

Colonial America Decorative Arts

# Pennsylvania Dutch Designs



Christmas Stockings  
Grades 4-6

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# Tracers



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## Colonial America Decorative Arts Pennsylvania Dutch Designs Christmas Stockings

Grades 4-6

This “Read and Follow Directions” activity will give your students practice for standardized tests, which typically have several items of this nature. They’ll also have a lovely Christmas stocking for your classroom. The activity has three parts— “Designing the Stocking”, making the stocking, and, if you wish, sewing two stockings together so they can actually be stuffed. Each part has a different worksheet so you can choose how far you wish to take the activity.

**Objective:** *Students will design a stocking using Pennsylvania Dutch motifs, that “speaks” a simple message. They will read and follow the directions to create a Christmas stocking using Pennsylvania Dutch designs.*

### Preparation:

1. Print: page 2: 1 copy, single sided, on copy paper.

“Designing a Stocking” Worksheet—page 3: 1 copy/student, single sided, on copy paper.

**Individual directions**—pages 4 and 7: 1 copy/student on copy paper (or on cover stock if you want to reuse the directions).

**Class sized posters**—pages 5-6 and 8-9: 1 copy, single sided, on cover stock; tape posters together on the back, laminate, and trim.

**Stocking Tracer**—pages 10-11, 1 copy, single sided, on cover stock; then tape together and make 10 tracers on 11X17 cover stock with that copy. Cut out the tracers.

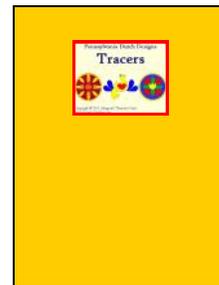
**Motifs**—pages 12-13, 3 copies, on cover stock,

2. Laminate the directions if you wish to reuse them.

3. Cut out the tracers (pages 12-13).

4. Use the image (above left) to label a manila envelope to store the tracers.

5. Gather the materials and set them out in your classroom so they are easy to access.



### Uses:

- If your students haven’t had much practice with this type of activity, read the directions together and discuss any questions.
- Have students complete the worksheet, “Designing a Stocking”, if you wish.
- Have students to complete the craft by reading and following the directions— independently, or with guided practice.
- Allow students to share their stockings with the class. You may wish to have them “read” the meanings of the designs.
- Use the motif tracers for alphabetizing or sorting, sentence construction, or 20 questions games.
- This is also great material for a geometry lesson in symmetry, and flips, twists, and turns.



# Designing a Stocking

The German settlers of Pennsylvania developed a type of art called Pennsylvania Dutch. The motifs (moh TEEFS), or the designs, were simplified objects of nature, colored with bright colors. Each motif and color had a special meaning, and each design offered a special “prayer” or “blessing”. Use this worksheet to help you create a Christmas stocking that “speaks” a simple message. The message may tell about you, your hopes or dreams for the season, or something that is important to you. You can add a couple of your own motifs to the chart. Draw and name the design, and write in its meaning. Make sure it fits with the Pennsylvania Dutch pattern. Draw the shapes you want to use on the stocking, and then color them with colors that “tell” your message.

green = life, growth  
red = feelings, creative

yellow = good health, God  
blue = peace and calm

orange = success  
brown = earth, friends

black = safety  
white = clean

## Design Meanings

	star	Good Will Safety
	heart	Love
	tulip	Hope Trust
	pineapple	Friendship
	oak leaf	Strength
	scallops	Smooth Sailing
	bird	Good Luck Happiness
	rain drops	Showers of Blessing
	wheat	Abundance
	sun	Growth Warmth



## Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

# Christmas Stocking

### Materials

- tag board tracers in Pennsylvania Dutch designs
- white, red, blue, yellow, brown, green, and orange construction paper
- stocking tracers
- Pennsylvania Dutch design tracers
- scissors
- paste or glue



### Directions

1. Trace a stocking on a piece of 12"X18" construction paper. Cut it out.
2. Choose some Pennsylvania Dutch designs. Trace them onto construction paper and cut them out. Think about what the shapes and colors mean before you choose them. Arrange the pieces on your stocking. When you are happy with the arrangement, glue the pieces down. Let it dry.
3. Arrange the pieces on your stocking. When you are happy with the arrangement, glue the pieces down. Let it dry.
4. Clean up your mess.

## Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

# Christmas Stocking



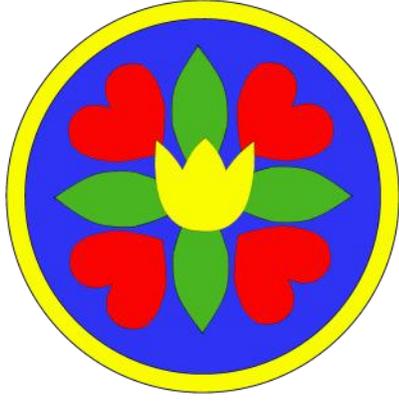
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1. Trace a stocking on a piece of 12"X18" construction paper.  
Cut it out.
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3. Lay out the pieces on your stocking. When you are happy with the arrangement, glue the pieces down. Let it dry.
4. Clean up your mess.



# Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

## Materials

- decorated stocking
- paper clips (2 or 3)
- hole punch
- roving—about 40" per stocking



## Directions

To make a two piece stocking, complete these directions.

1. Trace another stocking on a piece of 12"X18" construction paper. Cut it out.
2. Place the second stocking cutout behind the one decorated with designs, and paper clip them together. Punch holes around the outside of the stocking, making the holes about 1/2 inch apart and 1/2 inch in from the outside edge of the stocking.
3. Sew the two stockings together with the roving. Wrap some tape around the end of the roving to make a needle, and take the paper clips off just before you reach them. Tie a knot in each end, and leave a loop on one side for hanging.
4. Clean up your mess. Be sure to pick up all your punched holes!

## Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

# Christmas Stocking



### Materials

- decorated stocking
- paper clips (2 or 3)
- hole punch
- roving—about 40" per stocking
- tape



### Directions

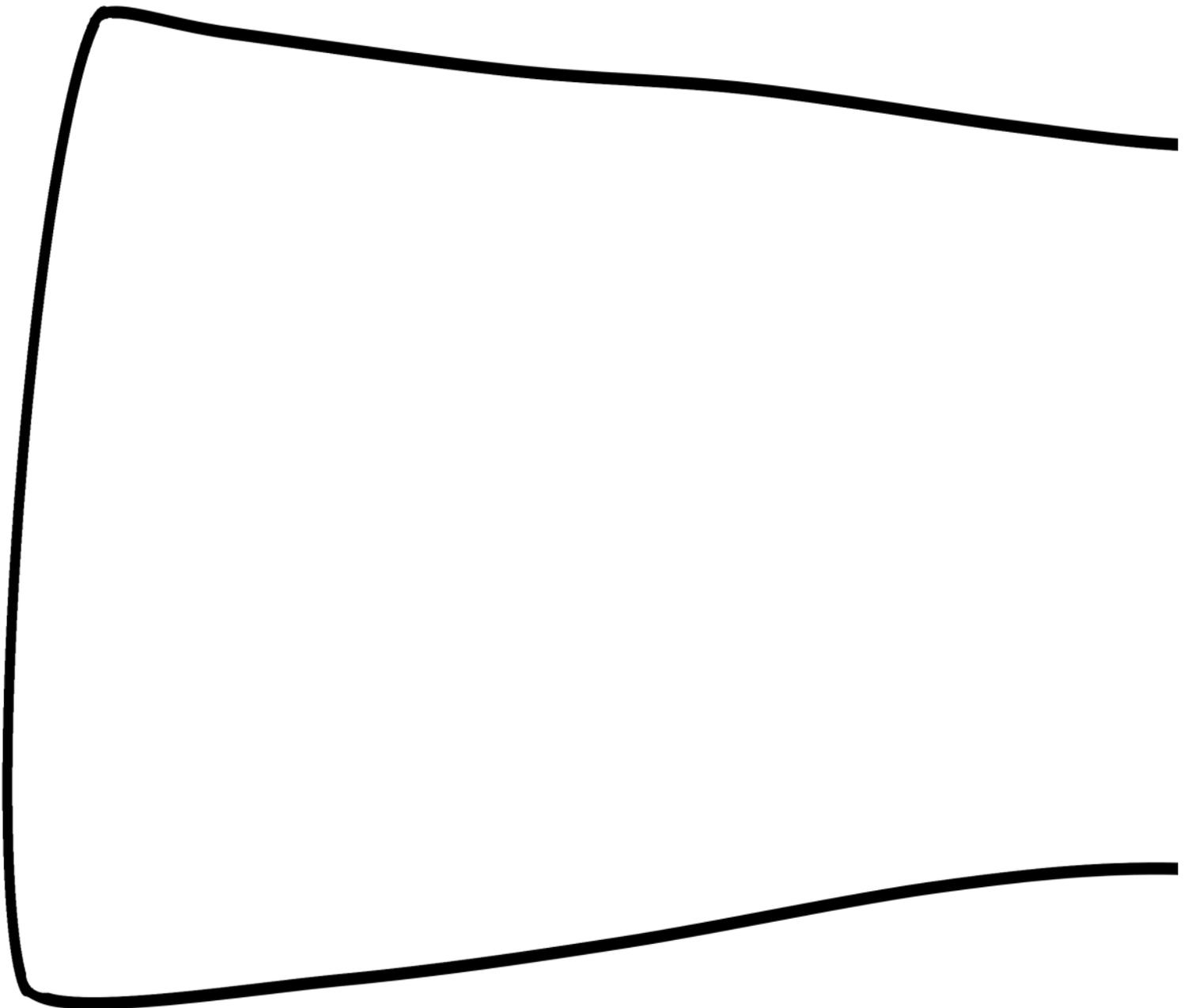
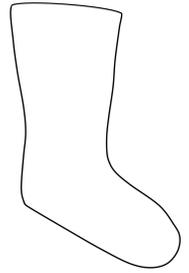
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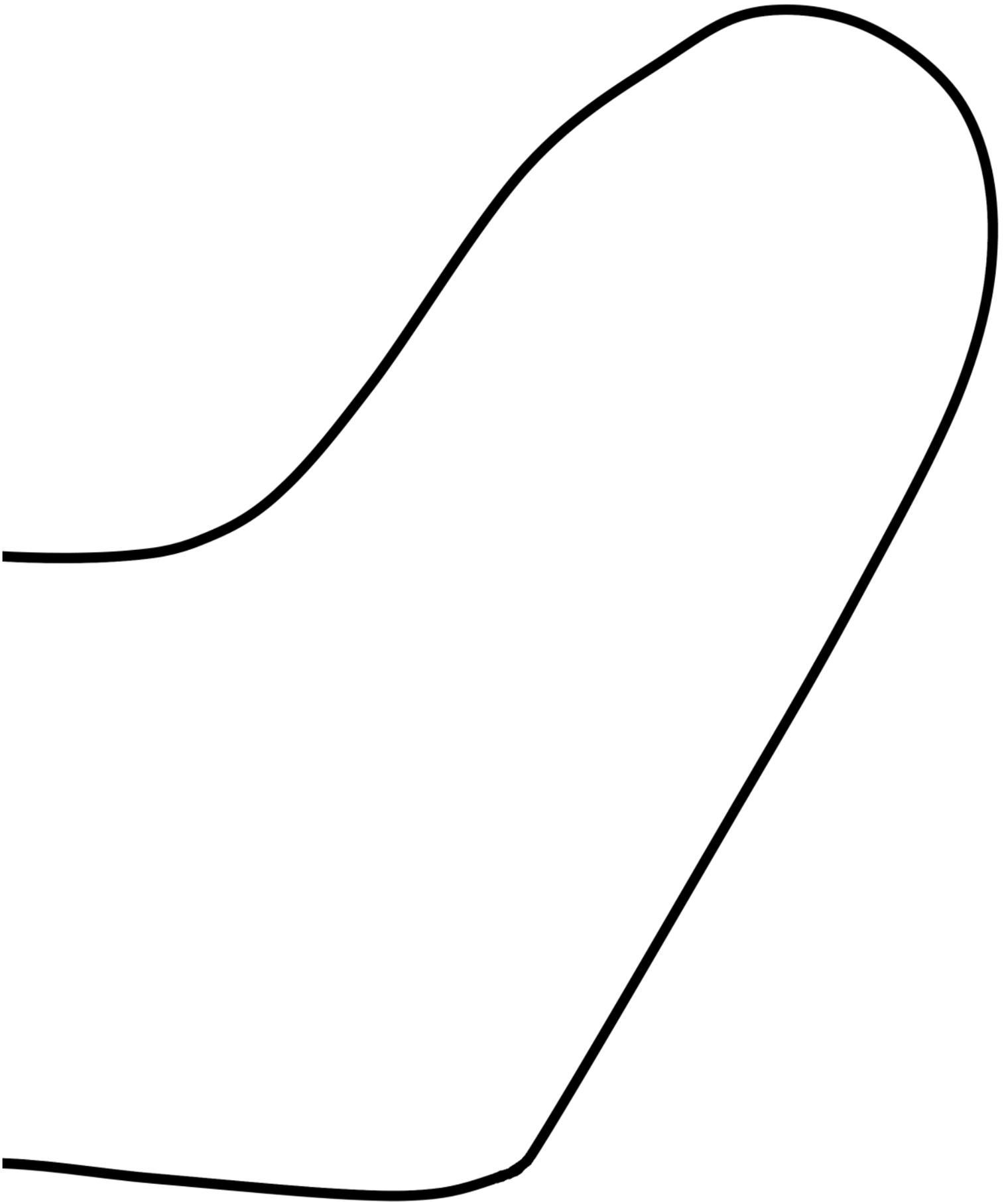
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4. Clean up your mess. Be sure to pick up all your punched holes!

# Christmas Stocking Tracer

Run these two pages (pages 10-11) off on tag board, 1 copy, single sided. Cut the pieces out, align them to form the stocking, and tape them together.

Trace onto 11X17 inch tag board, and cut to make tracers. Make enough for the size of your group. (I usually make 1 tracer for every 3 children.) You can save the tracers and use them for years to come!





# Pennsylvania Dutch Design Tracer

Run these two pages (pages 12-13 ) off on tag board. Make 2-3 copies of each page. Cut the pieces out to make tracers. You can reuse these tracers for years to come!

