The Great Seal

The Founding Fathers created the Great Seal as a symbol to show the ideas and values of our country.

- The stars above the eagle’s head stand for the thirteen colonies forming a new nation.
- The eagle holds a ribbon in its beak which reads “E Pluribus Unum.” This is Latin for "one from many" because our one nation was created from 13 colonies.
- The blue stripe at the top of the shield stands for Congress.
- The arrows in the eagle’s talons symbolize war.
- The olive branch that the eagle is holding symbolizes peace.
- The red, white and blue Shield of the United States is not being held up by anyone. This shows that America stands on its own for virtue and justice.
- The red and white stripes of the shield represent the thirteen colonies.
- On the front of the Seal is the bald eagle, the symbol of freedom, strength, and beauty.