
South Dakota State Capitol Scavenger Hunt

(Review Version)



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This scavenger hunt has been designed to provide children visiting the South Dakota State Capitol with an educational and entertaining experience.

START at the Main Entrance located on the south side of the Capitol. (You will enter the 2nd floor at this entrance.)

The answers to the scavenger hunt are available in the accompanying "South Dakota State Capitol Scavenger Hunt Parent & Teacher" guide.

Have FUN and look at all the cool stuff in the Capitol as you complete the scavenger hunt. Good Luck!

1. Did you ever have a bad day? It looks like the builders of the Capitol building may have. What is unusual about the spelling of South Dakota on the front of the Capitol? _____

2. Look down. You should notice that there are no bird droppings in front of the Capitol building doors. Normally, nesting birds, like pigeons, can damage the building exterior and make a huge mess. The maintenance department has done two things to prevent birds from nesting above the Capitol doors. What have they done? _____ and _____

3. When you walk in the front doors, there is a South Dakota State Seal on the ceiling of the Capitol. Name three mammals found on the great seal. _____ and _____



4. In what year did South Dakota become a state? _____

Make your way to the Rotunda. (large circular area below the dome)

5. There are 2 main corridors (hallways) to the west and east of the Rotunda. As you walk down the corridors, you should notice half-circle murals called lunettes. One of the lunettes shows a South Dakota Native American village. You need to locate the mural and write down the number of teepees (mobile dwellings) shown. _____

The mural is located across from what office(s)? _____
and _____

Make your way to the first floor.

According to legend, 66 Italian artists each installed a blue "signature stone" while they were installing the terrazzo tile flooring throughout the Capitol building. Only 55 of the 66 stones have been found – see how many you can find during the scavenger hunt! To get you started, a "signature stone" is found on the first floor in front of the double doors leading to the basement.

6. Record two prior Governors of South Dakota and the years they were Governor. Also what were the colors of the gowns (dresses) worn by their wives at their Inaugurals?
_____/_____/_____ (Governor/ year/ color)
_____/_____/_____ (Governor/ year/ color)

Make your way to the east wing of the 2nd floor.

7. Who is considered the father of school and public lands in South Dakota? (Hint: his legend is preserved in stone) _____



Make your way back to the Rotunda (large circular area below the dome).

8. Look up. How many flags do you see hanging in the Rotunda? _____

9. Which direction is the Grand Staircase (large marble staircase found near the Rotunda) in relationship to the Rotunda?

- a. North
- b. South
- c. West
- d. East

Draw a compass rose.

10. One of the balusters (vase-shaped support for a rail) supporting the railing of the Grand Staircase was installed upside-down. Find the upside-down baluster and describe its location. _____

11. The vaulted ceiling above the Grand Staircase is made of stained-glass. What type of starchy vegetable is shown in the stained-glass? _____ How many are there?

Make your way to the Senate Chamber.

12. How many chandeliers do you see? _____ How many columns do you see? _____ How many desks do you see on the floor for the Senators? _____



Make your way to the House of Representatives.

13. Notice the phone booths; before cell phones, many towns had public phone booths just like these. How many phone booths do you find here? _____

14. How many columns are found in the House of Representatives? _____ How many desks do you see on the floor for the Representatives? _____

15. Find the clock at the front of the House of Representatives. How old do you think this clock is? (Hint: the clock was installed when the building was constructed)

- a. 25 years old
- b. 50 years old
- c. 100 years old
- d. 150 years old

Have you seen any of the blue tiles? Hint: stand by the H₂O (water) fountain near the Senate Chamber, and walk toward the radiator by the window. There is a blue tile approximately 3 feet from the radiator. Can you find it?

16. In the 1980s, the tiles you are standing on were repaired, and the craftsmen who completed the work left several "signature stones". Can you guess which of the following "signature stones" they used?

- a. Circle
- b. Heart
- c. Clover
- d. Spiral

One of the "signature stones" is centered in the mosaic of tiles leading into the Senate Lobby. Can you find it?



A second "signature stone" is located on the fourth floor near a door leading into the Gallery of the Senate Chamber. This tile may be covered by a rug. (Hint: Look near a fire extinguisher located close to a radiator.) Can you find it?

17. Name one Representative and his/her district. _____
Name one Senator and his/her district. _____

18. Draw the South Dakota State Seal.

Great Job! We hope you enjoyed the hunt.

For more information about the South Dakota State Capitol complete the "Self Guided Tour Script of South Dakota State Capitol Building" which is available at the South Dakota State Capitol.

Visit

Our Statehouse: A Capitol Idea at <http://sdpb.sd.gov/CapitolIdea/>

South Dakota Bureau of Administration at <http://www.state.sd.us/boa/>

Please help us finalize this activity by sending comments and suggestions to steven.rokusek@state.sd.us. Thanks for your input!