Assembly District 78 Fourth Grade Art Contest:
California State Symbols - Celebrating California's Icons

Objective:
Create an art piece that showcases the unique state symbols or themes of California and highlight their significance in the Golden State's history and culture.

Materials Needed:
- 18" x 11" maximum poster paper, cardboard, or other flat material.
- Art materials (markers, paint, glue, crayons, etc.)
    - Natural materials like leaves, sand, and feathers are encouraged, but please stay below 1 lb. weight for mailing purposes.
- Reference materials about California state symbols (books, printouts, online resources)

Project Requirements:
- Ensure the project weighs less than 1 lb. and can fit in a manila envelope for mailing purposes.
- **Student's name, teacher, school, and parent's phone number** should be **TYPED and clearly visible** on the back of the project. Please feel free to use the attached example to format your name and contact information.

PROJECTS WITHOUT A TYPED NAME AND LEGIBLE, VALID PARENT'S PHONE NUMBER WILL NOT BE ELLIGIBLE AND WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD THE SCHOOL'S WINNING SUBMISSIONS

California State Symbols:
- Find all 42 California State Symbols here: https://capitolmuseum.ca.gov/exhibits/state-symbols/#state-symbols
- Examples include the California Poppy, California Quail, and the California Golden Trout.

Instructions:
- Research:
    - Use reference materials to learn more about each state symbol, and pick one or more to inspire your project. Understand their characteristics, significance, and why they were chosen to represent California.
- Brainstorming:
    - Think about how you can creatively represent your chosen symbol(s) in your artwork.
    - Consider colors, shapes, and arrangements that capture the essence and importance of your chosen symbol(s).
- Sketching:
    - Begin by sketching your ideas on paper. Experiment with different layouts to find the best way to showcase the significance and history of the symbol(s).
- Art Creation:
    - Once you are satisfied with your sketches, start creating your final art piece. Use your chosen materials to add color, texture, and details to bring your representation of California's state symbols to life.
    - Include your typed name, school, parent's phone number, and a short description (2-4 sentences) of your art piece. This should be glued on the back of the art piece.

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- Submission:
    - Drop off submissions between December 14 and 18, 2026 at Assemblymember Ward's district office located at 2245 San Diego Ave, Suite 127, San Diego, California 92110. **Coordinate a drop-off time** by contacting the office at Assemblymember.Ward@Assembly.Ca.Gov or call our office at (619) 280 – 7801.

Teachers:
Please provide a list of participating students when dropping off submissions.

Questions?
- Questions can be directed to Assemblymember.Ward@Assembly.Ca.Gov.

Example name and contact information format:

Name: Sally Brown
School: ABC Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Doe
Guardian name: Jane Brown
Guardian phone number: (619) 555-1234

AGAIN: PROJECTS WITHOUT A TYPED NAME AND LEGIBLE, VALID PARENT'S PHONE NUMBER WILL NOT BE ELLIGIBLE FOR PRIZES AND WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD THE SCHOOL'S WINNING SUBMISSIONS