

# CONNECTICUT (CT)

## Constitution State



CONNECTICUT

### Fast Facts

**State Capital:** Hartford  
**Population:** 3,405,565 (Census 2000)  
**Land Area:** 4,845 square miles  
**Year Admitted to the Union:** 1788



State Flag



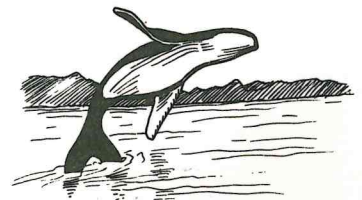
**W**hat's in a name? For Connecticut, a lot. The state name comes from the Algonquin word for "on the long river." Because this state's first laws served as a model for the U.S. Constitution, Connecticut was nicknamed the Constitution State. It was also called the Provision State because during the American Revolution Connecticut provided supplies to the army. The state's early spice trade also earned it the nickname the Nutmeg State.

Connecticut could also be dubbed the Invention State. From pre-Revolutionary times, it was known for inventing and manufacturing useful items. These included Elias Howe's sewing machine and Eli Whitney's cotton gin (a machine that separated cotton seed from its fibers). Charles Goodyear developed a vulcanization process for rubber here. The vacuum cleaner, can opener, steamboat, Polaroid camera, helicopter, color TV, Frisbee, and lollipop came from Connecticut ingenuity. Hartford, Connecticut's capital, is famous for developing the first insurance company. Today, insurance is the state's biggest industry.

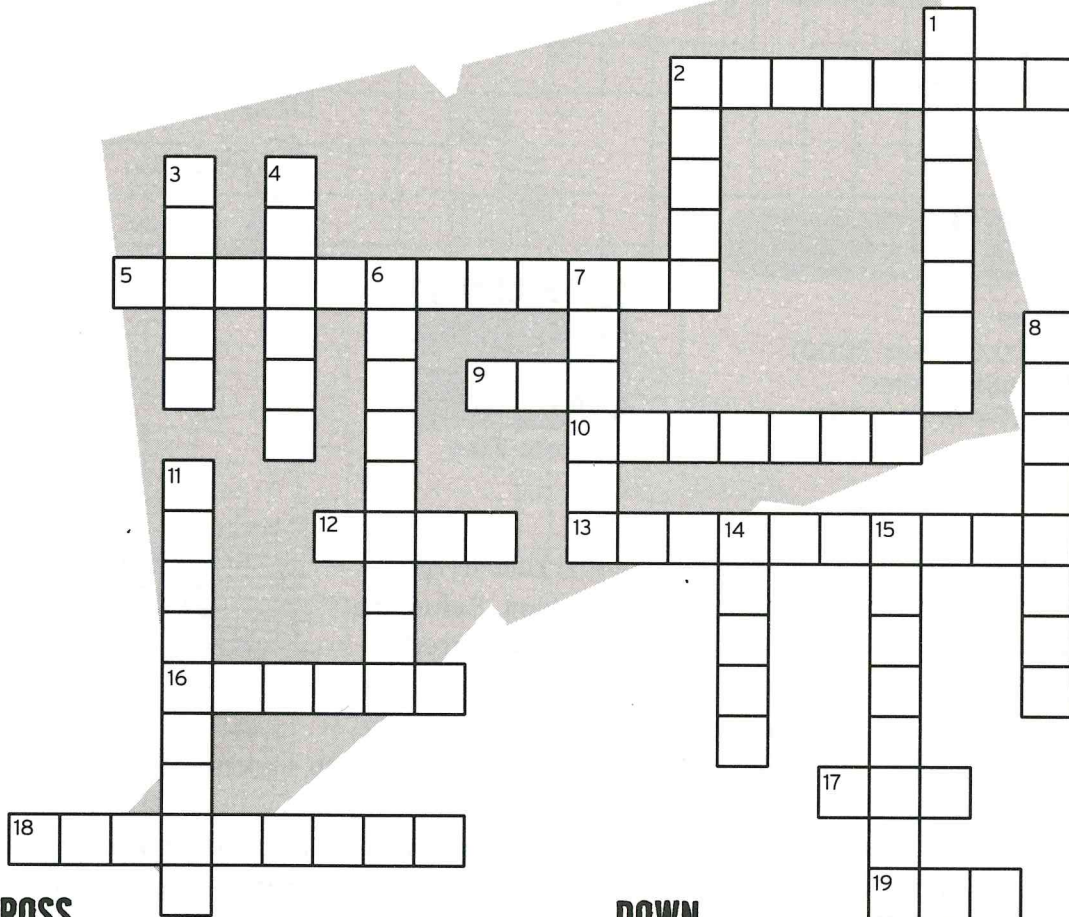
Connecticut also has strong educational and literary traditions. Yale University was established in New Haven in 1701. Revolutionary hero Nathan Hale, who was hanged by the British as a spy, was educated there. Noah Webster compiled his first dictionary in Connecticut. Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, lived next door to Mark Twain, author of *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*.

Many stories could be written about Connecticut's whaling adventures. Located on Long Island Sound, Connecticut's ports saw sailors set out on long and dangerous whaling trips in the 1800s. Whale oil—used for oil lamps and other purposes—was very valuable. Today, Mystic Seaport recreates these times with ship models and *scrimshaw* (carvings on whale ivory).

Carrying on Connecticut's seafaring tradition, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy is located in New London. The first nuclear-powered submarine, the *U.S.S. Nautilus*, is moored nearby at Groton. The *Nautilus* was launched in 1954 and was the first sub to journey underneath the polar ice.



## Connecticut Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

2. The capital of Connecticut is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ was based on the laws of Connecticut.
9. Whales were hunted for their \_\_\_\_\_.
10. New London is the site of the U.S. Coast Guard \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_ was a Revolutionary War hero.
13. Noah Webster compiled his first \_\_\_\_\_ in Connecticut.
16. Another nickname for Connecticut is the \_\_\_\_\_ State.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Whitney invented the cotton gin.
18. Intricate carvings on whale ivory are called \_\_\_\_\_.
19. The British hanged Hale as a \_\_\_\_\_.

### DOWN

1. A candy on a stick invented in Connecticut is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Yale University is located in New \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Author Harriet Beecher \_\_\_\_\_ lived in Connecticut.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ Seaport recreates a seafaring town of the 1800s.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is a big industry in Hartford.
7. Connecticut is located on Long \_\_\_\_\_ Sound.
8. Charles \_\_\_\_\_ invented a rubber process.
11. The name Connecticut comes from an \_\_\_\_\_ word.
14. Mark \_\_\_\_\_ wrote *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*.
15. The first nuclear-powered submarine is the U.S.S. \_\_\_\_\_.