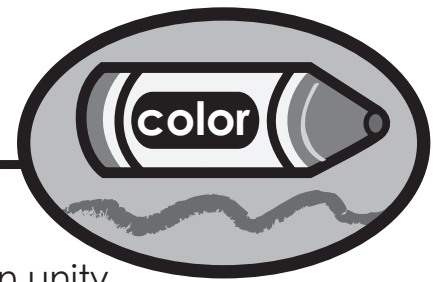


National Symbols: The Great Seal



The Great Seal of the United States was first used in 1794.

The eagle stands for liberty; the arrows represent strength in unity.

The olive branch is the symbol of peace. Above the eagle a constellation of thirteen stars breaks through a cloud in a burst of golden light and glory. The shield on the eagle has thirteen stripes in red and white, for the first thirteen states.

The Latin motto of '*E pluribus unum*' is written on the eagles banner meaning '*Many uniting into one*'.

