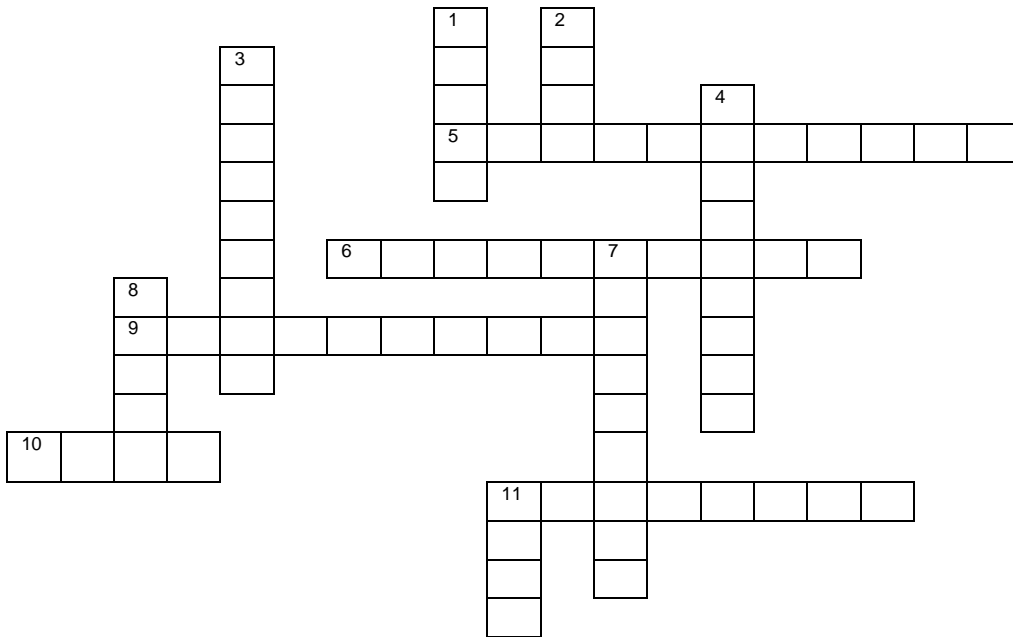


New Mexico State Symbols

Know Before You Go
www.emnrd.state.nm.us/spd/



- ## Answers

 - Spadefoot
 - Roadrunner
 - Hairstreak
 - Cutthroat
 - Coelophysis
 - Yucca
 - Turquoise
 - Grama
 - Wasp
 - Bear
 - Whiptail
 - Pine

Down

Across

1. Our creamy white State Flower grows on this plant. In the past, its leaf fibers were used to make rope and its roots and stems were used to make soap. Hint: the name of this plant starts with the letter "Y".
2. Every few years, our State Tree will produce a bumper crop of nuts which are gathered by people, and eaten by birds, bears and other wildlife.
 Answer: the Piñon _____
3. Our State Fish lives only in very clean water in small, swift-running, cold streams. It is one of two native trout in New Mexico.
 Answer: the Rio Grande _____ Trout
4. Our State Amphibian has a wedge-shaped structure on each hind leg which is used for digging. It remains underground until the start of the monsoon rains.
 Answer: the New Mexico _____
7. Our State Gem is a phosphate of aluminum with small quantities of copper, iron and a green mineral, variscite. It is the only phosphate that is considered a precious stone. It is often used to make jewelry. Hint: the name of this gem starts with the letter "T".
8. Our State Grass is a perennial, drought tolerant grass with seed stalks that have two curling comb-like spikes that appear purple. Answer: Blue _____
11. Our State Insect is large and has a black body and orange wings. Females hunt for large spiders, sting them, drag them to their burrow and then attach an egg to the spider. After hatching the larva will then feed on the paralyzed spider.
 Answer: the Tarantula Hawk _____

5. The genus name of our State Fossil means "hollow form". These fossil remains are of a small dinosaur with hollow limb bones. Many fossils of this species were found at Ghost Ranch in Rio Arriba County. Hint: the name of this fossil starts with the letter "C".
6. Our State Butterfly has a beautiful golden-green color on the underside of its wings. Its caterpillars feed on the flowers and fruits of a plant called Beargrass.
 Answer: the Sandia _____
9. Our State Bird has a distinctive X-shaped footprint with two toes pointing forward and two backward. It feeds on a wide variety of prey items including snakes, lizards, beetles, and small birds.
 Answer: the Greater _____
10. Our State Mammal is an omnivore, feeding mostly on a wide variety of plants. It also eats animals (mostly small rodents) and carrion (dead flesh). Large individuals can weigh more than 400 pounds.
 Answer: the American Black _____
11. Our State Reptile is a lizard. There are no males in this species, only females. It eats moths, butterflies, beetles, insect larvae, grasshoppers and ants.
 Answer: the New Mexico _____ Lizard.

For more information about New Mexico State Symbols please visit the New Mexico Secretary of State website at <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/about-new-mexico/state-symbols/>



Rio Grande Nature Center State Park
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