Write a note about what you and your family could do there.

<http://www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/parksforests/parksmap.htm?deepNav=|>

State forests where you can go letterboxing!

http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=322828&deepNav_GID=1631

5. There are many fascinating places of interest to visit in Connecticut. Explore the websites below.

Decide on **two places** you might like to visit and write them in your WebQuest Journal. Write what you would see or do there. Do you think you might want to visit with your family?

Nature	Science	History	The Arts
<u>Beardsley Zoo</u>	<u>Dinosaur State Park</u>	<u>Mystic Seaport</u>	<u>Quassy Amusement Park</u>
<u>Stamford Nature Center</u>	<u>New England Air Museum</u>	<u>Submarine Force Museum</u>	<u>Stamford Center for the Arts</u>
<u>CT Audubon Society Day trips</u> <u>Peabody Museum of Natural History</u>	<u>Mystic Aquarium and Institute for Exploration</u>	<u>Fairfield Museum and History Center</u>	<u>Shubert Theatre</u>
<u>Maritime Aquarium</u>	<u>The Shore Line Trolley Museum</u> <u>CT Science Center</u>	<u>The Mark Twain House</u> <u>Connecticut Landmark Houses</u> "History moving forward"	<u>Bridgeport Bluefish</u> <u>Barker Comic Character and Cartoon Museum</u>

6. Your virtual tour of Connecticut has led you to many sites and given you a lot of information about Connecticut. Now is the time to use your notes in your WebQuest journal to plan your family vacation and write your rationale for going there.



Evaluation: You can find the WebQuest Rubric on the 2nd Grade Virtual Library



Conclusion:

Congratulations! You have done a great job of designing a special vacation for your family in our lovely state of Connecticut. Now click on one of the sites below for some extra Connecticut fun:

Puzzles and Games:

<http://www.kids.ct.gov/kids/cwp/view.asp?a=2471&q=320706&kidsNav=|>

More Kid Stuff: Be sure to click on Cool Websites when you get there! You can check out information on other states, too!

<http://www.kids.ct.gov/kids/cwp/view.asp?a=2574&q=320718>

20 minute film about many places to visit in Connecticut:

<http://www.depdata.ct.gov/video/mainpsa.asp?url=http://u10videos.com/DEP/Parks/CTParks.wmv?sami=http://u10videos.com/DEP/Parks/CTParks.smi&name=Connecticut%20State%20Parks>

http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&Q=433632&depNav_GID=1650

Note: Fairfield Public Schools is not responsible for any information or content provided by Web sites beyond this site. Special thanks to the staff at Burr Elementary School for originally developing this WebQuest.

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