# SEAL OF APPROVAL

Read the following article and answer the questions that follow.

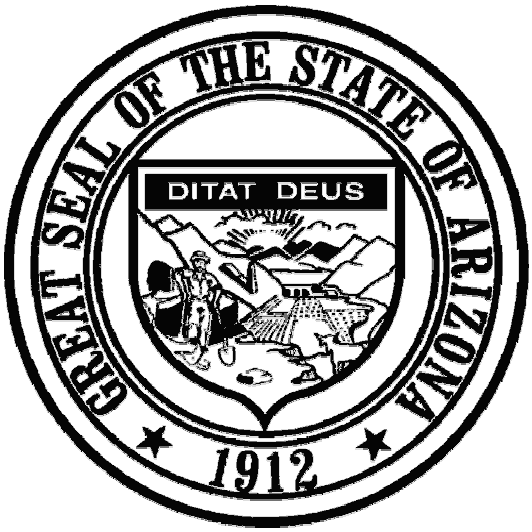
Symbols, representing important parts of the state, are used to show people the unique characteristics of Arizona. You have already been introduced to the living symbols of Arizona, but there are many more state symbols. Each of these symbols was passed into law by the state legislature and holds a special importance to the land and the people. Let's take a look at some of the other symbols of the state.

Million of years ago, swamps covered most of Arizona. When trees would die and fall into the swamps, they would become buried under layers of sand and dirt. The trees would be preserved for years because of the lack of air. Over time, the wood in these trees gradually changed into quartz and became a brightly colored replica of the original living plant. Petrified wood, as these are now called, can be found in parts of northern Arizona and is the official state fossil.

For centuries, Native Americans of the Southwest used a blue-green stone found throughout the state to make jewelry. In fact, turquoise is still quite popular. As a result, it is Arizona's state gemstone.

Perhaps the most well-known symbol is the flag. The state flag of Arizona is divided into two parts separated by a copper star. The star represents the fact that Arizona is the largest producer of copper in the nation. The top half of the flag consists of 13 red and yellow rays, symbolizing a western sunset. The number represents the original American colonies. The bottom half of the flag is a solid blue, the same color found on the United States flag.

The Great Seal of Arizona, shown to the right, is used for official state business. Shown on the seal are many symbols representing what has been called "The five C's of Arizona's Economy" – copper, cattle, cotton, citrus, and climate. To the left, a miner, with a pick and shovel, stands in front of the entrance to a mine. In the front, there are fields of cotton and citrus that are being supplied with water from the dam in the distance. Grazing on these fields is a cow. Like the flag, there is a grand sunset in the background. Included in the seal is the Latin version of Arizona's state motto – God enriches – and the year that Arizona became a state.




*All information for this article was provided by the Arizona Capitol Museum Web site at http://www.lib.az.us/museum/symbols.cfm.*

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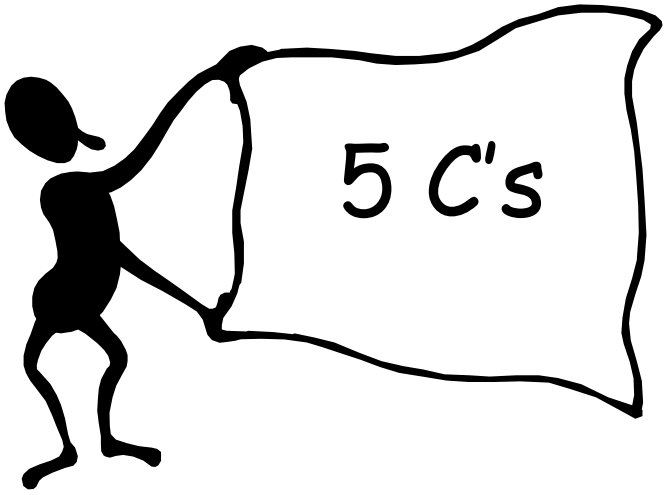
## What are the 5 C's of Arizona?




C _____

C _____

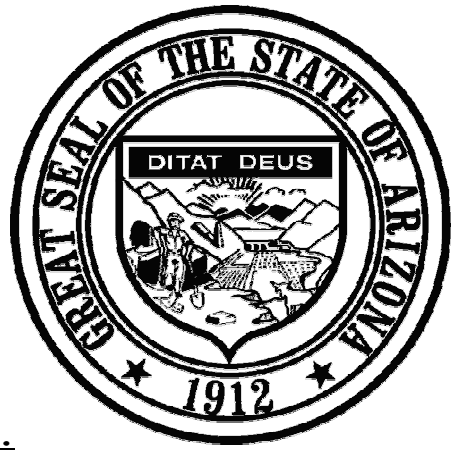
C _____

C _____

C _____

## What do the parts of the seal represent?

1. Ditat Deus means _____.
2. Sunset represents _____.
3. The cow represents _____.
4. The fields represent _____ & _____.
5. The miner represents the importance of _____.




## What are the following state symbols of Arizona?

Mammal: _____ Tree: _____ Amphibian: _____

Fish: _____ Flower: _____ Butterfly: _____

Bird: _____ Reptile: _____ Gem: _____

# Create-A-State Seal

Requirements:

- ❑ 3 State Symbols
- ❑ New State Motto
- ❑ Fully Colored
- ❑ 6 Items That Represent Arizona