

★ NYS Social Studies Grade 4 ★

THE NEW YORK DAILY

★ NOVEMBER ★

Morning Work • Early Finishers • Enrichment

20
DAILY
ACTIVITIES
★★★

A DIFFERENT
NYS CHALLENGE
EVERY DAY!

ELA
Integrated
★★★

MAPPING
NYS

NY
DETECTIVE

NYS
THEN

ONLY IN
NYS

THINK ABOUT
NYS

NYS IN
NUMBERS

NYS
INNOVATES

NOTABLE
NEW YORKERS



NO PREP ★ PRINT & GO ★ ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

THE NEW YORK DAILY

Grade 4

20 DIFFERENT WAYS TO BRING
NYS SOCIAL STUDIES
INTO YOUR DAY

USE IT FOR



Morning Work



Early Finishers



Enrichment

STUDENTS PRACTICE



Maps

Primary Sources



Reading



Data



Inquiry



Critical Thinking

8 ACTIVITY TYPES

- 1 Mapping NYS
- 2 NYS Detective
- 3 NYS Then
- 4 Only in NYS
- 5 Think About NYS
- 6 NYS in Numbers
- 7 NYS Innovates
- 8 Notable New Yorkers

NYS Content + ELA Skills – No Extra Prep



ACTIVITY TYPES



Mapping NYS

Students build geographic skills by working with maps, locations, directions, borders, bodies of water, grids, and spatial relationships. Some pages ask students to recall what they know, while others are designed for students to use a classroom map, atlas, or other reference.



NYS Detective

Students investigate historical photographs, maps, and other primary sources. Rather than simply identifying what they see, students are asked to notice details, find evidence, make inferences, and think about what a source can tell us about New York in the past.



NYS Then

These activities connect the month to important events in New York history. Students may read a short passage, examine a historical source, compare ideas, or use evidence to think more deeply about why an event mattered.



Only in NYS

Students explore places, traditions, natural features, agriculture, symbols, and other topics with a special connection to New York State. These pages are designed to build background knowledge while helping students see the variety found across their state.



Think About NYS

These are reasoning challenges. Students use what they know about geography and history to make predictions, recognize patterns, draw conclusions, or explain their thinking. In many cases, more than one response may be reasonable when it is supported with good evidence.



NYS Innovates

Students meet New Yorkers whose ideas, inventions, or innovations solved problems and changed the way people lived or worked. Activities often ask students to consider the problem, solution, and impact and may include patents, diagrams, or other historical evidence.



NYS in Numbers

Students use real-world New York data presented in graphs, charts, or tables. Encourage students to read the title, labels, categories, and units carefully before answering. The goal is not simply computation—it is learning to use numbers as evidence and draw conclusions from data.



Notable New Yorkers

Students will meet people who made an impact on New York State and beyond. Through short, engaging activities, they will learn about the lives, accomplishments, and contributions of New Yorkers from history, science, the arts, sports, government, and more.

Using The New York Daily

The New York Daily is designed to give students a short, engaging New York State social studies challenge while building skills they will use throughout the year. The activities are not meant to be taught as a separate unit or completed in a particular sequence. Instead, they provide opportunities to revisit important geography, history, inquiry, data, and literacy skills in a variety of ways.

Use the pages as morning work, early finisher activities, enrichment, bell ringers, independent practice, or a quick addition to your social studies block. Activities are intended to be completed independently in just a few minutes, but may lead naturally into a class discussion.

ELA Is Built In

Although the focus is New York State social studies throughout the packet. Depending on the activities, students will locate text evidence, interpret information from primary sources, analyze information, determine cause and effect, and gives students an authentic reason to use those skills.

A student cover is included in case you wish to use this as a packet.

Helpful Hints

- Use the activities in any order. Calendar activities can be selected to complement other activities.
- Project sources when helpful. Historical photographs and maps can be displayed on a screen or projected onto a wall.

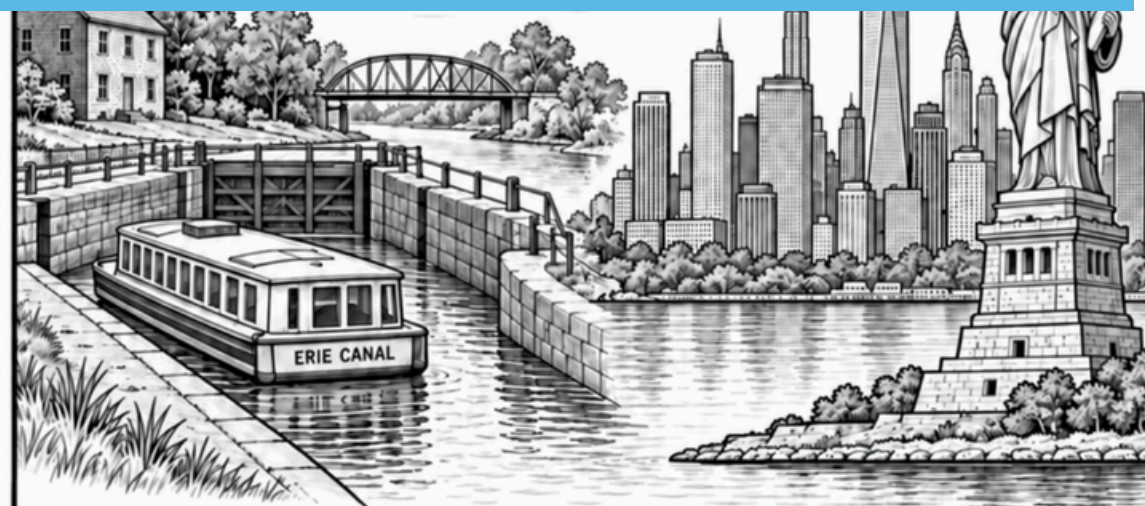
The New York Daily

November



Directions & Teacher Helpful Hints
Student Cover if you want to make this a packet.

- Don't feel that every page needs a grade. Some activities are for assessment, discussion, or a quick look at a topic.



Name: _____



**Penn Station Opens
27 November 1910**



Name: _____ Date: _____

On November 27, 1910, Pennsylvania Station opened in New York City. Before the station was built, people had to travel directly into Manhattan. The train station was built to find a faster and easier way to bring passengers into the city. The solution was a huge engineering project that involved the East River. Steam locomotives were replaced by electric trains to carry passengers through miles of underground tunnels connecting the city to the suburbs.



**Thanksgiving Dinner
1899**



Name: _____ Date: _____



Armistice Day to Veterans Day



Name: _____ Date: _____

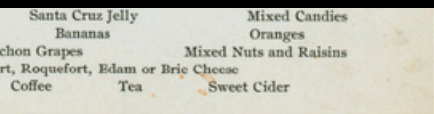
An armistice is an agreement to stop fighting. On November 11, 1918, an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations brought the fighting of World War I to an end. It took effect at 11:00 in the morning—the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. One year later, Americans began observing November 11 as Armistice Day, a day to remember the end of the war.



**NYS Then - Take a Look at the Past with
informational texts, map and primary sources.**

In 1954, the name of the holiday was changed to Veterans Day. Today, Veterans Day is observed every November 11 to honor Americans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The date still connects the holiday to that November morning in 1918 when people in Rochester and communities across the country celebrated the end of the fighting in World War I.

1. What was an armistice? _____
2. Why was November 11 important in 1918? _____
3. Look at the photograph of Rochester on November 11, 1918. What evidence in the photograph shows that the armistice was important to people in the city? _____
4. Why was Armistice Day changed to Veterans Day in 1954? _____



building suggest about the kind of place
ee at a Thanksgiving dinner today.
ntrées, roasts, vegetables, and desserts.
the hotel?
r fancy meal? Explain your choice in one
ke a list of similarities and differences.
Copyright 2026 Toni Stevens-Oliver



**Tony Sarg:
Puppets in the Sky**



Name: _____ Date: _____



Tony Sarg was an artist, illustrator, and puppeteer who worked in New York City. He became well known for creating marionettes—puppets that move with strings. Macy's hired Sarg to design holiday parade. His experience with puppets led to a new kind of parade attraction. He used live animals from the Central Park Zoo, along with exciting that could be seen by the streets. Sarg began thinking about how small figures move through the parade. He helped solve the problem. He added character balloons to the parade. They were filled with air and supported by a team that developed helium-filled balloons. He used upside-down marionettes: instead of using ropes to control a balloon



**Willis Carrier
Modern Air Conditioning**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Willis Carrier was born in Angola, New York, on November 26, 1876. He was interested in math and solving problems. Carrier studied engineering at Cornell University in Ithaca and graduated in 1901. Soon afterward, he went to work for the Buffalo Forge Company in Buffalo. In 1902, Carrier was given an unusual problem to solve. A printing company in Brooklyn was having trouble making colorful pictures. When the air was very humid, the paper absorbed moisture and changed size. As the paper went through the printing press several times, the different colors did not always line up correctly. The company needed a way to control the moisture in the air. Carrier designed a system that moved air across cold coils. As the air cooled, some of its moisture was removed. This allowed the printing plant to control both the temperature and the humidity inside the building.

**NYS Innovations - Learn about inventors Willis
Carrier and Tony Sarg.**

The Problem: What problem did Willis Carrier want to solve?	The Solution: What solution did he find?	The Impact: What impact did this invention have?

Explain how his knowledge of puppets helped him solve the problem.



A New York Thanksgiving Plate

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Use the information on the Thanksgiving plate to answer the questions.



Veterans Across New York State



Name: _____ Date: _____



1. Which food had the greatest number of harvested acres in New York State?



Daylight in November



Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Use the daylight data to answer the questions.

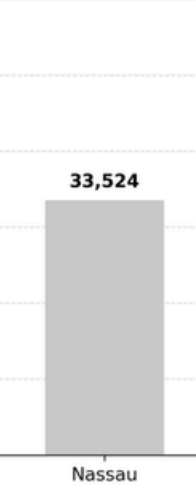
Hours of Daylight in Albany, New York During November

Key: ☀ = 1 hour of daylight

- How much daylight did Albany have on November 1? _____
- How much daylight was lost between November 1 and November 30? _____

people who have served in the military in New York State. The graph shows the number of veterans in each county.

New York State



NYS Department of Labor

in Erie County? _____
ty? _____
ed? _____

Copyright 2026 Toni Stevens-Oliver



The New York State Fossil



Name: _____ Date: _____

More than 400 million years ago, long before dinosaurs lived, much of what is now New York State was covered by shallow seas. One of the animals that lived in those waters was a eurypterid, an extinct animal often called a “sea scorpion.” Eurypterids were arthropods, animals with hard outer coverings, jointed legs, and bodies made of sections. Arthropods include animals such as spiders, scorpions, insects, and horseshoe crabs.

One species of eurypterid was Eurypterus remipes. It had a hard outer covering, several pairs of legs, and a long body that ended in a pointed tail. It lived during the Silurian Period, about 420 million years ago. Fossils of this animal have been found in large numbers in rocks near Buffalo in Erie County. New

A fossil is the preserved remains or signs of a plant or animal that lived long ago. Fossils give scientists clues about what Earth was like in the past. Finding fossils of sea animals in New York rocks tells scientists that the environment here was once very different from the forests, farms, towns, and cities we see today.

In 1984, New York officially chose Eurypterus remipes as the state fossil. It was selected in part because it is a unique New York fossil.

Only in NYS - through informational text & text based questions, students learn about NYS.

3. Which detail best explains why Eurypterus remipes was chosen as New York’s state fossil?

- A. It lived at the same time as dinosaurs.
- B. It was larger than other sea animals.
- C. Many of its fossils have been found in western New York.
- D. It still lives in New York waters today.

4. Why are fossils useful to scientists studying New York’s past? Use one or two details from the passage in your answer.

Copyright 2026 Toni Stevens-Oliver

NYS in Numbers - students analyze data related to NYS.

