HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAINE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAINE! ACTIVITIES

- Maine became a state on March 15, 1820 so that means she is 200 years old on March 15, 2020. Explore the number 200 as many ways as you can . . . count to 200 (by one's, by 10's, by 25's, by 50's, etc.); add the ages of people in your classroom/family to see if you can get to 200 exactly; just as for the 100th day of school, collect 200 of an object; make a list with 200 Maine people, places, & things (i.e. blueberries, Augusta, Mt. Katahdin, Joshua Chamberlain, lobsters, Stephen King, moose . . .)

- Maine's 200th birthday is called its bicentennial. Why? What does the prefix "bi" mean? What does "centennial" mean? What other words can you find that start with the prefix "bi"?

- Maine is 200 years old. How old is your town or city? What year was it incorporated? When was the first Maine town founded? What is the newest Maine town?

- Throw a birthday party for Maine. How could you decorate a cake so that it represents Maine? What other "Maine" decorations will you have? What about "Maine" party favors? "Maine" games?

- **Maine has 16 counties. What Maine county do you live in? Learn the Maine county song on this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPvdbaE6Qts**

- **Create a class MAINE book with each student writing and researching a page about a different Maine person, place, or thing.**

- **Perform *Happy Birthday, Maine!* as a play using simple props or as a readers theater performance.**

- **Research the Maine state flag. What do the symbols on it mean? What was the first Maine flag? What does Maine's bicentennial flag look like? Compare the three flags. How are they alike and different?**

- **Visit the Maine State Museum's new bicentennial exhibit.**

- **In honor of Maine's bicentennial, there are many celebrations, events, news articles. See some below in these links and search for others:**

  Maine 200 website

  Maine Memory Network

  History of Maine songs

  Maine poems

  Wildlife Maine has lost in the past 200 years

  Maine Public-Bicentennial

  Maine Statehood Day-activities

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