

# Interpreting Astoria Nordic Heritage Park

For 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

TEACHING MATERIALS FOR FIELD TRIPS

This project is funded by

The Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association



and

The Clatsop County Cultural Coalition/ Oregon Cultural Trust



## **FOREWARD**

Astoria Nordic Heritage Park was a heritage project of the Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association that took seven years of planning and cost \$1.5 million to build. The park project aligns with the Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association's mission "to preserve traditional Scandinavian culture and heritage through educational opportunities in areas of customs, language, food and the arts and to educate the citizens of Clatsop County and surrounding areas about the culture and heritage of the Scandinavian countries" by developing interpretive materials for groups that visit the park. This phase of the project addresses 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Clatsop County. Teachers at Lewis and Clark Elementary in the Astoria School District specifically requested more information about Astoria Nordic Heritage Park to incorporate into their annual Walking Tour of Astoria fieldtrips. These materials are free online for all to download for in person and virtual fieldtrips to the park.

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**ASTORIA NORDIC HERITAGE PARK  
OVERVIEW**



## Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association

PO Box 34 Astoria OR 97103

[www.AstoriaNordicPark.org](http://www.AstoriaNordicPark.org)

### WHO WE ARE

Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association (ASHA) is a cultural non-profit with a mission to preserve traditional Nordic culture and heritage and to educate citizens and visitors about the culture and heritage of the Nordic countries. Its primary objective is to renew and celebrate Nordic heritage every June with a three-day festival of all things Scandinavian.

### BACKGROUND

The State of Oregon was home to only about 47 Scandinavians in 1870 but by the turn of the century they were coming to the Pacific Northwest in droves. Many came to the local area after 1870 when the railroad was completed from San Francisco to Astoria. Most of the large number of immigrants who settled in Astoria were loggers, fishermen, farmers, and small business owners. In 1900, the largest number of foreign born Astorians were from Finland, then Sweden, Norway, Germany, England, and Denmark. By the 1910 census there were 9599 inhabitants in Astoria and 35% of the population identified as Nordic. Although blood lines are intermingled now, Astoria is still proud of its Nordic roots and the contributions of early immigrants to the community.

### Rationale for Astoria Nordic Heritage Park

In addition to sponsoring an annual three-day Midsummer Festival, the Nordic community wanted to preserve and promote its heritage with a year-round accessible monument. Planning for Astoria Nordic Heritage Park began in 2015. After seven years of fundraising and with much community involvement, construction began in the fall of 2021 and was completed in June 2022 in time for a festive dedication just before the Midsummer Festival. Astoria Nordic Heritage Park is a testimony to the strong pride that still exists in Astoria's Nordic community and beyond.

### Why are there trolls in the Nordic Park?

Trolls are part of Nordic myths and folklore. Other words for trolls are gnomes, elves, and nisse, tomte, or tonttu in the Nordic languages. Some trolls are dwarves and some are giants. The small kind live in Astoria Nordic Heritage Park. Trolls can be mischievous and baffling to humans who they sometimes try to trick or deceive. Some trolls are helpful to animals and some may be only visible to children. Each troll in Astoria Nordic Heritage Park has its own story and they are collected in a booklet called **Astoria Nordic Heritage Park Troll Tales**.

### DETAILS

Information about Astoria Nordic Heritage Park is online at

[www.AstoriaNordicPark.org](http://www.AstoriaNordicPark.org).

Information about our three-day Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival is online at

[www.AstoriaScanFest.org](http://www.AstoriaScanFest.org).

# Storyline

## Astoria Nordic Heritage Park Aerial View (below left)

Astoria Nordic Heritage Park is located between Marine Drive and the Astoria RiverWalk across from the east entrance to Historic Downtown Astoria at 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Astoria Nordic Heritage Park is an enhancement to the site formerly known as Peoples Park and is owned by the City of Astoria.



## Riverwalk Grand Entrance (above right)

The staircase and accessible walkway from the Astoria RiverWalk to Nordic Heritage Park represent the immigrants' farewell to the Nordic lands ("We Said Our Last Goodbyes"). The flags as viewed from the RiverWalk fly according to international protocol.

## Astoria Nordic Heritage Park from Marine Drive (below left)

Five granite pillars represent Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Six flag poles fly flags of the Nordic countries and the U.S. on special occasions. Steamer trunks on the plaza reflect the meager prize possessions that Nordic immigrants brought with them to a new country.



## Arrival Plaza with Midsummer Pole (above right)

The Midsummer Pole is the main feature of the Arrival Plaza. It represents the traditions that the Nordic immigrants brought with them to the new land. Five metal bands set in the concrete reflect the five Nordic groups that came together to create the Nordic community in Astoria.





## Online Resources

Visit [www.AstoriaNordicPark.org/education](http://www.AstoriaNordicPark.org/education)

**Power Point presentation titled ANHP Overview**  
(free to download upon request,  
visual introduction to ANHP and features and  
concepts presented in the park)

**Astoria Nordic Heritage Park Troll Tales**  
(all six troll tales free to download)

**Coming to Astoria Readers Theater Script – elementary version**  
(free to download)

**Coming to Astoria Readers Theater Script – middle school version**  
(free to download)

**Sirpa Duoos Immigrant Video**  
(five-minute video interview of local  
Finnish immigrant)

**Berit Madsen Immigrant Video**  
(six-minute video interview of local  
Norwegian immigrant)

**Audio Files of the Nordic Park Troll Tales**  
(online files of all six troll tales read  
by KMUN Bedtime Stories readers)

**Video of Readers Theater Coming to Astoria**  
(Lewis and Clark students directed by Allison Magyar  
performing Coming to Astoria Parts 1 and 2  
as Readers Theater online on YouTube)





## Possible Docents to invite to be available during the visit

Many members of the Astoria Nordic Heritage Park can be available to talk about the park when students visit or to be stationed in the park to answer questions. Most can dress in Nordic folk wear. This list will be updated annually.

July 2023

Carla Oja – former instructional aide at Lewis and Clark Elementary, Midsummer Festival president

[mama\\_oja@hotmail.com](mailto:mama_oja@hotmail.com)

Leila Collier – former teacher and elementary school principal

[mlcollier62@gmail.com](mailto:mlcollier62@gmail.com)

Sirpa Duoos – former county employee, Midsummer Festival vice-president, grandparent, immigrant from Finland

[sirpaduoos@hotmail.com](mailto:sirpaduoos@hotmail.com)

Berit Madsen – grandparent, great-grandparent, immigrant from Norway

[beritfromdrammen@gmail.com](mailto:beritfromdrammen@gmail.com)

Janet Bowler – former teacher in Astoria School District, co-chair of Astoria Nordic Heritage Park committee

[jlbowler@yahoo.com](mailto:jlbowler@yahoo.com)



## PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES



## Park Etiquette & FAQs

- Please be mindful of the trolley tracks when near the River Walk. Look both ways as you cross them as there might be a trolley coming in your direction!
- Please walk at all times in the park. This is especially important because Marine Drive is also a highway (hwy 30), which is busy with cars and trucks at all times of the year.
- If you are lucky enough to get sunshine on the day of your visit, it is still a good idea to dress in layers. The wind can be cold and brisk off the Columbia River and the weather can change quickly.
- There is one restroom at the park that is free and open to the public.
- The Nordic Heritage Park is under the jurisdiction of Astoria Parks and Recreation. Please take the time to read the park rules signage which includes guidelines for general city park etiquette.

### **Can I approach the trolls?**

Yes! We encourage people to get as close to the trolls as they feel comfortable. The area around Margit and Olle is surrounded by bark chips and is intended to be walked on/in. You may even touch a troll if you are feeling brave, but we ask that you keep your feet on the ground. The trolls are not for climbing or sitting on.

### **Where should I park?**

There are some designated parking spots just east of Mo's Restaurant along the River Walk. If you are arriving by bus, the Columbia River Maritime Museum might be the best drop-off place. Their parking lot is very large and easy for school buses to maneuver.

### **Is there anything else to do nearby?**

Yes! If you are visiting Astoria for educational purposes, in addition to the Nordic Heritage Park, we highly recommend the Columbia River Maritime Museum, The Cannery Museum at Pier 39, the Heritage Museum, Uppertown Firefighters Museum, the Flavel House, and the Oregon Film Museum. You can visit [astoriamuseums.org](http://astoriamuseums.org) for more information.

**Remember that the recommended entrance to the park is from the Grand Entrance on the River Walk, not Marine Drive or the Parking Lot.**



## What is an Immigrant Activity Sheet and **Answer Key**



## What is an Immigrant? (Pre-Visit)

Definition: A person who comes to live permanently in a different country than where they were born.

	Are they an immigrant? (circle one)	
	YES	NO
Frida was born in Sweden and she moved to the United States of America.	YES	NO
Mia was born in Canada and she speaks English. She moved to Portland, Oregon with her family.	YES	NO
Hugo moved to New York City from Germany. He speaks German, English, and French.	YES	NO
Eric was born in Texas and he moved to Astoria by himself.	YES	NO
Soren is from Denmark, but he visited his Aunt in Norway for two weeks last summer.	YES	NO
Julie was born in Mexico and she moved to California with her mom.	YES	NO
Tom was born in China and moved to Seaside with his family.	YES	NO
Derek's dad is in the Coast Guard and they move every two years. He has gone to school in Oregon, Maine, Florida, and Louisiana.	YES	NO
Ada goes to Lewis and Clark Elementary. She was born in Oregon, but her parents were born in Iceland.	YES	NO

### Home Connections

The last example from the chart above was about Ada. While she is not an immigrant, she is considered a first-generation American. This is because her parents are immigrants and they started their family in America. If Ada has children, they will be second-generation Americans. Ask an adult at home about their story. How long has their family been in America? Who was the brave one in the family who decided to become an immigrant? What is their story?



### What is an Immigrant? (Pre-Visit) **KEY**

Definition: A person who comes to live permanently in a different country than where they were born.

	Are they an immigrant? (circle one)	
Frida was born in Sweden and she moved to the United States of America.	<b>YES</b>	NO
Mia was born in Canada and she speaks English. She moved to Portland, Oregon with her family.	<b>YES</b>	NO
Hugo moved to New York City from Germany. He speaks German, English, and French.	<b>YES</b>	NO
Eric was born in Texas and he moved to Astoria by himself.	YES	<b>NO</b>
Soren is from Denmark, but he visited his Aunt in Norway for two weeks last summer.	YES	<b>NO</b>
Julie was born in Mexico and she moved to California with her mom.	<b>YES</b>	NO
Tom was born in China and moved to Seaside with his family.	<b>YES</b>	NO
Derek's dad is in the Coast Guard and they move every two years. He has gone to school in Oregon, Maine, Florida, and Louisiana.	YES	<b>NO</b>
Ada goes to Lewis and Clark Elementary. She was born in Oregon, but her parents were born in Iceland.	YES	<b>NO</b>

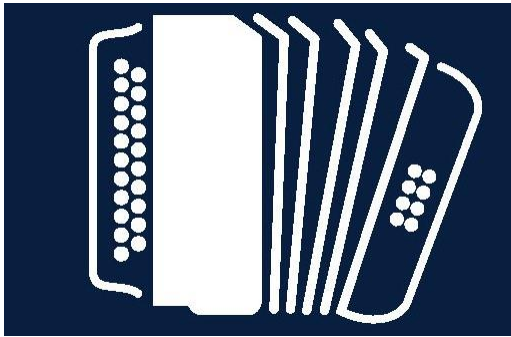
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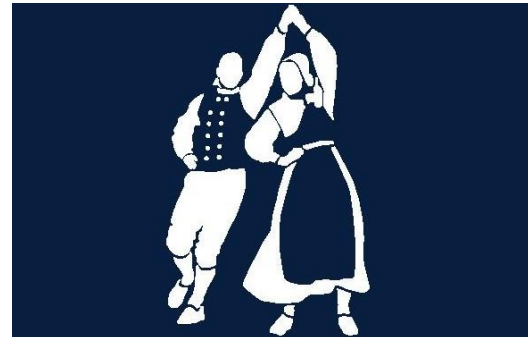


**Astoria Nordic Heritage Icons and Definitions**  
**Nordic Icon Matching Activity Sheet and Answer Key**

## Astoria Nordic Heritage Park Icon Symbols



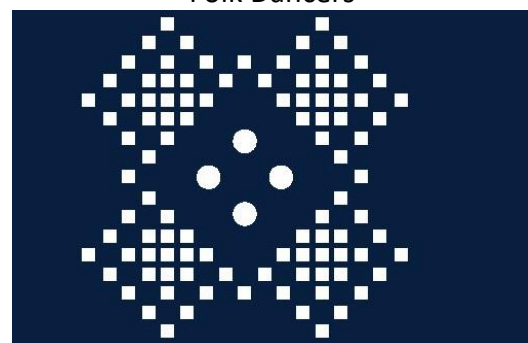
Accordion



Folk Dancers



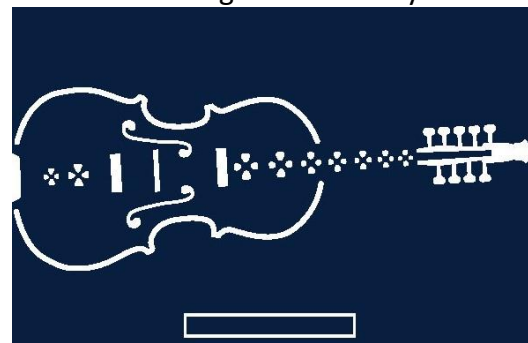
Birch Trees



Hardanger Embroidery



Dala Horses



Hardanger Fiddle



Finnish Good Luck Knot



Julbock





Lucia Crown



Sauna Bucket



Nordic Knitting Pattern



Snow Drops



Reindeer



Stavkirke



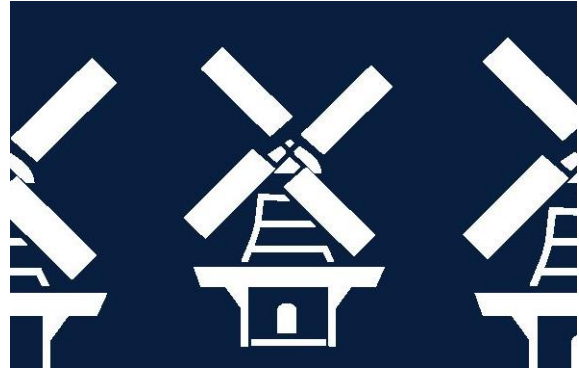
Royal Symbol



Stabbur



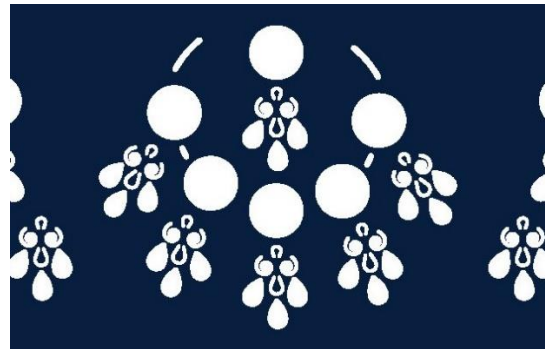
Viking Helmet



Windmill



Viking Ship



Solje



## Astoria Nordic Heritage Park Icon Definitions

Accordion – popular folk instrument in Nordic lands

Birch Trees – tree native in the Nordic lands

Dala horse – traditional wooden red painted horse that children play with in Sweden

Finnish Good Luck Symbol – decorative design popular on furniture and buildings in Finland

Folk Dancers – people who dance the waltz and polka

Hardanger embroidery – a specialized cross stitch found in Norway

Hardanger fiddle – a fiddle found in Norway with more strings than a violin

Julbock - a Christmas goat made of straw

Lucia Crown -worn by the young woman of the family on a December holiday in Sweden

Nordic knitting pattern – a design that appears on Nordic mittens, caps, and sweaters

Reindeer – an animal typical in the far north

Royal Symbol – found in many Nordic lands because many Nordic countries have kings and queens

Sauna Bucket & dipper – tools for spending time in a small heated room in Finland

Snowdrops – flowers that bloom in early spring in the Nordic lands

Stavkirke – wooden Gothic church built without nails

Stabbur (storehouse) – raised storehouse to keep grain off ground

Sølje – Norwegian jewelry worn to demonstrate wealth

Viking helmet – worn by the Vikings to protect their head and face in battle

Viking ship – used by Viking explorers to roam the world

Windmill – building that grinds grains in the flatlands of Denmark

Within the park, you see many Nordic Icons. These images were chosen because they represent important pieces of Nordic heritage and traditions. Can you identify which icons are shown below? Each icon is only used once. Put the icon number on the line next to the appropriate name and definition.



\_\_\_\_\_ Accordion: popular folk instrument in Nordic lands.



\_\_\_\_\_ Dala horse: traditional wooden red painted horse that children play with in Sweden.



\_\_\_\_\_ Stavkirke: Wooden Gothic church built without nails.



\_\_\_\_\_ Sauna bucket & dipper: tools for spending time in a small, heated room in Finland.



\_\_\_\_\_ Julbock: a Christmas goat made of straw.



\_\_\_\_\_ Birch trees: tree native to the Nordic lands.



\_\_\_\_\_ Finnish knot: decorative design popular on furniture and buildings in Finland; symbol of good luck.

**ANSWER KEY**

Within the park, you see many Nordic Icons. These images were chosen because they represent important pieces of Nordic heritage and traditions. Can you identify which icons are shown below? Each icon is only used once. Put the icon number on the line next to the appropriate name and definition.



  E   Accordion: popular folk instrument in Nordic lands.



  D   Dala horse: traditional wooden red painted horse that children play with in Sweden.



  F   Stavkirke: Wooden Gothic church built without nails.



  C   Sauna bucket & dipper: tools for spending time in a small, heated room in Finland.



  A   Julbock: a Christmas goat made of straw.



  B   Birch trees: tree native to the Nordic lands.



  G   Finnish knot: decorative design popular on furniture and buildings in Finland; symbol of good luck.



### **NORDIC ICON DRAWING ACTIVITY**

Now that you are familiar with some of the traditional icons of the Nordic region, can you design your own icon? Think of a symbol that has meaning to you personally, to your family, to your school, or to your community. Draw your icon below and answer the questions that follow.



What is the name of your icon? \_\_\_\_\_

Tell why you chose this symbol. What does it represent? Why is it important?

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# Nordic Icons

W I T W P Y Z L Q K R W Z K F I Y L U C I A C R O W N U E Z  
 E B H M J A W R C E T B M U P O E G H O W C J L H U A R K J  
 F G B O T E V V P D D I B D W V F T Z B G K Q B S X E N N M  
 V P P I L U D Z P B U K I D Q K V R H Z T G W Z U L Z L B Q  
 J V I K I N G S H I P J R A J T I I C B E P I D J P G L Z U  
 D B T Z T E J I L G Q G C U C Z G D E Z A K N Q N G A Z H J  
 B R I D U P O R P W J R H J F O I R J F D D D T E R I J Y L  
 M C A D R E I N D E E R T K Y C A X J V K S M J W L B C V G  
 R S I Y Q P N R B B W V R J H R C Y O I K J I V D F L D D B  
 R M G P H X J Q S H M L E Y Y S O Y K K C N L J J F R M S K  
 S L B W O U U A H T E R E V E S M E U I K U L A D U F D A J  
 F C C D J D L D J P A R S H E R C K X N C B D N H I R K U X  
 G K Y H O A B X O I D V V J I Z C M K G P Y Q W I D J L N T  
 T T K O U S O V D T F N K O P L S S R H I D M V G Q T H A L  
 R V I F P P K F I A F I Q I R P S W Q E M F M T Y R C H B M  
 U B S M O T E Y H A L A G H R O E Y A L C G I F D T B V U X  
 D U T N O L C D S I S A X V I K Y X U M E D W A J V N L C R  
 P H H V O V K Q U A W Z H N H W E A Y E L D L N P L Y I K Q  
 K D H D P W F D U I F I J O D E U W L T W J G G M B M J E T  
 Z A Q X J U D H A H S Y X Z R M I U K S L W B H A U F H T J  
 V Z V Q N U L R D N Q X E M N S C B T T Y Q J H J U R Q R U  
 E Z K F A N O I O G C C M F S E E B R Z A M G T L G F V K Q  
 N O L N S B T N Z P P E Q W K M D N F C C V B D S L B D K D  
 P X F Z I E J D V M S Y R P W Z M V E R C L D O W V H Q K N  
 S G P R E V D L J N J K J S M N P O A V O K O C L R V A Z U  
 B S A G O F I N N I S H K N O T H J M D R R W E K C J Y L Q  
 Q G Z U J K G G C E K K T P S N H J X L D U S N Q A N H W E  
 U H B T J K J N P E P W R B K E N S J O I S O Q A N T R V P  
 A U M S E Y W K B B V A G L B M M Q Z G O W H X K I R N H J  
 V Q M X F C V R M F Y Z Q I E B V V P D N B Y Z H N J D H D

Viking Helmet	Finnish knot	Folk Dancers
Royal Symbol	Sauna Bucket	Birch Trees
Lucia Crown	Accordion	Viking Ship
Snowdrops	Dala Horse	Stavkirke
Windmill	Reindeer	Julbok



**Astoria Nordic Heritage Park Trolls**  
**What are Trolls**  
**Troll Tales Coloring Activity**  
**Troll Tales Comprehension Activities**





## What are Trolls? Background Information for Classroom Teachers

Nordic fairytales and fables contain many types of mythical, human-like creatures called trolls. As in most folklore, these trolls are used to explain or teach something about the world including the shape and height of the mountains, waterways, and forests. While these troll characters are often sinister and dark, they can also be viewed as playful tricksters with mischievous personalities.

One of the most famous Nordic folktales is The Three Billy Goats Gruff in which three goats must outsmart a hungry troll to get over a bridge that leads to their feeding ground. It was written by Peter Christen Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe from Norway who were considered comparable to the German born Brothers Grimm.

In a similar spirit, The Nordic Heritage Park chose to depict trolls in a family-friendly fashion, complete with unique personalities and backgrounds. For the purposes of education, it is important to recognize that trolls are widespread in Nordic folklore and culture.

### Troll Tales Synopsis

The six trolls in the Nordic Park are assumed to be immigrants.

**Viktor** brought his grandfather's pipe to remind him of his grandfather.

**Margit** needed new friends in a new country so she found Fat Cat.

**Olle** (pronounced Oh-luh) could only bring one toy but sometimes visitors to the park bring him new ones.

**Sven** brought his accordion and remembers the old tunes so people in Astoria can dance them too.

**Leif** (pronounced layf) is very shy because he grew up in a cave so he hides under a leaf.

**Annette** (pronounced Annettah) is outgoing and likes to sing with the sea lions. Come at night and maybe you'll hear her.

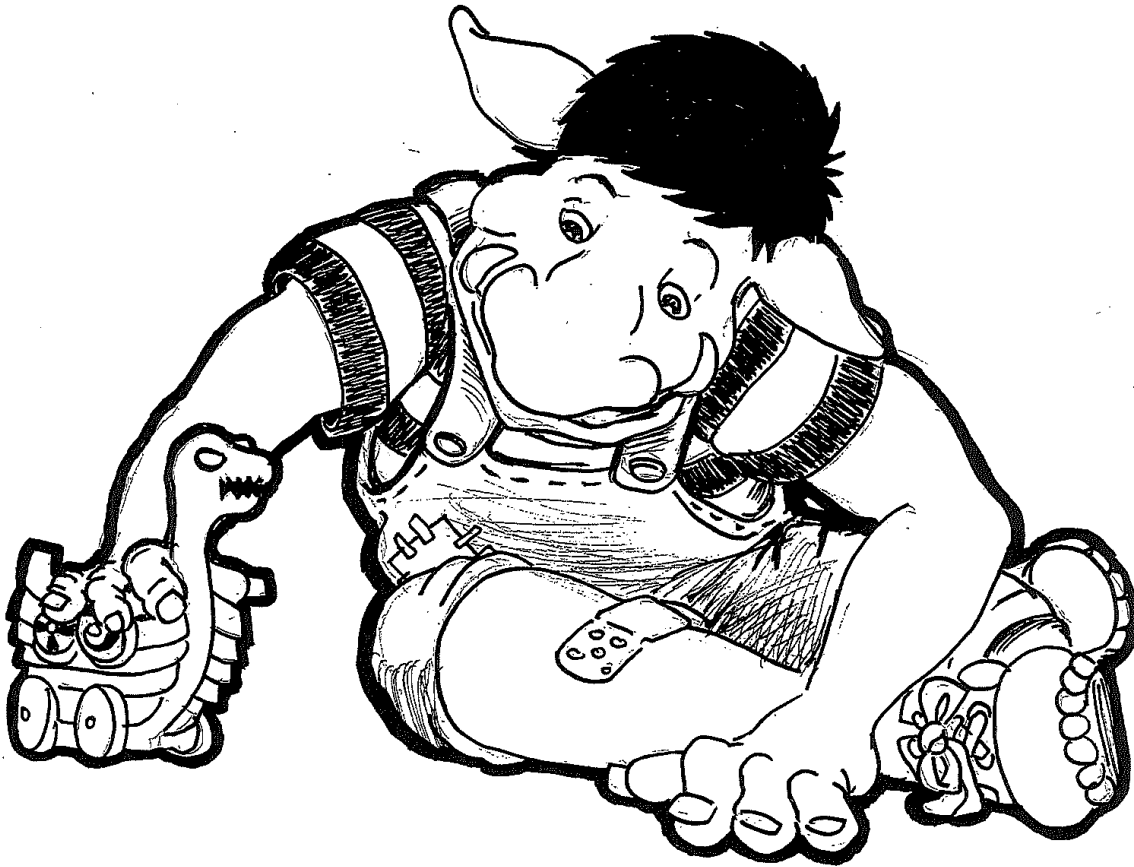
Download all six troll tales for free from the ANHP website: [www.astorianordicpark.org](http://www.astorianordicpark.org).



Instructions: Color Viktor and draw him in his former home in Lonely Mountain.



Instructions: Color Margit and draw her chatting with a new friend she made in Astoria.



Instructions: Color Olle and surround him with lots of toys so he won't have to swipe them from visitors to the park.



Instructions: Color Sven and add some happy people and dancers who enjoy Sven's music.



Instructions: Color Annette and add some sealions singing along with her.



Instructions: Color Leif and draw somethings that you think would make him less grumpy.



**ASTORIA NORDIC HERITAGE PARK  
TROLL TALES  
COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS  
AND ANSWER KEYS**





## Viktor - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions

1. We know Viktor is young because:

- a) he wears his hair in braids
- b) he is shorter than all the trolls
- c) he hasn't grown tusks yet
- d) he smiles a lot

2. Viktor says his name means:

- a) winner
- b) champion
- c) conquerer
- d) all of the above

3. Viktor says, "I have conquered many things in my life. That has been good and also bad. I conquered smoking. I conquered being a mean and nasty bully. I conquered being a lonely outcast." Based on the clues in the text, what do you think the word conquered means?

- a) conquered means having become a problem
- b) conquered means having overcome a problem
- c) conquered means liking something a lot
- d) none of the above

4. Why did Viktor become known as the terrible troll?

- a) because he took food from his troll brothers and sisters
- b) because he was mean to dogs
- c) because he wouldn't sleep in his stone crib
- d) because he chased out humans from their homes and farms and ate all their food



5. What must Viktor conquer in order to live?

- a) his need to be feared
- b) his need for extra food
- c) his hatred of dogs
- d) his fear of water

6. Why does Viktor decide to come to America?

- a) to eat salmon
- b) to go where no one will know him
- c) to make a better life
- d) answers b and c

7. Why is the pipe important to Viktor? What does it represent?

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8. What are two character traits to describe Viktor? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

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## Margit - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions

1. How was Margit's family different from other troll families?
  - a) they lived in a clean house
  - b) they had a cat
  - c) they were friendly, happy trolls
  - d) answers a and c
  
2. Why did Margit and her family decide to come to Astoria?
  - a) so Margit could make a friend
  - b) because other trolls were dirty
  - c) so they could get a cat
  - d) so they could eat salmon
  
3. What was Margit's mom's advice to her about making new friends?
  - a) take more baths
  - b) be mean to them if they are mean to you
  - c) give up and just spend time with your family
  - d) give them time to get to know you
  
4. How did Margit befriend the cat?
  - a) by being patient
  - b) by feeding it salmon
  - c) by gently petting it
  - d) all of the above



5. Do you think a cat can be a real friend? Why or why not?

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6. What are two character traits to describe Margit? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

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## Olle - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions

1. What does Olle call "finders keepers"?
  - a) playing hide and seek
  - b) borrowing something but giving it back later
  - c) finding something that isn't yours and keeping it
  - d) going on a scavenger hunt at a party
2. Why did Olle start taking horses, oxen, tables, and chairs?
  - a) because he was always looking for new and better and bigger toys
  - b) because he wanted to start a farm
  - c) because he was hungry
  - d) because he wanted to get in trouble
3. What was the mistake that Olle made?
  - a) stealing a coach from the Human King
  - b) stealing an accordion
  - c) stealing a pipe
  - d) stealing a wedding dress from the daughter of the Human King
4. The Troll King was told he must banish Olle as punishment. Based on the clues in this story, what does the word banish mean?
  - a) to be sent away
  - b) to be locked up
  - c) to be given a time-out
  - d) to be given a party



5. By the end of the story, did Olle show that he learned his lesson? Why or why not?

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6. What are two character traits to describe Ollie? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

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## Sven - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Sven stop in the snow at a farm house?
  - a) because he smelled dinner
  - b) because he heard a most wonderful sound
  - c) because he heard a dog barking
  - d) because he saw a saw Santa Claus
  
2. How did the old man know that Sven was a troll?
  - a) because he saw his teeth
  - b) because he saw his feet
  - c) because he smelled fish
  - d) because he saw his tail
  
3. Why did Sven agree to do chores at the old man's house?
  - a) so he would get music lessons
  - b) so he could make money
  - c) so he could live on a farm
  - d) so he wouldn't get in trouble for breaking in
  
4. How did Sven end up with the old man's accordion?
  - a) the old man fell asleep and Sven took it
  - b) Sven bought it from the old man
  - c) Sven made his own from wood on the farm
  - d) the old man gave it to Sven after he became too sick to play



5. Why do you think Sven moved to Astoria? Was it just because Olle suggested it? Or was it something else?

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6. What are two character traits to describe Sven? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

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## Annette - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions

1. How did the choir director not know that Annette was a troll?
  - a) because her tusks had not grown in
  - b) because she smelled like flowers
  - c) because her tail was not very long yet
  - d) because she had a nice smile
2. After being invited in to sing, why did Annette run off at first?
  - a) because she had to get back to playing with her friends
  - b) because she didn't know how to open a door
  - c) because she couldn't sing
  - d) because she had been warned to stay away from humans
3. Why were the other singers jealous?
  - a) because Annette got all the best parts
  - b) because Annette always looked young
  - c) both a and b
  - d) none of the above
4. Annette survived the Columbia River because:
  - a) she can hold her breath for a long time
  - b) she is a troll and trolls don't mind the cold water
  - c) she was rescued by a sea lion who loved her voice
  - d) all of the above



5. Why did Annette come to Astoria? Why is she still friendly to humans after all she has been through?

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6. What are two character traits to describe Annette? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

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## Leif - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Leif come to Astoria?
  - a) because he was upset with the weather back home
  - b) because he heard there was a nice bridge without any trolls
  - c) because he wanted to get away from the billy goats
  - d) answers b and c
  
2. Why is Leif still grumpy in Astoria?
  - a) because people ran over his toes and honked at him
  - b) because it rains all the time
  - c) because the sea lions bark all the time
  - d) because sea gulls poop on his head
  - e) because he doesn't like dogs and they don't like him
  - f) all of the above
  
3. Leif is grumpy about the name of Astoria because:
  - a) it was named after a human who never went there
  - b) it was named after a person who sailed, but didn't know who to drive
  - c) it should've been named after him
  - d) answers a and c



4. Leif says that rain is grumpifying. Grumpifying is not a real word in the English language, it is a troll word. Maybe you understand it? In your opinion, what else is grumpifying?

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5. Why do you think Leif stays in Astoria? If he is so grumpy, why doesn't he just leave?

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6. What are two character traits to describe Leif? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

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**ASTORIA NORDIC HERITAGE PARK  
TROLL TALES  
COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS  
ANSWER KEYS**



**ANSWER KEY - Viktor - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions**

1. We know Viktor is young because:

- a) he wears his hair in braids
- b) he is shorter than all the trolls
- c) he hasn't grown tusks yet**
- d) he smiles a lot

2. Viktor says his name means:

- a) winner
- b) champion
- c) conquerer

**d) all of the above**

3. Viktor says, "I have conquered many things in my life. That has been good and also bad. I conquered smoking. I conquered being a mean and nasty bully. I conquered being a lonely outcast." Based on the clues in the text, what do you think the word conquered means?

- a) conquered means having become a problem
- b) conquered means having overcome a problem**
- c) conquered means liking something a lot
- d) none of the above

4. Why did Viktor become known as the terrible troll?

- a) because he took food from his troll brothers and sisters
- b) because he was mean to dogs
- c) because he wouldn't sleep in his stone crib
- d) because he chased out humans from their homes and farms and ate all their food**



5. What must Viktor conquer in order to live?

**a) his need to be feared**

b) his need for extra food

c) his hatred of dogs

d) his fear of water

6. Why does Viktor decide to come to America?

a) to eat salmon

b) to go where no one will know him

c) to make a better life

**d) answers b and c**

7. Why is the pipe important to Viktor? What does it represent?

**ANSWERS WILL VARY**

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8. What are two character traits to describe Viktor? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

**ANSWERS WILL VARY**

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**ANSWER KEY - Margit - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions**

1. How was Margit's family different from other troll families?

- a) they lived in a clean house
- b) they had a cat
- c) they were friendly, happy trolls**
- d) answers a and c

2. Why did Margit and her family decide to come to Astoria?

- a) so Margit could make a friend**
- b) because other trolls were dirty
- c) so they could get a cat
- d) so they could eat salmon

3. What was Margit's mom's advice to her about making new friends?

- a) take more baths
- b) be mean to them if they are mean to you
- c) give up and just spend time with your family**
- d) give them time to get to know you

4. How did Margit befriend the cat?

- a) by being patient
- b) by feeding it salmon
- c) by gently petting it
- d) all of the above**





5. Do you think a cat can be a real friend? Why or why not?

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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6. What are two character traits to describe Margit? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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### **ANSWER KEY - Olle - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions**

1. What does Olle call "finders keepers"?
  - a) playing hide and seek
  - b) borrowing something but giving it back later
  - c) finding something that isn't yours and keeping it**
  - d) going on a scavenger hunt at a party
  
2. Why did Olle start taking horses, oxen, tables, and chairs?
  - a) because he was always looking for new and better and bigger toys**
  - b) because he wanted to start a farm
  - c) because he was hungry
  - d) because he wanted to get in trouble
  
3. What was the mistake that Olle made?
  - a) stealing a coach from the Human King
  - b) stealing an accordion
  - c) stealing a pipe
  - d) stealing a wedding dress from the daughter of the Human King**
  
4. The Troll King was told he must banish Olle as punishment. Based on the clues in this story, what does the word banish mean?
  - a) to be sent away**
  - b) to be locked up
  - c) to be given a time-out
  - d) to be given a party



5. By the end of the story, did Olle show that he learned his lesson? Why or why not?

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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6. What are two character traits to describe Ollie? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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**ANSWER KEY - Sven - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions**

1. Why did Sven stop in the snow at a farm house?

- a) because he smelled dinner
- b) because he heard a most wonderful sound**
- c) because he heard a dog barking
- d) because he saw a saw Santa Claus

2. How did the old man know that Sven was a troll?

- a) because he saw his teeth
- b) because he saw his feet
- b) because he smelled fish
- d) because he saw his tail**

3. Why did Sven agree to do chores at the old man's house?

- a) so he would get music lessons**
- b) so he could make money
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4. How did Sven end up with the old man's accordion?

- a) the old man fell asleep and Sven took it
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- c) Sven made his own from wood on the farm
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5. Why do you think Sven moved to Astoria? Was it just because Olle suggested it? Or was it something else?

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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6. What are two character traits to describe Sven? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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**ANSWER KEY - Annette - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions**

1. How did the choir director not know that Annette was a troll?
  - a) because her tusks had not grown in
  - b) because she smelled like flowers
  - c) because her tail was not very long yet**
  - d) because she had a nice smile
  
2. After being invited in to sing, why did Annette run off at first?
  - a) because she had to get back to playing with her friends
  - b) because she didn't know how to open a door
  - d) because she couldn't sing
  - d) because she had been warned to stay away from humans**
  
3. Why were the other singers jealous?
  - a) because Annette got all the best parts
  - b) because Annette always looked young
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4. Annette survived the Columbia River because:
  - a) she can hold her breath for a long time
  - b) she is a troll and trolls don't mind the cold water
  - c) she was rescued by a sea lion who loved her voice
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5. Why did Annette come to Astoria? Why is she still friendly to humans after all she has been through?

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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6. What are two character traits to describe Annette? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Some character traits could include: kind, brave, determined, loving, persistent, generous, patient, silly, clever, curious, playful, dishonest, selfish, greedy, sneaky, mean, or bossy. Please feel free to use your own!

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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**ANSWER KEY Leif - Troll Tale Comprehension Questions**

1. Why did Leif come to Astoria?

- a) because he was upset with the weather back home
- b) because he heard there was a nice bridge without any trolls
- c) because he wanted to get away from the billy goats

**d) answers b and c**

2. Why is Leif still grumpy in Astoria?

- a) because people ran over his toes and honked at him
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- c) because the sea lions bark all the time
- d) because sea gulls poop on his head
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**f) all of the above**

3. Leif is grumpy about the name of Astoria because:

- a) it was named after a human who never went there
- b) it was named after a person who sailed, but didn't know who to drive
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4. Leif says that rain is grumpifying. Grumpifying is not a real word in the English language, it is a troll word. Maybe you understand it? In your opinion, what else is grumpifying?

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5. Why do you think Leif stays in Astoria? If he is so grumpy, why doesn't he just leave?

ANSWERS WILL VARY

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6. What are two character traits to describe Leif? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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ANSWERS WILL VARY

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**Coming to Astoria  
Readers Theater  
Discussion Questions  
Elementary Version**



## Coming to Astoria Readers' Theater Discussion Questions (Elementary Version)

- 1) How does Astrid feel about having a brother? Why do you think she feels this way?
- 2) How does Axel feel about America? What do you think he imagines life will be like when he moves there?
- 3) What do you think Astrid is worried about leaving behind? What do you think she will miss? How is she different from Axel?
- 3) How long did it take the family to save up to be able to move to America? Have you ever tried to save money for something?
- 4) Lars says that he hopes that what he heard about Astoria would be true. He received the information in a letter from Erik and it probably did not contain any pictures. Do you think you could move somewhere new based on what someone else said?
- 5) Do you think Anna and Lars would have moved to America if they hadn't adopted Axel? Why or why not?
- 6) Astrid describes making new friends and building a life in America. What do you think changed for her from the beginning when she didn't want to move at all?
- 7) By the end of the play, we know that Astrid and Axel had families of their own in Astoria. This play is fiction, but it is based on real stories of families who have been in Astoria, Oregon for a long time. Do you know anyone who has lived here a long time? Do you have any neighbors or friends that are Scandinavian? What about neighbors or friends from other countries? What was/is their American Dream?



**ASTORIA NORDIC HERITAGE PARK  
ACTIVITY SHEETS  
FOR DURING THE VISIT  
Troll Observation  
Scavenger Hunt**



## Troll Observation Activity (During Visit)

Please find a comfortable place to sit near a troll. You will have three minutes to observe your troll in silence. Pay attention to their details, starting from the head and face, moving down to the body and arms, and finishing with their legs, feet, and possible tail. Describe your observations in the sections below.

Example: (use both an adjective and a noun)

silly face	sharp teeth	pointy ears
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1) Use at least three adjectives to describe the troll's head, face, ears, teeth or hair. You may also include the emotion you think the troll is feeling.

head/face/ears/teeth/hair/emotion		

2) Use at least three adjectives to describe the troll's body, arms, hands, fingers or clothes. You may also include any object that they are holding.

body/arms/hands/fingers/clothes/object		

3) Use at least three adjectives to describe the troll's legs, feet, or tail.

legs/feet/tail		



**Extension Activity**

Based on your observations, what is happening for the troll in this frozen moment? Do they know you are here? How do you know?

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### Scavenger Hunt (During Visit)

See if you can find all of these items. Put a check mark in the box after you've found it. Describe the item in the form of a caption by listing its purpose or place in the park. See example below.



check when found!

Caption: Nordic women working at the fish cannery in Astoria to show the early jobs in the city.



check when found!

Caption:

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check when found!

Caption:

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check when found!

Caption:

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check when found!

Caption:

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check when found!

Caption:

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check when found!

Caption:

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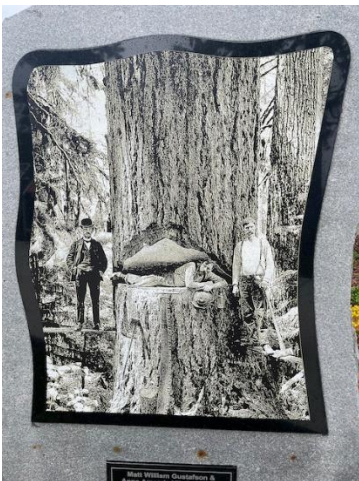


check when found!

Caption:

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check when found!

Caption:

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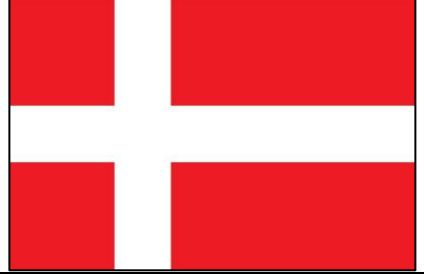


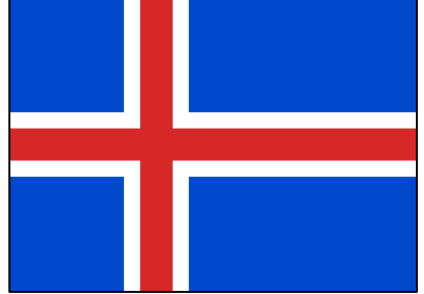

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**ASTORIA NORDIC HERITAGE PARK  
ACTIVITY SHEETS  
POST-VISIT**

**Nordic Flag Activity & Answer Key  
Pack Your Trunk  
First Letter Home**

Study the pictures and the information about each of the Nordic flags represented in the Astoria Nordic Heritage Park, then answer the questions that follow.

<p><b>Denmark</b>          Features a white Nordic cross on a red background. The white is said to represent peace while the red is said to represent battles. The flag was adopted in 1625.</p>	
<p><b>Norway</b>          Features a navy-blue Nordic cross outlined in white on a red background. The combination of colors represents Norway's freedom. The flag was designed in 1821.</p>	
<p><b>Sweden</b>          Features a golden yellow Nordic cross on a field of light blue. Blue and yellow are traditional Swedish colors. Golden yellow is said to stand for generosity while the light blue represents justice and truth. The flag was adopted in 1906.</p>	
<p><b>Iceland</b>          Features a bright red Nordic cross in a larger white cross on a background of sky blue. The colors represent the country's land. The bright red stands for the volcanoes, white for the snow, and blue for the mountains on the island. IT was adopted in 1944.</p>	
<p><b>Finland</b>          Features a blue Nordic cross on a bright white background. It is said that white stands for snow while blue is for bodies of water and the sky. Finland adopted the flag in 1918.</p>	

A Nordic cross is a cross shape that looks to be on its side when the flag is on a flagpole. These countries were started with a Christian religious background, so the crosses represent that history as well.



<p>Compare and contrast the Nordic flags. What do they have in common? What are the differences?</p>	<p>Place the countries in order by the age of their flag. Number 1 through 5. (1 is the oldest, 5 is the newest).</p>
<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____ Denmark</p> <p>_____ Finland</p> <p>_____ Iceland</p> <p>_____ Norway</p> <p>_____ Sweden</p>

Design your own flag!

Describe your flag! What colors did you choose? Why?

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<p>Compare and contrast the Nordic flags. What do they have in common? What are the differences?</p>	<p>Place the countries in order by the age of their flag. Number 1 through 5. (1 is the oldest, 5 is the newest).</p>
<p>All the flags feature the Nordic cross design and very few colors. The flags have different combinations of colors. Some have three colors and some only have two. The colors represent different things.  ETC.</p>	<p><u>  1  </u> Denmark  <u>  4  </u> Finland  <u>  5  </u> Iceland  <u>  2  </u> Norway  <u>  3  </u> Sweden</p>

Design your own flag!


Describe your flag! What colors did you choose? Why?

ANSWER WILL VARY



## Packing Your Trunk (Post-Visit)

Imagine you are moving to a new country that you've never been to before. You aren't sure if the stores where you are going will have the things you are used to buying. This could include everything from groceries to tools to toys. You are not planning on being able to go back to where you are from ever again. Use the prompts below to brainstorm what you might wish to bring with you.

	What is it?	Why do you need it?	Draw it!
<p>Think of something that would be very <b>useful</b>.</p> <p>(It might be something for cooking/eating, personal hygiene, or a unique tool.)</p>			

	What is it?	Why do you need it?	Draw it!
<p>Think of something that would be <b>entertaining</b>.</p> <p>(It might be something that you can do both during travel as well as in your new home.)</p>			

	What is it?	Why do you need it?	Draw it!
<p>Think of something that would be very <b>meaningful</b>.</p> <p>(It might be something that makes you smile because it reminds you of special person or experience back home.)</p>			





## Acknowledgements

Janet Bowler, project director and co-chair of the Astoria Nordic Heritage Park committee

Jim Dott, author of five of the troll tales and the readers theater scripts

Lloyd Bowler, author of one troll tale

Mick Alderman, videographer for the immigrant videos

Allison Magyar, teacher consultant

Melissa Grothe, teacher consultant

Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association, primary funder

Clatsop County Cultural Coalition, funder

Feedback and Comments are encouraged. Please send them to [bowlerjl@gmail.com](mailto:bowlerjl@gmail.com)