

## **FACTS ABOUT THE GATEWAY ARCH**

- A nationwide competition was held in 1947 and 1948 to determine a design for a monument to the spirit of the western pioneers. Eero Saarinen's design for a 630-foot arch won the contest.
- Construction began in 1963 and was completed on October 28, 1965.
- The Arch has foundations sunk 60 feet into the ground.
- The Arch weighs 17,246 tons. Nine hundred tons of stainless steel was used to build the Arch, more than any other project in history to use stainless steel.
- It was built to withstand earthquakes and high winds.
- The Arch sways up to one inch in a 20 mile per hour wind and is built to sway up to 18 inches.
- The Arch is the tallest national monument in the United States standing 630 feet.
- The Arch is the 4<sup>th</sup> most visited tourist attraction in the world.
- Each year, over 1 million visitors take the tram rides to the top. The trams have been in operation for over 30 years and have traveled a total of 250,000 miles.
- The Museum of Western Expansion is located near the arch and is as large as a football field. It contains a large collection of artifacts.

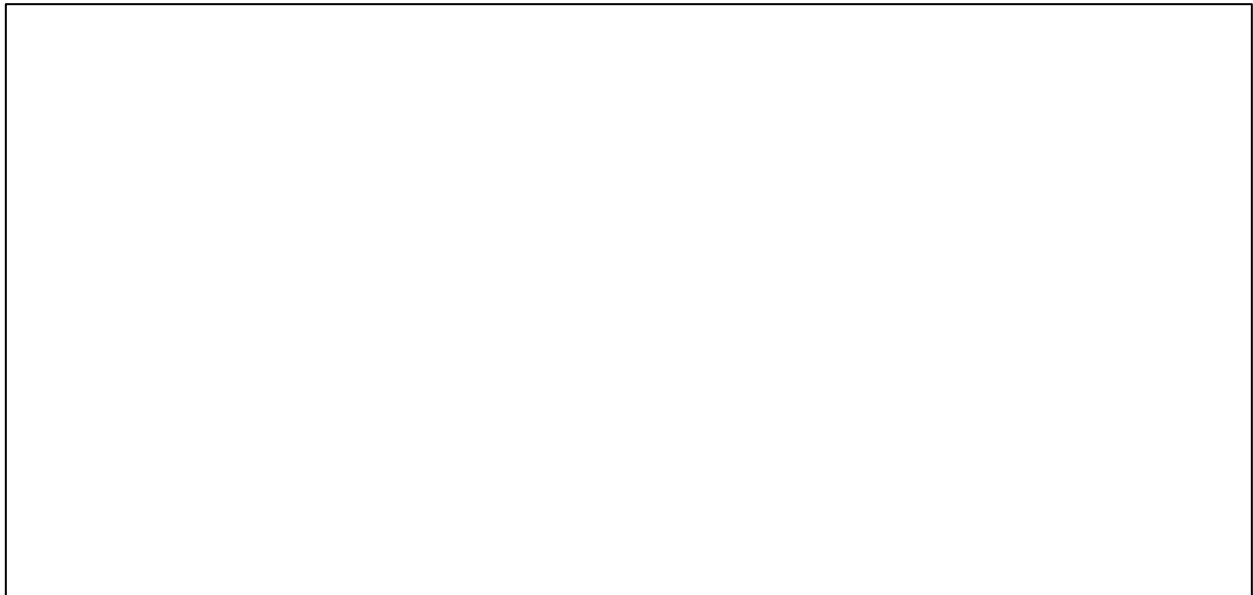
Source: *Little Known Facts About the Arch.* The Gateway Arch. 24 May 2002  
<[www.stlouisarch.com/games/funfacts.html](http://www.stlouisarch.com/games/funfacts.html)>.

## GROUP PLANNING SHEET

Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Where will your monument be located?

Draw a sketch of what your monument will look like:



What does your monument symbolize about Detroit and its history?

