

# Goldie's Activity Book



Goldie's   
KIDS CLUB

STATE HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF IOWA  
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Hello!

My name is Goldie the Goldfinch,  
and I'm the official State Bird of Iowa.

It's a great job, partly because I get to hang  
out at the State Historical Museum and  
learn fun stuff about Iowa history.

But you don't have to be Iowa's  
highest-ranking feathered official to  
enjoy the museum. You can visit  
whenever you'd like – just as often as  
you can persuade your grown-ups to  
bring you.

So here's a quick guide to get started.

Goldie

# Visiting the Museum

Believe it or not, even the state bird has to follow some rules.

1. DO explore the exhibits, but DON'T leave your group.
2. DO walk, but DON'T run.
3. DO look at the artifacts, but DON'T touch them.
4. DO ask questions, but DON'T raise your voice.
5. DO have fun, but DON'T disrupt other visitors.

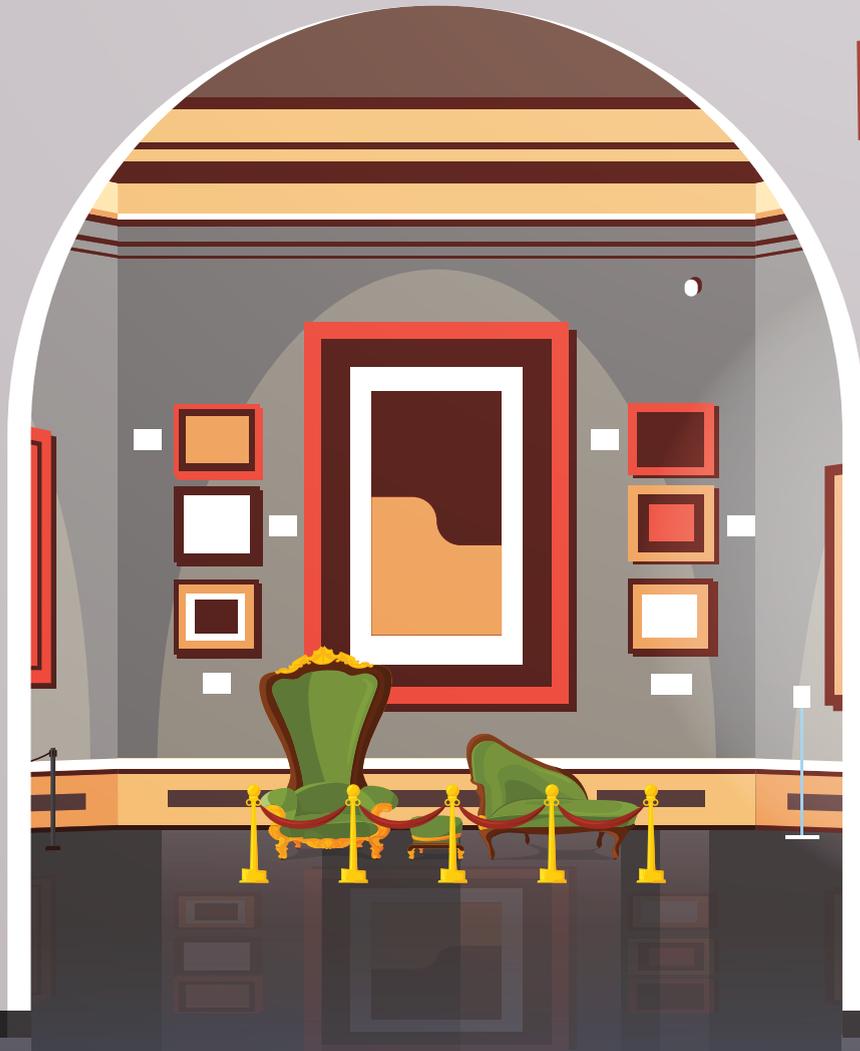


# FIND A JOB!

Lots of people work together to operate a museum. See if you can match up the museum job titles with their definitions.



Which job would you like to do?



Archivist 1

A Registers information about all artifacts, exhibits and loans.

Collections Manager 2

B Conducts research, develops exhibits and talks to visitors.

Conservator 3

C Helps visitors find books and research materials in the library.

Curator 4

D Collects, archives and cares for photos and records.

Exhibit Designer 5

E Designs spaces in the museum to display artifacts that tell a story.

Librarian 6

F Organizes, photographs and manages collections in the vault.

Museum Educator 7

G Repairs and conserves damaged artifacts.

Registrar 8

H Plans museum programs to help visitors learn.



Answers: 1=D, 2=F, 3=G, 4=B, 5=E, 6=C, 7=H, 8=A

# DOWN IN THE VAULT

Did you know that only a few of the museum's artifacts are on display? The collection is so big that most of the 80,000 artifacts are stored downstairs in the vault, which takes up half a city block. Down there you can find cars, a small airplane and even a pair of Abraham Lincoln's glasses.

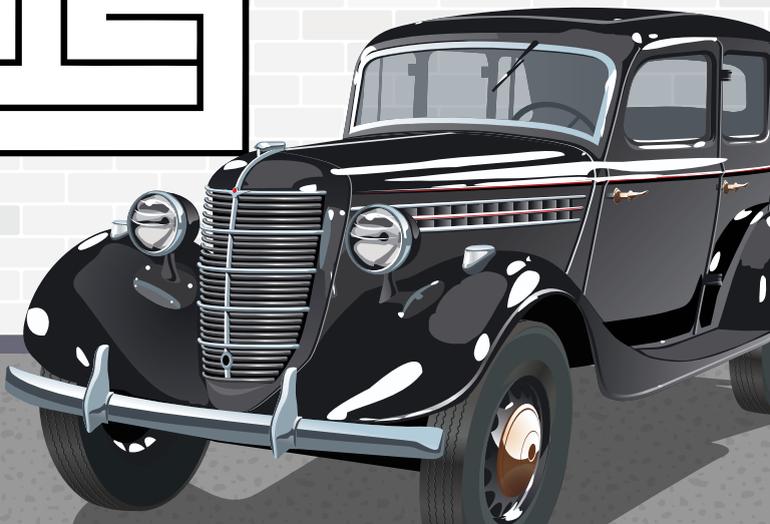
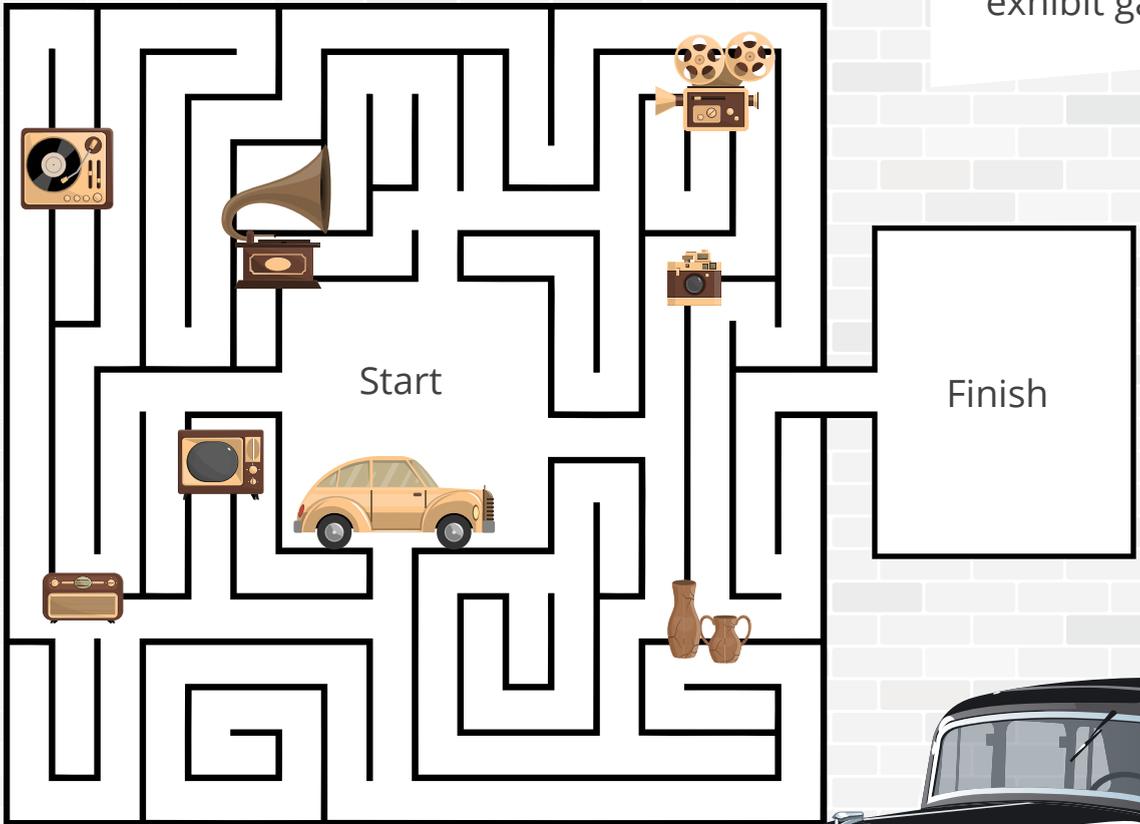
Some of the artifacts are hundreds of years old and very fragile, so the museum team protects them by keeping the vault clean, dry, cool and dark. Some materials are sensitive to heat and light, so the temperature hovers between 60 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit and the lights stay off except when people are down there.



See if you can navigate the vault and collect some artifacts for the museum's next exhibition.



How would you arrange these objects in the exhibit gallery?



# CARING FOR OBJECTS

Conservation slows the aging process by protecting artifacts from light, dust, moisture and changing temperatures. It doesn't make it look new again, which is restoration. Here are a couple of examples.



In the past, soldiers used flags in battle to show their pride and signal their location. Over time the flags began to fall apart. The museum team carefully protected them from future damage but did not repair the rips or patch the holes. You can see a battle flag at the Iowa capitol.



"Dream of Arcadia" by Iwan Gerhard Nollen had a lot of wear and tear from being on display for many years. The painting was restored by cleaning the canvas and fixing the picture frame.

Before Restoration



What is something you would conserve or restore in your house?

# DONATING TO THE MUSEUM

Most of the museum's artifacts were donated, or given, to the collection by Iowans. The museum collects objects that tell the story of Iowa's history.

When Goldie donated her birdhouse a few years ago, here is what happened . . .



Do you have anything you'd like to donate to a museum someday?



## DONATION CHECKLIST

-  **The offer.** Goldie offered her house to the museum. It was, after all, the official residence of the state bird.
-  **The decision.** The museum team discussed whether or not they wanted to accept it. Good news: They did!
-  **The paperwork.** Goldie signed an official document that gave the museum permission to keep the house, and Goldie received a receipt, which is like an official thank-you note.
-  **The description.** The museum team wrote down everything they knew about the house – who designed it, when it was built, where it stood and who lived in it (Goldie!).
-  **The preparation.** The museum team photographed the house and gave it an identification number.
-  **The storage.** The museum team placed the house on a shelf in the vault and recorded its location.
-  **The display.** Years later, the museum curator included the house in an exhibition. Goldie was so proud, she invited all her friends to the museum to see it.

# THE IOWA QUIZ

Are you an Iowa expert? Well, here's your chance to prove it. Good luck!

**1. What year did Iowa become a state?**

- Ⓐ 1789
- Ⓑ 1832
- Ⓒ 1846
- Ⓓ 1942

**2. How many counties are in Iowa?**

- Ⓐ 67
- Ⓑ 75
- Ⓒ 83
- Ⓓ 99

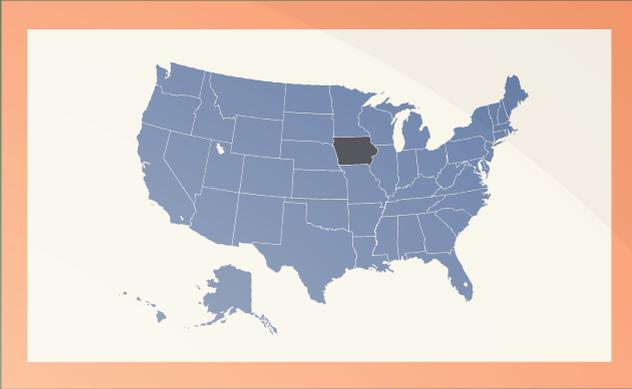
**3. What is Iowa's capital city?**

- Ⓐ Des Moines
- Ⓑ Sioux City
- Ⓒ Davenport
- Ⓓ Iowa City

**4. What is Iowa's state bird?**

- Ⓐ Eagle
- Ⓑ Goldfinch
- Ⓒ Canary
- Ⓓ Parrot





**Bonus question:**

What should be Iowa's state sandwich?

**5. What is Iowa's nickname?**

- Ⓐ The Hawkeye State
- Ⓑ The Gold State
- Ⓒ The Corn State
- Ⓓ The State Between Two Rivers

**7. What is Iowa's state rock?**

- Ⓐ Granite
- Ⓑ Geode
- Ⓒ Quartz
- Ⓓ Sandstone

**6. What is Iowa's state tree?**

- Ⓐ Palm Tree
- Ⓑ Japanese Maple Tree
- Ⓒ Burr Oak Tree
- Ⓓ Apple Tree



Answers: 1=C, 2=D, 3=A, 4=B, 5=A, 6=C, 7=B



# HUNT AND PECK

Eagles are famous for their eyesight, but Goldie has pretty sharp vision, too. See if you can spot some of the jobs that pioneers used to do on the Iowa frontier.



As a pioneer, which job would you want to have?

## **Banker**

Collects and loans money.

## **Blacksmith**

Makes and repairs wagon wheels, horseshoes and other iron tools.

## **Carpenter**

Builds furniture, cabinets and wagons out of wood.

## **Cooper**

Makes and repairs barrels.

## **Doctor**

Delivers babies and heals the sick.

## **Farmer**

Raises crops and livestock.

## **Grocer**

Sells food, spices and kitchen supplies.

## **Merchant**

Sells tools, cloth and other products.

## **Miller**

Grinds wheat into flour and corn into meal.

## **Printer**

Prints newspapers, posters and bulletins.

## **Shoemaker**

Sells pancakes. (Just kidding: Shoemakers make shoes!)

## **Tailor**

Makes and repairs clothing.



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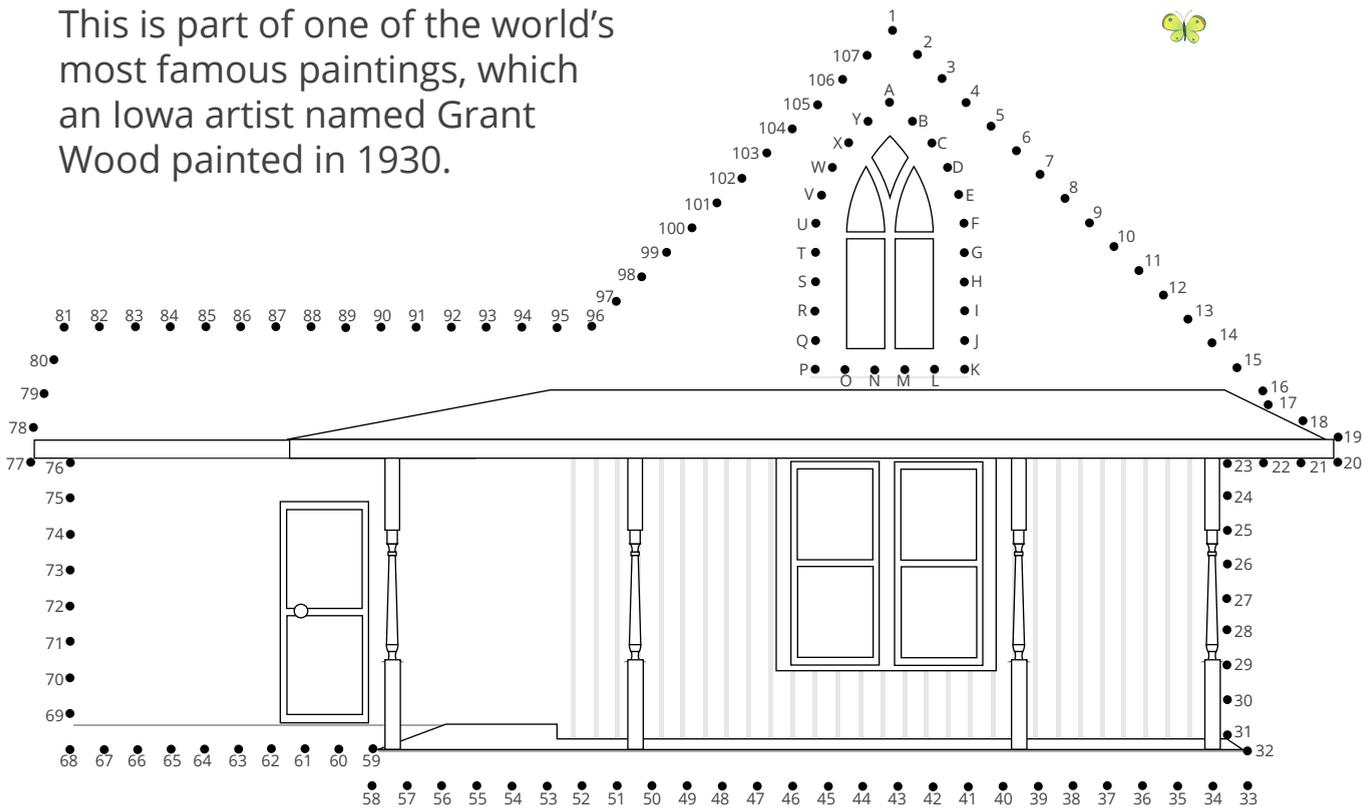


# IOWA ICONS



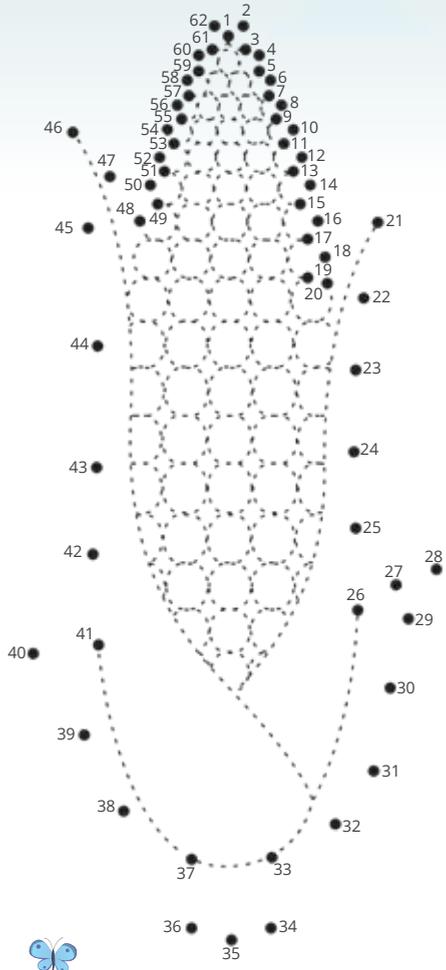
Have you ever used stepping stones to get from one place to the next? Learning about history works the same way: You discover one fact, which leads to another and another. See if you can connect the dots to discover a few Iowa symbols.

This is part of one of the world's most famous paintings, which an Iowa artist named Grant Wood painted in 1930.

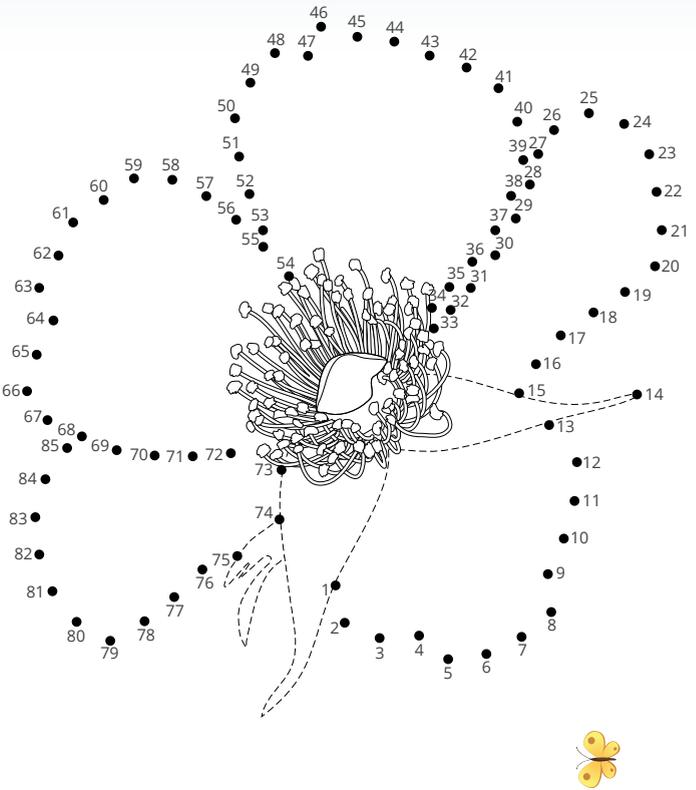




What other icons make you think of Iowa?



This is something that Iowa farmers grow to feed the world.



This is Goldie's favorite flower.



# LOST AND FOUND

Do you know who Iowa's governor is? Well, before Iowa became a state, a man named Robert Lucas was the very first governor of the Iowa Territory. He and his wife, Friendly, lived in Iowa City and called their home Plum Grove because some plum trees grew in the yard.

Goldie flew to Plum Grove the other day and got a bit lost. Can you help find her and her belongings?

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden          | <input type="checkbox"/> Plum tree    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening tools | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geode           | <input type="checkbox"/> Watering can |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goldie          | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheelbarrow  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oak tree        | <input type="checkbox"/> Wild roses   |



Did you know you can visit Plum Grove in Iowa City? If you'd like to explore more Iowa history beyond the museum, check out the State Historical Society of Iowa's eight historic sites across the state. Admission is free.



What would you name your home?



# Goldie's KIDS CLUB

The State Historical Society of Iowa's Goldie's Kids Club introduces children aged 12 and under to Iowa history.

## **Free membership includes:**

- ✂ A newsletter full of fun facts and games
- ✂ Regular programs at the museum and historic sites
- ✂ Exclusive invitations to museum activities
- ✂ A card from Goldie during your child's birthday month

Interested in Goldie's Kids Club? Sign up and view program dates at [iowaculture.gov/goldie](http://iowaculture.gov/goldie).

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