Histography



Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey

PROFESSIONAL CREDITS

HISTOGRAPHY: SURVEY OF THE 50 UNITED STATES
Chapter 3, Sections 1 and 2

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STATES AND CAPITALS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATE	*ABR*	*ADM*	*CAPITAL*	*STATE*	*ABR*	*ADM*	*CAPITAL*
Alabama	AL	1819	Montgomery	**Montana**	MT	1889	Helena
Alaska	AK	1959	Juneau	**Nebraska**	NE	1867	Lincoln
Arizona	AZ	1912	Phoenix	**Nevada**	NV	1864	Carson City
Arkansas	AR	1836	Little Rock	**New Hampshire**	NH	1788	Concord
California	CA	1850	Sacramento	**New Jersey**	NJ	1787	Trenton
Colorado	CO	1876	Denver	**New Mexico**	NM	1912	Santa Fe
Connecticut	CT	1788	Hartford	**New York**	NY	1788	Albany
Delaware	DE	1787	Dover	**North Carolina**	NC	1789	Raleigh
Florida	FL	1845	Tallahassee	**North Dakota**	ND	1889	Bismarck
Georgia	GA	1788	Atlanta	**Ohio**	OH	1803	Columbus
Hawaii	HI	1959	Honolulu	**Oklahoma**	OK	1907	Oklahoma City
Idaho	ID	1890	Boise	**Oregon**	OR	1859	Salem
Illinois	IL	1818	Springfield	**Pennsylvania**	PA	1787	Harrisburg
Indiana	IN	1816	Indianapolis	**Rhode Island**	RI	1790	Providence
Iowa	IA	1846	Des Moines	**South Carolina**	SC	1788	Columbia
Kansas	KS	1861	Topeka	**South Dakota**	SD	1889	Pierre
Kentucky	KY	1792	Frankfort	**Tennessee**	TN	1796	Nashville
Louisiana	LA	1812	Baton Rouge	**Texas**	TX	1845	Austin
Maine	ME	1820	Augusta	**Utah**	UT	1896	Salt Lake City
Maryland	MD	1788	Annapolis	**Vermont**	VT	1791	Montpelier
Massachusetts	MA	1788	Boston	**Virginia**	VA	1788	Richmond
Michigan	MI	1837	Lansing	**Washington**	WA	1889	Olympia
Minnesota	MN	1858	Saint Paul	**West Virginia**	WV	1863	Charleston
Mississippi	MS	1817	Jackson	**Wisconsin**	WI	1848	Madison
Missouri	MO	1821	Jefferson City	**Wyoming**	WY	1890	Cheyenne
				District of Columbia	DC	1790	U.S. Capital

- **ABR = Abbreviation of state name – used for postal codes, maps, etc.**
- **ADM = Year statehood was granted (state admitted to the United States of America).**

HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Massachusetts
Chapter 3 Section 1
Topic 1





Passengers on the *Mayflower* looked anxiously toward the bleak New England shore in 1620. Cold blasts of wind forced the Pilgrims to pull coats tightly around shoulders. The long journey from England across the Atlantic Ocean had been ***torturous***: tight conditions, ***rancid*** food, awkward sanitation, and conflict with rough sailors made the trip wearisome. A rowboat was lowered to transport an exploratory party to determine where to build shelters. Winter had already set in, and cold spray from white-capped waves required the sailors to row with difficulty. Finally, shore was reached, where William Bradford, John Carver, Miles Standish and other leaders bowed heads to thank God for safe passage and freedom to worship God according to ***conscience*** and the Bible. Thus, was established a Massachusetts settlement that laid the foundation for the United States to be a "beacon on a hill" that would define a new form of government based on Judeo-Christian concepts of private property, capitalism, rule by law, and religious freedom.



Depiction of the Boston Tea Party

Massachusetts became a seedbed for birthing patriots such as John Hancock, Samuel Adams, and Paul Revere, who opposed British ***autocratic*** rule. Colonists in Boston had become accustomed to self-reliance in manufacturing, worship, and decision-making. Reverend Jonathan Edwards and Evangelist George Whitefield were instrumental in causing ***The Great Awakening*** of colonial interest in spiritual matters between 1730 and 1743. Thus, colonists desired to worship God without state interference. Consequently, patriots felt justified to conduct "The Boston Tea Party" in 1773 to send a strong message to London that Americans were not going to tolerate oppressive rules that suppressed freedom. Thus, the Declaration of Independence was initiated in Massachusetts in 1776.

Massachusetts was one of the original thirteen colonies, and was recognized as a state in 1788. The state motto is "By

VOCABULARY

Torturous: painful
Rancid: spoiled
Conscience: deeply-held beliefs
Autocratic: only authority allowed
The Great Awakening: time of spiritual revival

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the Sword We Seek Peace, but Peace Only Under Liberty". Boston was designated as the capital and became a center for the manufacturing of such items as ships, textiles, weapons, whale oil, books, gun powder, and shoes. In many ways, Massachusetts lead the American industrial revolution with innovative manufacturing. Harvard College and other schools were started in the 1700s to train Christian leaders, lawyers, and educators.

Churches, one-room schools, and ***circuit-riding*** preachers were common in communities. One-room schools were established in churches to ***eradicate*** illiteracy and to prepare youth with moral virtues, work ethic, patriotism, and family values. The Bible was the basic textbook. Massachusetts became a haven for intellectual discussions and literacy. Printing and publishing were developed as colonists demanded books on inventions, manufacturing, science, law, art, philosophy, and religion. Mount Holyoke College for women was founded in 1836. Horace Mann gave birth to public (common) schools in 1838. He wanted to move education out of church-dominated, one-room schools into large campuses with grade-specific classrooms.

Even though education, worship, and work were considered important, by the mid 1880s, people had time for recreation. Basketball was invented by Dr. James Naismith at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in 1891 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Sports became popular as people had more time for leisure activities. Today, The Boston Celtics Professional Basketball team has won 17 championships, and the New England Patriots Professional Football team has won four Super Bowls. The Boston Red Sox Baseball team has won nine championships, while the Boston Bruins Hockey team has won six Stanley Cups. Other sports include golf, sailing, auto and bicycle racing, and the famous Boston Marathon, which was in the news in 2013 when Islamic terrorists set off a bomb that killed three and wounded 264 people during the race.



Fenway Baseball Park



The Boston Marathon

Massachusetts is the birthplace of paper money. During the 1700 and 1800s, stream-powered water wheels provided energy for mills that produced flour and machinery. Today, coal-powered generating plants supply electricity to light up skyscrapers, factories, and homes for 6,745,000 people in the state. Underground electric trains transport thousands of people to and from places of employment that produce electronics, textiles, women's ***accessories***,

VOCABULARY

Circuit-riding: travel on horseback to settlements
Eradicate: get rid of; destroy
Accessories: jewelry, scarves, hats, gloves

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fashionable clothing, chocolate chip cookies, cranberry sauce, and sporting equipment.

Famous people from Massachusetts include inventors, lawyers, politicians, nurses, and numerous writers, such as Eli Whitney (invented the cotton gin), Samuel F.B. Morse (invented the telegraph), Clara Barton (nurse), John F. Kennedy (president), Emily Dickinson (poet), Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (Associate Supreme Court Justice), G.A. Henty (author), and Horatio Alger (author). The House of Winslow family series of historical fiction books by Gilbert Morris chronicles the history of Massachusetts in a dynamic, engaging manner.

Whereas colonial Massachusetts embraced Judeo-Christian values, contemporary institutions and politics lean toward ***secular*** progressivism. Harvard University, courts, legislative bodies, and public schools promote political correctness, but prohibit government entities from participating in Judeo-Christian activities. Consequently, thousands of families are enrolled in 970 private academies, and an estimated 30,000 are home educating their children.



Boston

VOCABULARY

Secular: non-religious

Famous Person Vignette: Clara Barton



Some people are driven by a passion to accomplish good, even in bad times. That was the case with Clara Barton during the Civil War. Despite opposition from military officers and politicians, Clara insisted that women ought to be allowed to administer aide to wounded soldiers at Antietam and other battlegrounds. As a teenager, Clara could ride horses and climb trees as well as her male cousins. Moreover, during childhood, Clara had taken care of an invalid brother, and had developed an interest in nursing. She knew that she was capable of doing almost anything that males could accomplish. During that time in history, women were not expected to associate with blood, wounds, and death. Part of the reasoning was that females were considered to be ill-prepared for battlefield conditions and hospitals. Reluctant politicians and military officers finally gave permission for Miss Barton to assist doctors in battle conditions. At first, Clara focused on gathering supplies to distribute to soldiers; in the process, she dressed wounds and consoled soldiers. Her compassion and courage earned the label, "Angel of the Battlefield".

Clara was by nature a timid, shy woman. However, during a visit to Europe to help British soldiers engaged in the Crimean War, Clara learned about a humanitarian organization called the International Red Cross. Clara returned to America and pressured politicians to establish an American chapter. After overcoming opposition, the American Red Cross was founded in 1881, and Clara Barton was selected as the

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president. She was persistent, determined, and intelligent. However, her grit and purpose earned enemies and opposition from people who wanted to "keep women in their place". Nonetheless, Clara Barton applied compassion, purpose, and skill to persuade officials that women could perform medical duties as efficiently as men.



American Red Cross Workers

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Truth will set you free."
-Middle East axiom

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Michigan
Chapter 3 Section 1
Topic 2





Michigan is a state of inventions that, in some cases, had their beginning in strange places. Henry Ford built his first car in a building that was too small for the car to exit; so Henry simply tore down the door to conduct a trial run of his gasoline-powered, horseless carriage. AMWAY used a bath tub for mixing their first products, and a garage as a retail store. Lido "Lee" Iacocca, designed the Ford Mustang car by asking ***sociologists*** and young adults what kind of car Detroit should manufacture for young, single adults. Later, he instructed his engineers at Chrysler Corporation to cut off the top of a car to make a convertible. He also guided his design team to build the Minivan to accommodate families that couldn't afford station wagons.



Lake Michigan

Michigan farmers used pliers and bailing wire to tinker with existing products to design more efficient hay balers, ***pneumatic*** milking machines, and ***combines***. ***Inquisitive*** farmers experimented with ***alfalfa*** crops to cause cows to produce more milk. Agriculture experts mixed various grains and dried vegetables to develop feed that would cause hogs to gain weight rapidly and raise profitability for the 51,600 farms in Michigan.

Michigan became a state in 1837, and Lansing is the capital. More than 9.92 million people live in the "Wolverine State". Michigan is divided into upper and lower parts. It is also called "The Great Lake State", because it touches four of the Great Lakes: Superior, Erie, Michigan, and Huron. Michigan also borders Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana. Major cities include Grand Rapids, Detroit, Battle Creek, and Lansing. Even though millions of people reside in cities, more than 9.95 million acres of the state are devoted to agriculture: cattle, hogs, hay, grain, fruit, vegetables, poultry, and dairies.

VOCABULARY

Sociologists: persons who study cultures
Pneumatic: driven by air pressure
Combines: machines that harvest grain
Inquisitive: curious
Alfalfa: a type of plant used for feed

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Michigan is referred to as part of the "Rust Belt", because of the salt used by highway departments to melt ice on roads during winter months, causing vehicles to rust around fenders and doors. The term is also used to describe the auto industry in Michigan; Ford, Chrysler, and General Motors were originally located in Detroit. More automobiles and trucks are produced in Detroit than any other city in the world.



Henry Ford's original assembly line in Detriot

Henry Ford revolutionized the auto-manufacturing industry in 1913 by introducing mechanized assembly lines, and stimulating production of such items as seats, windshields, wheels, rubber tires, fan belts, hoses, radiators, water pumps, brakes, spark plugs, and door handles. He determined that America needed an affordable automobile that would "Put America on wheels." He was right. His ***innovations*** completely changed the way Americans traveled and were employed. Spin-off industries began to pop up across America: gasoline stations, auto mechanic and tire repair shops, restaurants, road-building companies, motels, and traffic policemen. Ford's Detroit-based factories changed the US economy. Millions of new jobs were created because ***entrepreneur***, Henry Ford, had the idea that cars should be available to every adult.

VOCABULARY

Innovations: inventions, discoveries
Entrepreneur: person who starts a business
Stenographers: person who writes notes at meetings
Paternal: relating to father/dad
Affirmation: assurance of sexuality, confidence-builder
Competency: ability

Fortunately, the three main vehicle producers mobilized America to defeat Germany in WWII. Chrysler produced the versatile four-wheel-drive Jeep. Other Michigan manufacturers produced tanks, guns, ball bearings, navigation equipment, airplanes, and boats. Factories hummed twenty-four hours a day during war production. In fact, production was so intense, that it forever changed the female workforce. Thousands of women sewed seat covers, assembled armed vehicles, riveted airplane wings, and tested vehicles. After the war, they explored jobs outside of homes; they became career-minded, selecting employment as secretaries, teachers, restaurant owners, factory workers, lawyers, and ***stenographers***.

Sadly, as the Michigan economy grew, so did problems in big cities, such as Detroit, Lansing, and Grand Rapids. Crime began to escalate as families became fatherless, forcing mothers to seek employment and leave their children in child-care facilities. The lack of ***paternal*** guidance and ***affirmation*** produces many young people who grow up frustrated, angry, discouraged, and illiterate.

Thousands of Michigan students cannot read, write, or do basic arithmetic above the fourth grade level of ***competency***. The school dropout rate among African-American teenagers in such cities as Detroit, Flint, and Lansing hovers around 50 percent. Consequently, thousands of inner-city youth are ill-prepared for participation in the US

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capitalistic-based economy. Thousands of teenagers are also unqualified for military service, college enrollment, or successful marriages. Many resort to drug abuse, burglary, robbery, and illegal jobs. In fact, the sex slave industry in Michigan has reached ***epidemic*** proportions. Detroit is rated as the most violent city in America. It is also highly influenced by Islamic culture; Michigan has the largest Muslim population in the United States.

On the positive side, alternative schools are cropping up in the form of ***charters***, magnet campuses, private academies, online programs, and home education. Charitable organizations offer rescue and recovery programs for displaced teenagers and abused parents. Positive mentoring programs are available through churches and civic organizations that provide assistance in making positive life choices, career options, financial management, alternatives to abortion, and how to discover and apply talents, gifts, and interests in productive careers.

Famous Michigan people who have "made it" include Henry Ford (industrialist), Gerald Ford (president), Dr. Ben Carson (neurosurgeon), M.R. DeHaan (radio evangelist), Charles Lindbergh (aviator), and Serena Williams (athlete). Other people are successful raising Christmas trees, building trucks and boats, guiding tourists, managing motels and selling fish, computers, auto parts, flowers, and groceries. Opportunities abound for people who have marketable skills and knowledge attached to a dream. Innovative people capitalize on the tourist trade by catering to hikers, campers, fishermen, hunters, photographers, artists, and patrons at restaurants, grocery stores, mini-markets, and motels. Kellogg Company produces breakfast foods, snacks, and appetizers. Other companies produce flags, tee shirts, fishing equipment, brochures, gifts, guided tours, and maps for 124 lighthouses, and hundreds of museums and eateries along Michigan's 3,200 miles of lake shores.



Detroit



Michigan native **Charles Lindbergh** was a pilot who achieved fame in 1927 for piloting a plane, the *Spirit of St. Louis*, from New York to Paris. At the time, it was by far the longest nonstop solo flight ever achieved.

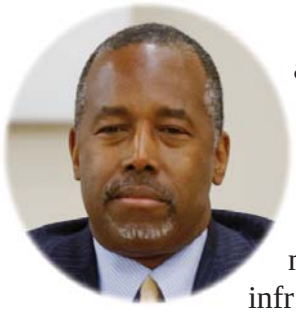
VOCABULARY

Capitalistic-based: free enterprise, privately owned business
Epidemic: wide-spread
Charters: public schools operated as businesses

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Famous Person Vignette: Benjamin "Ben" Carson, MD



Ben Carson and his brother lived with a single-parent mother, who worked two jobs in Detroit to provide shelter, meals, clothes, and an infrequent fast food dinner. Ben grew up angry that his dad had abandoned the family. Fortunately, Ben and his brother were encouraged by their mother not to be bitter, but to read books, study, and work. Ben earned good grades, graduated, and enrolled in Yale University. He eventually graduated from Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, and became a ***prominent*** neurosurgeon there. At age 32, Dr. Carson became the youngest person to lead a department in a major hospital. The movie, *Gifted Hands*, ***aptly*** depicts his life.

Carson's fame expanded worldwide when he successfully led a medical team to separate twins who were joined at the head. Other physicians had given up hope that the twins would survive an operation that affected so many cranial nerves, tissue, and brain connections. Dr. Carson had studied the possibility for a successful operation, and determined that he could separate the twins, even if other doctors were not optimistic.

Dr. Carson is a devout Christian who prayed with the twin's parents that the operation would allow the twins to live as normal children. Dr. Carson's team spent many days preparing for the invasive operation. Success of the multi-hour medical procedure propelled Dr. Carson into prominence as one of the world's most gifted surgeons. He provided a home and financial support for his mother, while he remained with Johns Hopkins Hospital for 30 years. He retired in 2013, and began to voice concern that the African-American community was being ***exploited*** by other Black people who seemed more concerned with tearing down traditional American values, than elevating the social, health, financial, and spiritual status of Black people. Supporters encouraged Dr. Carson to campaign for the US presidency. Even though he led in polls for a short time, he dropped out of the race in order to encourage African-Americans to pursue educational goals that would enable Blacks to participate in the ***American dream***.

VOCABULARY

Prominent: well known, respected
Aptly: appropriately
Exploited: taken advantage of
American dream: philosophy that with hard work and determination, anyone can prosper



LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Instead of cursing the darkness, light a candle."

-Benjamin Franklin (Founding Father)

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Minnesota
Chapter 3 Section 1
Topic 3







Minnesota's Famed Mayo Clinic

Like many states, Minnesota has contrasts. Politics embrace both conservative and liberal points of view. Politicians range from Michele Bachmann (conservative Republican) to Jesse Ventura (liberal Democrat). A large immigrant population (about 400,000) from such places as Somalia, Korea, Mexico, Sweden, and China, constitute a diverse gathering of people, businesses, and students, who know very little about America's founding principles. Religious beliefs include Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Pentecostal, Assembly of God, Independents, Islam, and atheists. More than 500 churches dot the state. Many of those host private schools. In fact, more than 650 private schools operate in Minnesota. Homeschool is also becoming popular as public schools experience troubling times with violence and academic underperformance. About 30 percent of children are involved in some form of school choice.

Minnesota has many wonderful attractions, such as winter sports, fishing lakes, tranquil rivers, unusual geography, beautiful architecture, and natural beauty. The state also has a ***dark side*** with its 18 Native American casinos that rake in about 1.4 billion dollars a year in gambling money, and the teenage culture, especially with Native Americans, foster care children, and immigrant groups, that experience abuse. Since about 2002, men and women of ***devious*** character and smooth-talking words in such cities as Duluth and Minneapolis, ***snare*** youth into crime.

Abusive men ***cruise*** social media, shopping malls, bus stations, remote parks, and secluded streets to spot girls who appear ***vulnerable***, depressed, sad, or lonely. The targeted girls "have a look" of being ***distraught***. About 70% of such girls have been abused as children by relatives or known persons. The "shady" men and women, often dressed neatly or stylishly, flatter the girls, give gifts, and promise adventure, pretty clothes, safety, and love. At first, the ***predators*** (men or women) act casual and just friendly. They usually want to meet at future times "just to talk with a pretty

VOCABULARY

Dark side: mysterious, dangerous
Devious: dishonest, untruthful
Snare: trap
Cruise: drive around
Vulnerable: unprotected
Distraught: confused, afraid, alone
Predators: hunt and capture people for selfish gain

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girl". After about the third or fourth meeting, the girls are ***enticed*** to take a ride in a nice car.

That is a fatal mistake. They are usually taken to a motel or house where they are assaulted and marked as slaves. The assaults are filmed, and the girls are threatened with exposure on social media, tortured, and warned that they will be killed if they try to escape or tell someone about their capture. By age 26 they are ***castaways*** housed in ***emaciated*** bodies racked by disease, depression, addiction, and ill-health.

Fortunately, Minnesota also offers hope for such girls through organizations that specialize in rescuing girls and women caught up in abuse. Not only can girls dial 911, they can dial Runaway hotlines, or seek help from local churches, schools, police, and hospitals.

Minnesota is 79,610 square miles. More than 72 state parks offer places of joy, recreation, and relaxation, where people have picnics, sunbathe, roller skate, hike, jog, or just talk. Even though agriculture (beets, grains, eggs, potatoes, wheat, oats) is a primary source of revenue, the Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul are known as the "trade center of the Midwest". Commercial ***transactions*** in paper products, processed foods, plastics, banking, insurance, technology, light industry, and medical



St. Paul, the State Capital

services abound. The famous Mayo Clinic is located in Rochester. Sports fans can't overlook the knuckle-crunching contests by the Minnesota Twins baseball club (World Series winners), the Timberwolves basketball team, the Vikings football team (Super Bowl winners), or the Wild hockey team.



Minnesota Vikings Football Player

Cities such as Plymouth, Brooklyn Park, Bloomington, and St. Paul, offer malls, restaurants, private schools, churches, skating rinks, and a multitude of services. Rivers, lakes, and streams offer miles of waterways brimming with trout and pike. Big game hunters flock to woods where moose and deer are harvested.

The younger set enjoys zip lines over canyons, snow trails across valleys, and ski lifts on mountain ridges. A great many

VOCABULARY

Enticed: lured, invited
Castaways: discarded, throwaways
Emaciated: wasted, ruined
Transactions: arrangements

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children scream and yell as they propel down slopes on sleds, inner tubes, and snowboards from December through March. During summer, they swim, dive, and snorkel in lakes, ponds, and swimming pools. State borders include Lake Superior, Wisconsin, Canada, Iowa, and North and South Dakota. Some famous people include F. Scott Fitzgerald, (author of *The Great Gatsby*), Judy Garland (actress: *The Wizard of Oz*), and Charles M. Shulz (author of *Peanuts*



Minnesota Landscape

Famous Person Vignette: Robert J. Pruden



Freedom is not free; men and women have been wounded and killed while defending freedom during WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and in military conflicts in the Middle East and Africa. War is never convenient or pleasant. People get wounded, displaced, and killed to protect homes, families, and freedom to worship, work, and pursue happiness. Throughout history, evil men have sought power to oppress people and control nations. Such men inspire followers who form armies that invade towns, villages, and cities. Such was the case with Germany, Japan, and Italy during WWII. They committed ***atrocities*** that included rape, mutilation, and murder in order to possess nations. They had to be opposed.

Tragically, some dictators stop their aggression only when they are persuaded that continuation of their war efforts is futile. Such was the attitude of Japan when American military forces pushed Japanese troops back to their homeland, yet Japan's leaders would not surrender. An allied invasion would have meant the death of millions of people. More American soldiers would have been killed than those who died during the Normandy invasion in France. Thus, President Truman authorized use of the atomic bomb on Japan to shorten the war and save both Japanese and American lives. The two atomic bombs dropped on Japan sent a strong message that Japan would not be allowed to continue attacking, killing, and mutilating people. Japan surrendered within hours after the second atomic bomb exploded.

VOCABULARY

Atrocities: terrible acts

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Fortunately, many brave and courageous individuals historically have stood against tyrants, dictatorships, and oppressors. Such was the case with a Minnesota patriot, Robert J. Pruden, in 1969, when Communists aggressors invaded South Vietnam. Robert was a twenty year-old US Army soldier, whose six-man team had been airlifted by helicopter behind enemy lines to set up an ambush. As Pruden's men began to put their plan into operation, enemy automatic rifle fire wounded a US soldier, and pinned down the team in a deadly crossfire. Pruden realized that his entire squad would likely be killed unless enemy forces could be distracted away from the American soldiers. Knowing full well that he was placing himself in peril, Robert began firing his weapon and yelling as he charged at the ***Viet Cong*** attackers. Two enemy bullets struck Robert, knocking him to the ground, but he rose up and continued to spray bullets toward the enemy. Just as enemy forces withdrew, Robert was struck a third time. It was deadly. Robert died, but his quad was rescued. Sgt. Pruden paid the ultimate price to defend freedom. His heroic action earned a ***Purple Heart*** and Medal of Honor.



Medal of Honor

VOCABULARY

Viet Cong: Communist soldiers
Purple Heart: award given to wounded soldiers

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves."

-Abraham Lincoln (President)

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Mississippi
Chapter 3 Section 1
Topic 4





The sweet aroma of magnolia blossoms is familiar to Mississippi residents, and is a grand attraction for visitors. The white and yellow flowers are unique, beautiful, and enchanting. They create a one-of-a-kind display on trees that grow as high as 40 feet in lawns and along boulevards. Adjacent to magnolia trees can be found gigantic oak trees covered with Spanish moss. Splendid cypress trees grow in the southern swamp regions near the coast. Stately pines reach skyward in dense forests. Wild rose bushes, green honeysuckle vines, and pink plum tree blossoms attract visitors who capture magnificent ***floral*** displays with cameras. Springtime in Mississippi presents some of the nation's most beautiful displays of blossoms and aromas.



Magnolia Blossom

Interstates 10 and 20 cross Mississippi, transporting millions of travelers annually. Some stay to visit, look for employment, or work at cotton farms, lumber mills, oil refineries, chicken houses, catfish ponds, or furniture factories. Mississippi became a state in 1817. The capital is Jackson. The current population is about three million people. Prior to the Civil War (1861-1865), Mississippi was a major producer of cotton. Black slaves ***cultivated*** thousands of acres and hauled multiple tons of cotton bales to New Orleans, Louisiana, where it was shipped around the world. That changed after the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln freed Black slaves, and many African-Americans migrated from Mississippi to northern cities to find employment in factories. Following WWI and WWII, huge numbers of Black families left Mississippi to avoid segregation and to seek employment in Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and other northern states.



Floral: pertaining to flowers
Cultivated: plowed, planted, harvested
Predominately: mostly, large portion

Whereas Mississippi's population prior to 1865 was ***predominately*** Black, the current percentage of African-Americans is about 37 percent. Mississippi still has the highest percentage of Blacks of any US state. Following the Civil War, the economy of Mississippi changed from dependence on cotton plantations

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supported by slavery, to a variety of revenue-producing industries, including, tourism, chicken and catfish farms, rice production, lumber mills, cattle ranches, and commercial fishing. Oil and natural gas wells began to appear in the early 1900s. Today, Mississippi ranks number 14 in national petroleum production, is number two in cotton production, and leads the nation in pond-produced catfish. Other cash crops include pecans, rice, sugar cane, and sweet potatoes. Favorite foods include fried catfish or chicken, biscuits and gravy, fried okra, mashed Irish potatoes, baked sweet potatoes, and pecan pie. Sweet tea is a regular beverage at noon meals. The meals are delicious, but they tend to create obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.



Siege of Vicksburg During the Civil War

People looking for adventure can find it in Mississippi's various museums, moss-covered ***bayous***, white-sand beaches, dense forests, or muddy rivers, including the mighty Mississippi. The Vicksburg Battlefield Museum attracts students and historians from across the nation. Hunters annually harvest whitetail deer, scaly alligators, quacking ducks, large-mouth bass, and speckled trout. Coastal cities like Biloxi and Gulfport host high-rise hotels and resort facilities that attract thousands of tourists annually to swim, jet ski, fish, sunbathe, and windsurf. Unfortunately, many visitors ***squander*** their money at casinos, and ***relinquish*** their ***virtue*** during beach parties. Sadly, the birth rate among unmarried girls has more than doubled since 1980, when many teenagers of parents who grew up during the "sexual revolution" of the 1970's threw off self-restraint. The absence of nurturing fathers and moral values, and the presence of raging hormones, combine to cause some teenagers to throw caution to the wind in order to have fun with no sense of commitment or concern about the consequences. Today, more than 50 percent of births in Mississippi are by unmarried girls who got pregnant while experimenting with boys. Consequently, thousands of single mothers exist on welfare.

Hurricane Katrina in 2005 devastated southern Mississippi. Thousands of homes were destroyed, forcing 36,000 displaced people to live in ***FEMA*** trailers for more than a year. You will read more about Katrina and two heroes in the vignette at the end of this lesson.

Famous people from Mississippi include Zig Ziglar (motivational speaker), Brett Favre (professional quarterback), Walter Payton (professional football runner), Elvis Presley (singer), and Dr. James Hardy (surgeon). The legislature made news in 2016 when it passed a law that forbid state agencies from forcing Christian businesses to participate in same sex marriages or activities. Mississippi is ranked as the most Christian state in America; it has more churches per capita than any other state. The state is also

VOCABULARY

Bayous: marshy streams in swamps
Squander: waste, lose
Relinquish: give up
Virtue: purity, moral values
FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency

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known for its hospitality, "folksy ways", and distinct southern drawl.

Education choice is growing in popularity as public schools continue to ***deteriorate***. In fact, Mississippi ranks near the bottom for performance among public schools in the United States. An estimated 257 private schools serve more than 57,500 students in cities such as Jackson, Hattiesburg, Biloxi, Meridian, Tupelo, and Greenville. Illiteracy is a major contributor to unemployment, poverty, and fatherlessness.

Teenagers who graduate and cultivate job skills, find employment in such areas as agriculture, lumber mills, restaurants, landscaping, chicken farms, retail stores, floral shops, and tire repair facilities. Youth who have developed the attributes of strong communication skills, reliability, work ethic, and courtesy have no problem being hired. People who can see a need and meet it are in high demand among employers. The following vignette is a good illustration of how some people don't wait to be told what to do; they just do what is necessary.



Jackson, the State Capital

VOCABULARY

Deteriorate: ruin, decay, waste away
Commandeered: took possession

Famous Persons Vignettes: Ken Bellau and Donna Brown



The time was late at night. A scream pierced the darkness as Ken Bellau paddled his boat in swirling waters that flooded his neighborhood in New Orleans. He heard a child's voice plead for help. Ken located a stranded family, loaded them in his boat, and headed for safety. In nearby Ocean Springs, Mississippi, Donna Brown stood in flood waters to help people toward dry ground around the hotel, which Donna managed. Ken and Donna tirelessly reached out to people trapped in the destruction of Hurricane Katrina that swallowed the coastal regions of Louisiana and Mississippi in 2005.

Donna and Ken spent the next three weeks rescuing survivors. Ken ***commandeered*** an abandoned boat and rescued more than 400 people, as well as numerous dogs and cats. He tirelessly and relentlessly listened for cries for help from people stranded on porches, rooftops, trees, and automobiles. Entire neighborhoods were under water. Streets were polluted and became snake-infested rivers. Night and day Ken prowled flooded neighborhoods to locate children, men, and women who were likely to die from drowning, starvation, or lack of medical attention. He even dodged bullets from people who assumed that Ken was a looter. Donna Brown also saw a need, and fulfilled it in a nearby town.

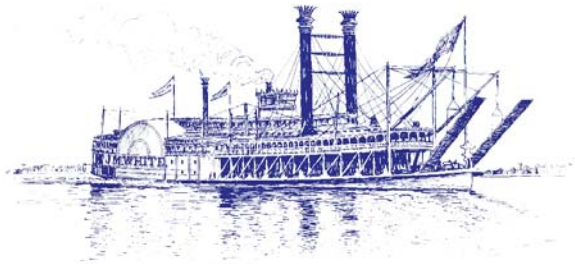
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Donna provided blankets, beds, and meals for more than 300 people who had been displaced from their homes. While looters, robbers, and vandals were taking advantage of flooded coastal conditions to steal from their neighbors, Donna and Ken were sacrificing personal comfort to extend helping hands to strangers in need. Donna and Ken simply did what needed to be done when circumstances required desperate action. Ken learned that he needed to carry a firearm to discourage snakes, looters, and hysterical people who had lost ***rationality***. Ken didn't worry about his own needs, safety, or comfort. When he wasn't using his boat to rescue people, Ken was guiding national guard troops in their efforts to prevent vandals from stealing and robbing. Weeks later, military personnel claimed that Ken Bellau deserved a medal of honor for his bravery and courage to rescue people and protect property. Both Ken and Donna exhibited the kind of courage and kindness that made America a great nation.



Wister Gardens, Mississippi



1812 Mississippi River Steamboat

VOCABULARY

Rationality: clear thinking, logic

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"A clear conscience is the secret to peace of mind."

-Ronald E. Johnson (Educator)

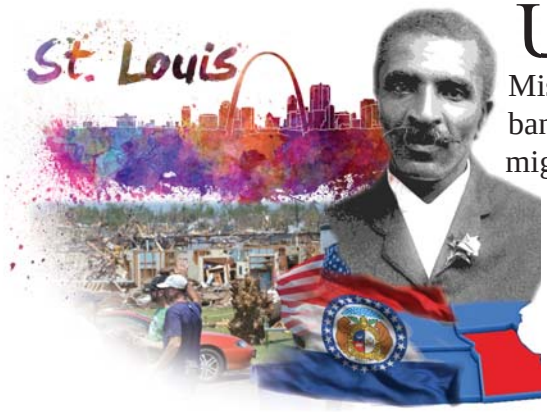
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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Missouri
Chapter 3 Section 1
Topic 5





U. S. Highway 70 and the Missouri River cross Missouri. Along the west-east concrete ribbon and river banks are some of America's most startling scenes. The mighty Mississippi River forms the eastern border. Travelers of the "Show Me State" experience beautiful scenes of red bluffs, golden hay fields, green grape vineyards, angus cattle herds, lazy rivers, and multi-colored forests. Tourists traveling through St. Louis view the great arch that depicts the starting point for Lewis and Clark, Pony Express, Santa Fe Trail, and Oregon Trail. Fifty caves and numerous stream-dug canyons entertain ***spelunkers*** and fishermen. Missouri has a diverse history that marks the state as a place of both peace and strife. Stories of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn on the Mississippi River have thrilled boys and girls who read, listened, and watched movies of nostalgic life in Missouri. Some of the nation's most tragic events occurred within the borders of Missouri, such as race riots, tornadoes, Civil War battles, Mormon expulsion, and droughts.



The Gateway Arch in St. Louis

Missouri has been called a lot of flattering and abusive names because of the wide scope of events involving newsworthy items in country music, politics, weather, aviation, education, and agriculture. Since the early 1800s, people have used the term, "stubborn as a Missouri mule" to describe folks from Missouri. Heated debates in legislative halls, churches, and classrooms often erupted. Conflicts over slavery spilled more than a little blood. Segregation debates regarding housing, schools, restaurants, and transportation were frequent topics prior to and after the Civil War. And yet, the state has produced some of America's most amazing people: George Washington Carver (African-American scientist), Harry S. Truman (president), Mark Twain (author), Walt Disney (film producer), Jesse James (outlaw), Rush Limbaugh (radio talk show host), Yogi Berra (baseball), Omar Bradley (general), Joyce Meyer (conference speaker and author) and Dick Van Dyke (actor).



Spelunkers: people who explore caves

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Missouri was included in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, when the area was purchased from France. During the 1800s, thousands of buffalo hunters, ***freighters***, trappers, settlers, and soldiers passed through Missouri in search of adventure or new homes. Missouri became the 24th state in 1821. The capital is Jefferson City. Other large cities include Springfield, St. Louis, Kansas City, Independence, Lees Summit, and O'Fallon. More than 81 parks and historic sites offer places to hike, swim, canoe, fish, and water ski. Major industries include vehicle and aviation manufacturing, food processing, agriculture, cattle raising, and mineral mining. Missouri produces 90 percent of the nation's lead for making bullets. The state ranks number six in beef production, and is the second leading producer of hay. Other cash crops include peaches, nuts, and grapes. Raising horses, hogs, and chickens is also a ***lucrative*** business.

Education is a common topic of discussion in homes, churches, legislative halls, and restaurants. The University of Missouri often produces not only top scholars, but strong, competitive football teams. Springfield is host to Baptist Bible College, Evangel University, College of The Ozarks, and several other private Christian campuses. Several thousand students (such as Jerry Falwell and Al Janney) have passed through those colleges to become preachers, teachers, missionaries, evangelists, and business owners. Private academies, alternative schools, charters, boarding campuses, and homeschooling are popular alternatives to traditional public schools. Missouri teenagers are using smartphones, tablets, and personal computers to earn diplomas online, at home, in classrooms, and even in public places where youth hang out.

Other interesting tid-bits of information draw attention and raise eyebrows. Charles Lindbergh flew solo in a single-engine plane named the *Spirit of St. Louis* from America to France in 1927. The famous Dred Scott court case in 1857 made national headlines because of slavery issues. Joseph Smith and his Mormon followers were expelled from Missouri in 1838 because of their practice of ***polygamy***. ***Braille*** was first introduced to blind students in St. Louis in 1859. The state fish is the Channel Cat. The state tree is the Eastern Walnut. Each year, thousands of tourist flock to Branson to square dance, listen to Gospel quartets sing four-part harmony, and watch dramatic outdoor presentations of the ***Resurrection***. Joplin made headlines in 2011, when a tornado ***devastated*** the town, killing more than 100 people and leaving thousands hurting and homeless. People from around the nation showed up to help rebuild homes, schools, churches, hospitals, and businesses.

VOCABULARY

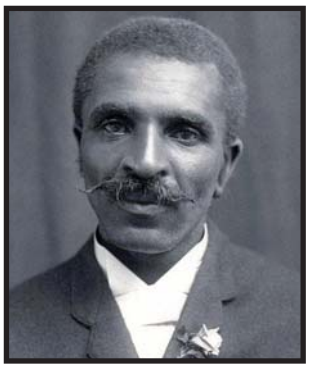
Freighters: men who hauled goods in wagons
Lucrative: profitable, productive
Polygamy: married to more than one woman at a time
Braille: raised type in books
Resurrection: rise of Christ from the tomb
Devastated: ruined, damaged severely



Volunteers helping with relief efforts in the wake of the tornado that hit Joplin in 2011.

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Famous Person Vignette: George Washington Carver



Growing up in poverty has unique challenges. But, growing up under the ***stigma*** of slavery in the 1860s was especially tough for George Washington Carver. A week after he was born, George, along with his mother and sister, were kidnapped by raiders and sold as slaves. Later, infant George was rescued and returned to his former owner, a white man named Carver. After the Civil War, George was a free boy, but he remained with his former owners, who taught George to read the Bible and write about his interest in plants. The little boy was intelligent, ***cordial***, and good natured. He had talent as an artist and showed intense interest in plants and trees. He attended a small rural school for Black children, where he demonstrated intelligence and strong study habits. He was encouraged to attend college to learn about ***botany***. He was accepted at Iowa State College as the first Black student. He excelled in the study of botany, and spent many hours studying and drawing plants and insects in the forest. There, he also learned to sit quietly to meditate on the things he read in the Bible and things he observed in the woods. During long walks alone, George had time to think of his dreams about helping people improve their lives through education and the practice of developing good habits. Later in life, he was heard to say, "Reading about nature is fine, but if a person walks in the woods and listens carefully, he can learn more than what is in books, for they (things of nature) speak with the voice of God."

George graduated with high grades and an excellent reputation as a person of honesty and humility. He was recruited by Booker T. Washington to join the faculty at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. There, George set up a laboratory to study the effects of boll weevils and crop rotation on cotton fields. He conducted extensive experiments with peanuts to develop an alternative to raising cotton so southern farmers could become self-sufficient. Dr. Carver never married. He devoted his entire life to serving other people. His fame as a scientist spread worldwide. Presidents and professors sought his advice on agricultural matters. He was commemorated on postage stamps, in museums, and in professional magazines and books. One of his most remembered remarks was, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these."

VOCABULARY

Stigma: negative mark of identification
Cordial: good natured, polite
Botany: study of plants

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Ninety-nine percent of the failures come from people who have the habit of making excuses."

-George Washington Carver
(African-American Scientist)

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Montana
Chapter 3 Section 2
Topic 6





The thought of being attacked by a grizzly bear raises the hair on your neck. The famous frontiersman, Jedediah Smith survived such an attack. His partner had to sew Smith's scalp and ear back on after a vicious grizzly attack. Most men would not have survived the type of ***mauling*** endured by Smith. But, the tough frontiersman ordered his partner to do what was necessary to save the scalp and ear. Scars lasted a lifetime. You can read more about Smith in the lesson on Wyoming. The ***episode*** about Smith and the grizzly bear is mentioned here because the official state animal of Montana is the Grizzly Bear.


Montana Bull Elk

Montana borders Canada between Idaho and North Dakota. The French ceded the area to the United States through negotiation of The Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Statehood was granted in 1889. The state bird is the Western Meadow Lark, while the Ponderosa Pine is the state tree. The Bitterroot is the state flower. Helena is the capital. Main highways are I-15 (north and south) and 90 and 94 (east and west). Montana politicians defied the 55 mile-per-hour speed limit imposed by Congress in the 1970s, ***ostensibly*** to conserve fuel. Independent-minded Montana officials informed Washington politicians to keep their federal highway funds. The speed limit on Montana state highways was raised above 70 miles per hour in remote areas. Eventually, the rest of the nation followed Montana's lead to raise the speed limit along remote highways. Now, half a dozen states allow highway speeds to exceed 75 miles per hour in specified areas.

VOCABULARY

Mauling: rip, tear, and slash
Episodes: events
Ostensibly: seemingly
Enthusiasts: excited persons

Summers in Montana are fantastic; the winters are brutal, with weeks of howling snow storms and freezing rain. Winter ***enthusiasts*** include hikers, campers, snowmobilers, and skiers. Even though winters are severe, the state produces abundant crops of wheat, sugar beets, huckleberries, chokecherries, and cattle. Favorite foods to taste include huckleberry ice cream or jam, sourdough biscuits, and jerky processed from elk, deer, or buffalo.

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Photographers, writers, and artists have access to some of the most inspiring scenes in North America. In fact, Charles Russell became a famous artist because of his rustic-style action paintings of Montana cowboys, stagecoaches, and Indians. Gold and silver mines provide employment and tax revenue. Game hunting is popular for sportsmen who seek trophy elk, deer, pheasants, geese, antelope, mountain lions, moose, and bison (buffalo). Montana rivers, streams, and lakes attract fishermen from across the United States to catch trout and pike.

More than two dozen colleges and universities attract students who prefer the wide-open spaces of Montana. Many students participate in rodeo events. Numerous Montana towns host national rodeo championships in such events as bull riding, bronc busting, team roping, and barrel racing. Talented and attractive ladies vie for the title of rodeo queen. Pickup trucks, blue denim trousers, and cowboy boots are common on city streets and college campuses.

Chief cities are Helena, Great Falls, Missoula, Billings, and Bozeman. Numerous dinosaur fossil sites draw tourists to dig, photograph, study, and ***speculate*** on the origin and disappearance of ancient creatures. Numerous fossilized graveyards provide ***credibility*** to proponents of a ***cataclysmic*** flood that deposited ancient sea life remains across Montana hills, mountains, and valleys.

VOCABULARY

Speculate: guess
Credibility: validity, assumed to be true
Cataclysmic: major event
Infamous: well known, but not admired
Flamboyant: showy, flashy, egotistic
Acquisition: to claim, take control

Native American ancestors included Sioux and Shoshone tribes. The ***infamous*** Battle of The Little Bighorn occurred in Montana, where Indian warriors lead by Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull, and Red Cloud defeated US 7th Calvary troops lead by the ***flamboyant*** General Custer. Custer's arrogance led to his defeat, which made headlines in newspapers across America. Even so, people demanded retaliation and forced confinement of Native Americans to reservations. Each year, thousands of tourists flock to the site where Custer made his last stand.



Battle of The Little Bighorn

Montana is famous for the historic accomplishments of Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and the Shoshone teenage girl, Sacagawea. Lewis and Clark were commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the vast region of the Missouri River headwaters to determine how best to consider ***acquisition*** of the region before French, Spanish, or British explorers claimed portions of the land. You will read more about Sacagawea in the vignette at the end of this lesson.

The state constitution preamble starts with the words, "We the people of Montana, grateful to God for the quiet beauty of our (state)…do ordain and establish this constitution." Montana, like most western states, is beautiful, inspiring, and well worth visiting or claiming as home.

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Famous Person Vignette: Sacagawea



While in North Dakota preparing for the journey across Montana, Idaho, and Oregon, Lewis and Clark met a French trapper, named Charbonneau, who had purchased a Shoshone Indian girl from Hidatsa warriors. The young maiden had been captured when she was twelve years old during a Hidatsa raid in Northern Idaho. The Indian girl, Sacagawea, was sixteen years old when she and her 40 year-old French, common-law husband, were hired to serve as scouts and interpreters for the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1804-1806. Sacagawea had recently given birth to a baby boy when the 8,000 mile journey began in North Dakota. The amazing endurance, commitment, and courage of Sacagawea earned respect and admiration from the explorers. Because the Indian girl could speak the Shoshone and Hidatsa languages, and a little French, she was extremely valuable to Lewis and Clark, who knew they had to pass through Shoshone territory in Idaho. Amazingly, when the expedition was met by Shoshone warriors, Sacagawea recognized her older brother, who was chief of the tribe. Sacagawea persuaded her brother to provide fresh horses and safe passage for the explorers. Sacagawea and Charbonneau accompanied Lewis and Clark all the way to and from the Pacific Ocean.

Modern teenagers have a hard time visualizing how a sixteen year-old mother could nurse her infant child while guiding two dozen rough frontiersmen 8,000 miles through harsh terrain, over snow-covered peaks, and across desolate wastelands. Sacagawea was an amazing young woman, whose name deserves to be remembered. Tragically, she died at the age of 25. William Clark adopted Sacagawea's two children and raised them as his own.



Buffalo

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"Moral character, dedication, and commitment to attain noble goals enable great achievements."

-R.E. Johnson (Educator)

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States

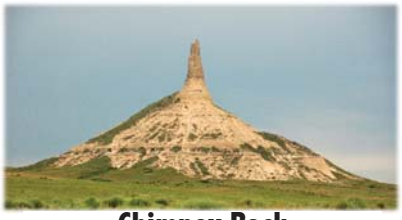


Nebraska
Chapter 3 Section 2
Topic 7





Sioux and Pawnee warriors on Nebraska plains often fought each other to claim hunting grounds or to capture slaves between 1700 and 1870. Spanish explorers and French fur trappers wandered along river banks in Nebraska searching for beaver or gold in the 1700s. Even the British were involved in claiming Nebraska prior to the late 1700s, but the British were defeated in the War of Independence in 1776, and therefore surrendered claim to land occupied by Americans. The French defeated the Spanish in Europe and claimed a vast section of America west of the Mississippi River.



Chimney Rock

Napoleon, the dictator of France, needed money to support his wars in Europe. Therefore, in 1803 he sold a vast section of land to the United States, west of the Mississippi River between Canada and the Gulf of Mexico. That area of land, called The Louisiana Purchase, nearly doubled the size of the United States.



Pioneers of Nebraska

President Thomas Jefferson ***commissioned*** Lewis and Clark to survey the area included in the Louisiana Purchase. The exploration journey followed the Missouri River to its headwaters in the Rocky Mountains, and overland to Oregon. Later explorations followed the North and South Platte Rivers that meandered through Nebraska. Along that route is Chimney Rock (now a national historic site), which served as a lonely sentinel landmark to pioneers. The route along the Missouri River became the Oregon Trail, as well as the route of the Pony Express and Transcontinental Railroad. The route along the South Platte River became part of the Santa Fe Trail.

VOCABULARY

Commissioned: authorized to perform a task
Homestead: a plot of land on which to build and live
Sod house: dirt hut, sometimes built into the side of a hill

News of the "Great American Desert" soon attracted pioneers. Brave settlers loaded their wagons and ventured into the open prairies to establish farms. The Union Pacific Railroad offered free or cheap land to pioneers, including Europeans, who would ***homestead***. Families built ***sod houses*** and plowed the rich Nebraska soil to raise cattle and hogs, and plant corn, wheat, and beans. Even

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though the winters were cold, and violent storms ripped across the land, settlers endured freezing weather to establish Nebraska as the 37th state in 1867.

Introduction of windmills in the late 1800s and electricity in the early 1900s escalated development of Nebraska. Settlers bought essential supplies at trading posts, where they ***haggled*** for the best price. Later, pioneers used Montgomery Ward or Sears, Roebuck & Co. catalogs to order such essentials as cloth, shoes, gloves, plows, stoves, automobiles, and trousers. By the early 1900s, shopping was done at stores in towns, such as Omaha, Kearney, Scottsbluff, Hastings, and Fremont. Annual county fairs attracted farmers and ranchers, who auctioned off cattle, hogs, sheep, bread, quilts, pies, and cakes. Young people took advantage of county fairs to dance, have wrestling contests, conduct races, and look for future husbands or wives.

The town of Lincoln became the capital. Beef, hogs, and farm products, such as corn, wheat, and beans, became major sources of revenue. In fact, Nebraska has more than 47,000 farms on 45.6 million acres of farmland. Four hundred and fifty miles of Interstate 80 cross Nebraska. Pioneers in ox-drawn wagons trudged along for 22 days to travel across Nebraska east to west. Modern travelers make the trip on four lanes of concrete ribbon in about seven and a half hours. In earlier times, mail was delivered by messenger boys on horses or bicycles until the ***advent*** of motorized mail service via the United States Postal Service in the late 1800s. Telephone operators, located in houses, connected callers using ***party lines,*** until private phones were available in homes and businesses in the early 1900s. Today, smartphones are common throughout the state.

The state population increased to 1.9 million as cities grew and colleges were established. The Nebraska Cornhuskers (University of Nebraska) have been to 27 bowl games. ***Boys Town*** was founded in 1917. Antelope, deer, and pheasants attract hunters from across the nation. Oil and natural gas production have become a major source of revenue. Tourists come to Nebraska to ice skate, sled, fish, and visit fossil beds. More than 244 private schools enroll several thousand students.


Nebraskan Plains

Nebraska is the only state with a ***unicameral*** legislature. The state is considered as a ***progressive*** state. Famous people from Nebraska include Gerald Ford (38th president), Warren Buffet (3rd wealthiest man in the world), Marlon Brando (actor), Red Cloud (Sioux chief) and Fred Astaire (dancer). The long winters motivated people to start home-based industries that produced such items as the Reuben Sandwich in 1925, Vice Grip Pliers in 1924, TV Dinners in the 1950s, and Kool-Aid in the 1920s.

VOCABULARY

Haggled: argued for best price
Advent: beginning of something
Party lines: several customers using the same phone line
Boys Town: home for fatherless boys
Unicameral: one branch of legislature
Progressive: high level of government intervention

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Historical Vignette:



Dugout home

Pioneers who settled in Nebraska were a unique type of people. They possessed fortitude that seemed superhuman. Modern teenagers with smartphones, air conditioned homes, padded sofas, and fine silverware displayed on polished tables, have little concept of the stamina needed just to exist in early Nebraska. Many homes in Nebraska during the early 1800s began as mere dirt dugouts — huts dug into the sides of low hills. Heat was provided by buffalo chips (manure) burned on stone ***hearths***. A hole dug through the top of the hill allowed smoke to escape. One window allowed entrance of light and air. It had no glass; instead, a wooden shutter closed the window during cold weather or Indian attacks. The door was made of rough planks, suspended on leather hinges. Beds were fashioned of poles and leather strips covered with blankets or animal hides. Cooking was done over an outdoor pit; pots were suspended from a tripod that straddled the stone pit. A typical meal consisted of roasted rabbit or antelope, boiled beans, parched corn, or homemade bread. Butter and cream were luxuries, unless the pioneer was fortunate enough to own a cow. Women and older children did most of the milking and gardening.

VOCABULARY

Hearth: stone slab or fireplace area
Lard: hog fat
Outhouse: shed where body waste is deposited
Camp meetings: people gathered to hear an evangelist
House-raising: house built by neighbors
Midwife: a woman who delivers babies in homes

Women and children often suffered from cold, heat, illness, or near-starvation. Sanitary conditions were primitive. Soap was scarce, and had to be handmade from a mixture of ***lard***, ashes, and lime. Bathing was a luxury: maybe once a week. Water had to be hauled in buckets from near or distant streams until a well was dug or a windmill could be afforded. Body waste was disposed of in an ***outhouse*** or trench a short distance from the hut. Teenage youth seldom saw other youth. The exception was at annual fairs, brush harbor ***camp meetings***, or periodic ***house-raisings***, when pioneers would gather to help a nearby family erect a new house. Child birth was painful. Most babies were born at home, where the mother was assisted by a ***midwife***. Infant mortality was common, and the average lifespan of adults was less than 60 years.

Education usually consisted of reading passages from the Bible by candlelight after supper. Children attended school only when they were not needed to plow, plant, or harvest wheat or corn. Formal education occurred in one-room school houses. Instruction usually ended when students mastered Blue Back Spellers and McGuffey Readers, taught by young women or older teenage girls who had completed at least the eighth grade. Boys seldom went to school beyond eighth grade. However, most pioneers were literate and competent in arithmetic.

Those hardy pioneers carved out Nebraska because America offered opportunity for people to own land, invent

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gadgets, and pursue happiness. They laid the foundation for schools, universities, communities, and churches. Although most pioneers were never famous, they nonetheless were significant. They were brave, courageous, tough, and persistent. They survived in spite of hardships. They were the heart of America!



Nebraska Landscape



LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"A flower that blooms where it is fulfills its purpose; so it is with people."

-R.E. Johnson (Educator)

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



Nevada
Chapter 3 Section 2
Topic 8





Since the early 1800s, men have looked for silver and gold in Nevada. Prospectors trudged across parched deserts with droop-eared donkeys to stop every once in a while to apply a pickax against rocks that were hopefully loaded with valuable ore. In 1859, a lonely man struck it rich at a site that became the most productive silver mine in the United States. The Comstock Lode, near present-day Virginia City, was the first gigantic silver discovery in America. During ***subsequent*** years, the mine produced in excess of 300 million dollars in gold and silver ore.

That discovery attracted thousands of men in search of get-rich-quick claims. Nevada became the fourth largest source of gold in the world, and currently produces three-fourths of the gold processed in the United States. Multiple hundreds of men sought fortunes in the Nevada desert. Gradually, communities emerged to support the mining industry, attracting ***entrepreneurial*** merchants, cooks, ***seamstresses***, teachers, newspaper publishers, and construction crews.

Statehood was granted in 1864, during the Civil War, which caused Nevada to be nicknamed the "Battle Born State". It is also called the "Sage Brush State", due to abundant wild sage growth. The state constitution preamble includes the words, "We the people of the state of Nevada, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, do establish this constitution…" The state motto is "All For Our Country". However, the state chose to take advantage of its freedom to encourage "nightlife" lifestyles. A few people obtained wealth; most experienced addictions, poverty, and heartache.

Along with honorable businesses came ***unsavory*** persons, such as gamblers, prostitutes, ***bootleggers***, and dishonest businessmen. Thus, Nevada became known as a rough, tough, and unhealthy place to live and raise families. Nonetheless, people continued to travel to and through Nevada, stopping long enough to seek entertainment and to pursue opportunities to get



Subsequent: following, afterward
Entrepreneurial: interested in pursuing business ventures
Seamstresses: women who sew clothes
Unsavory: crude, sensual, selfish
Bootleggers: persons who sell liquor unlawfully

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rich. Gradually, families settled, especially near Las Vegas, which was about 30 miles from the Hoover Dam construction site, that involved more than 5,000 workers between 1929-1935. Las Vegas and Boulder City ***accomodated*** the men needed to build the mighty Hoover Dam. However, the congregation of so many men encouraged development of night spots, bars, and gambling establishments, where the work-weary men spent their money on "wine, women, and song".

The glitter of silver and gold in the 1800s established a "live for pleasure" mind-set for many Nevada communities. Even though mines presently employ a relatively small percentage of people in Nevada, other industries have emerged to entice people who look for excitement, get-rich-quick opportunities, and entertainment in urban areas. Consequently, tourism became a major, multimillion dollar industry, attracting joy-seekers to such glittering cities as Las Vegas, Carson City, Reno, and Virginia City, where gambling and night club activities whirl twenty-four hours a day. Restaurants, hotels, and even gasoline stations, are equipped with "one-armed bandits" (slot machines) where patrons try their luck at hitting the jackpot in an effort to get rich quick.

Nevada is unique in that it is the only state that has legalized prostitution and brothels. The combination of liquor sales, gambling, and escort services generates three-fourths of Nevada's state revenue — an estimated 400 million dollars annually. Tragically, yet understandably, the spin-off of such activities is ***rampant*** health issues, emotional turmoil, poverty, and ruined lives. Thousands of young girls and women arrive in Las Vegas with dreams of becoming famous singers, dancers, or escort companions. Most become trapped in slave-like conditions in which businessmen control where, when, and with whom the girls associate. In effect, they become slaves to the Nevada mind-set. Las Vegas is known as "Sin City" because of the non-stop entertainment industry based on ***prurient*** interests. Other Nevada towns operate as second cousins of "Sin City".



Schools experience the negative impact of a culture characterized by ***vice*** and corruption. Even though gambling ***enterprises*** claim that money generated through brothels and casinos helps schools, Nevada consistently ranks at the very bottom of academic performance in the United States. The school dropout rate hovers around 37 percent. Thus, thousands of "diplomaless teenagers" wander down glittering streets, where employment options are limited to such jobs as cooks, waitresses, bartenders, parking lot attendants, and fast-food servers…or dealing drugs and working in brothels. Because public schools are plagued by unacceptable under-performance, the state legislature passed the nation's

VOCABULARY

Accomodated: provided lodging for
Rampant: wide-spread
Prurient: excessive interest in sensual matters
Vice: immoral activities
Enterprises: profit-making businesses

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most comprehensive school-choice program in 2015, enabling students to receive pay vouchers to attend schools of choice, even private, religious schools, where educational services are usually at a higher quality than in public schools.

The federal government owns about 85 percent of Nevada. The vast undeveloped regions are playgrounds for hikers, hunters, campers, and photographers, who gawk and appreciate the Mountain Bluebird (state bird) and Desert Bighorn sheep (state animal). Beautiful Lake Tahoe, on the California border near Carson City (the capital), attracts tourists from around the world.

Another major Nevada attraction is Hoover Dam that created Lake Mead. The combination of the majestic 726 feet-high dam and spectacular lake — the largest reservoir in the world — attracts in excess of 17 million visitors annually, where tourists swim, fish, canoe, jet ski, and sunbathe.

Nevada is known as a playground for people thirsty for amusement, entertainment, and fun.



The Hoover Dam

VOCABULARY

Barnstormer: dare-devil pilot



Famous Person Vignette: Florence (Jones) Murphy

Florence was born December 13, 1911 in Fernley, Nevada. She graduated from high school and attended the University of Nevada for two years, when she married John Murphy in 1936. The couple moved to Las Vegas, where Florence was employed as a legal secretary. One day, a "***barnstormer***" visited Las Vegas, and invited Florence to take a flight. That experience hooked Florence to airplanes. She became the first licensed female pilot in Nevada. Her husband encouraged Florence to use her flying skills to teach other people the thrill of flying. Florence continued to study aviation in order to fulfill a dream to own and operate a private airport from which to provide flying lessons. In 1941, the Murphys and a friend named Bud Barrett, pooled their resources to purchase 200 acres of desert property on which to build a dirt landing strip and install a crude aircraft hanger and office. That was the beginning of Sky Haven Airfield.

On the day of the grand opening, December 7, 1941, a military pilot landed to announce that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. John and Bud immediately enlisted in the Army Air Corp; Florence remained in Nevada to manage Sky

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Haven. She became the first woman to co-own, build, and manage a commercial airport in the United States. In 1946, Sky Haven Airfield was sold, and Florence was employed by Bonanza Airlines. She held administrative positions and occasionally piloted commercial planes. She was promoted to vice president of Bonanza because of her ***competency*** and



C-47 Cargo Plane

dedication to the aviation industry. In 2011, Florence was inducted into the Nevada Aerospace Hall of Fame. She died in 2006 at the age of 91.



Desert Bighorn Sheep

VOCABULARY

Competency: having the required skills and ability

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"A fool and his money are soon parted."

-Middle East axiom

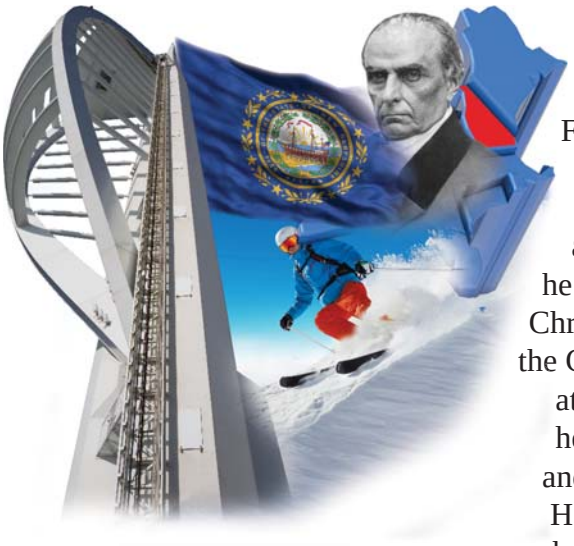
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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



New Hampshire
Chapter 3 Section 2
Topic 9





New Hampshire is among the least-familiar states. It is not often in media headlines, or on Twitter and Facebook. However, it is known as the birthplace of several notable Americans, including Franklin Pierce, who became president in 1853. New Hampshire is also the birthplace of astronaut Alan Shepard (in 1961, he became the first American to orbit the earth.), and Christa McAuliffe (the female teacher who perished when the Challenger rocket exploded in 1986). Poet Robert Frost attended Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, where he began to write poems. His verses were memorized and quoted by students across America during the 1900s. He won four ***Pulitzer*** prizes in his lifetime. Perhaps, the best-known reason people remember New Hampshire is because of the ***notoriety*** of US Senator Daniel Webster. In the early 1800s, he was considered to be America's foremost orator regarding slavery. You will learn more about him at the end of this lesson.



Robert Frost

New Hampshire is similar to Vermont and Maine, in that the ***terrain*** is rocky, and the winters are harsh. For 38 years, New Hampshire and Vermont were part of the Massachusetts colony. New Hampshire became a state on June 21, 1788. It is called "The Granite State", and the capital is Concord. The state motto is "Live Free or Die". That statement was a rallying cry of patriots who declared their independence from England in 1776. The current population is about 1,330,000 people. The state house is the oldest continuously-used legislative facility in America.

VOCABULARY

Pulitzer: literary organization
Notoriety: well known
Terrain: landforms
Ingenuity: smart, creative
Entrepreneurs: business owners
Stringent: restrictive, binding

Ingenuity, hard work, and perseverance enabled ***entrepreneurs*** to develop profitable businesses raising timber for pulp wood, processing maple syrup, manufacturing cloth, and producing cheese. Railroads were laid in 1838, allowing businesses to transport goods to Boston and other New England cities. After WWII, ***stringent*** government regulations and competition in other states forced many merchants to phase out agriculture businesses, and to

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develop companies that produce such items as electronics, fabrication tools, duct tape, corsets, girdles, maternity apparel, athletic clothing, writing tablets, theater tickets, and women's purses.



Skiing at a Winter Resort in New Hampshire

Snow is a major winter inconvenience, as well as a source of tourist revenue in excess of $3.5 billion each year. People from around the nation visit the state to ski, snowmobile, sleigh ride, and ice skate. During summer, tourists enjoy hiking, jet skiing, canoeing, swimming, fishing, and relaxing on lakes or on the east coast beaches. Schools take field trips to visit farms, orchards, lumber mills, assembly plants, and cheese factories. The planting of the first potatoes in the US was in New Hampshire in 1719. Other crops include corn, strawberries, and hay. Maple syrup products generate significant amounts of revenue each year. Other industries include electronics, printing, cheese processing, dairy farms, tourism, and production of clay vases. Visitors and residents enjoy the popular "***steak bomb***" sandwich at local fast food eateries in Portsmouth, Manchester, Nashua, Dover, Rochester, or at the historic White Mountain tramway.

VOCABULARY

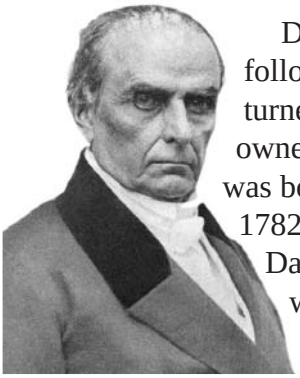
Steak bombs: beef, cheese, and onion
Prestigious: high society, valued
Disenfranchised: left out, omitted

Another popular tourist attraction is Dartmouth College. It was founded in 1769 to educate Native Americans in Christian principles, employment skills, the English language, and to prepare young men as preachers. Like Yale in Connecticut, and Harvard in Boston, Dartmouth College is part of the ***prestigious*** Ivy League colleges. Those colleges no longer embrace the Judeo-Christian values of their founders. New Hampshire is considered the second most secular state. Progressive legislators and political correctness enforced by courts have basically stripped from public areas all evidence of Judeo-Christian influence. The consequences are public school under-performance, escalating teenage pregnancies, juvenile crime, and youth who feel ***disenfranchised*** from the workforce. Nine of ten times that teens engage in sexual behavior outside of marriage do so because of peer pressure, influence of alcoholic beverages, and absence of moral restraint. Consequently, negative behavior often leads to broken dreams, depression, abuse, out-of-wedlock pregnancies, or addictions. Parents who want alternatives to secular education send their children to 359 private schools and 15 boarding schools, which serve 31,300 students. Moreover, about 5,000 students homeschool in New Hampshire.

Civic organizations, churches, youth camps, and private organizations sponsor events such as ice skating, sleigh rides, fishing contests, rifle and archery matches, game harvesting, golf tournaments, softball games, horseback rides, astronomy, and art and music contests.

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Famous Person Vignette: Daniel Webster



Daniel Webster followed a plow as he turned over rich farmland owned by his father. He was born on January 18, 1782. As a young boy, Daniel learned to work hard; but, he also thought about important issues like slavery, honesty, freedom, and beliefs about God. That habit enabled Daniel to stay focused when he attended Dartmouth College, where he studied to become a lawyer in Massachusetts. He earned his attorney's license and set up a country practice, where he cultivated the ability to speak eloquently and persuasively. His ***oratorical*** ability earned high respect and admiration from politicians and other attorneys. He began to win difficult court cases because of his clear thinking about the US Constitution and rule of law. His public speaking skills and ***astute*** insight into fairness propelled Webster into politics, where he became a respected leader in the fight to abolish slavery. He was a polished and capable ***proponent*** of compromise negotiations between abolitionists and slave owners. He rose in political circles and was elected as Senator from Massachusetts. He eventually became US Secretary of State.

Webster's effectiveness in courts and legislative halls caused people to fear his opposition and welcome his support in front of judges, including the US Supreme Court. Webster's ability to generate compromise among opposing parties led to preservation of the Union when southern states threatened to secede. Webster died in 1852, a decade before the outbreak of the Civil War. Even though pro-slavery states eventually formed The Confederate States of America, Webster prolonged the action, enabling abolitionists to gain strength and support to hold the Union together through the bloody Civil War, in which President Abraham Lincoln successfully led Northern troops to victory and preservation of the Union.

In 1937, Stephen Vincent Benet wrote a story called, "The Devil and Daniel Webster". It told of a farmer, who had sold his soul to the devil, and asked Daniel Webster to defend him in court. In the narrative, Webster argues successfully to clear the farmer from the devil's claim. The purpose of the story was to acknowledge the courtroom skill of Webster.

VOCABULARY

Oratorical: public speaking
Astute: capable, insightful
Proponent: supporter

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

"God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it."
-Daniel Webster (Orator)

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HISTOGRAPHY:
Survey of the 50 United States



New Jersey
Chapter 3 Section 2
Topic 10





If you are interested in rivers, shorelines, and even sharks, New Jersey may be your place. Almost every year, lifeguards report sightings of sharks cruising close to crowded beaches. As far back as 1913, newspapers reported that four people were killed by a huge bull shark that attacked swimmers on New Jersey beaches and in the Navesink River. The famous movie, *Jaws*, was a fictitious story about a huge shark that terrorized the Atlantic coastal beaches. The 127 miles of coastline attracts thousands of tourists every summer. In fact, the Atlantic side of New Jersey is a real money-maker for businesses. The Elizabeth Seaport handles millions of dollars of the nation's imports. Atlantic City boasts of attracting thousands of money-spending tourists every year to visit shops located on the coastal ***boardwalk***, and to watch the Miss Universe contest. Gaming casinos, located in ***plush*** high-rise hotels ***adjacent*** to beaches, entertain thousands of visitors.



Atlantic City's Boardwalk is famous for being the most valuable property in the iconic board game, *Monopoly*.

Sharks are not the only danger along New Jersey shores. A devastating hurricane, called Sandy, caused more than 30 billion dollars of damage to homes, restaurants, hotels, and businesses on October 29, 2012. An estimated 346,000 houses were damaged or destroyed, and more than two million homes lost electrical power. As late as 2015, much of the damage was still visible.

The first businessmen to operate in what is now New Jersey were Indians who traded fur, fish, corn, and Native American slaves captured from other tribes in exchange for trinkets, blankets, clothes, and knives to other Indians and Frenchmen. The area was claimed for France, but was eventually ceded to England after the French and Indian War (1754-1763). Colonists declared independence from England in 1776, and statehood was granted in December 1787.

The capital is Trenton. Other major towns are Atlantic City, New Brunswick, Hackensack, and Jersey City. The state motto

VOCABULARY

Boardwalk: sidewalk made of boards
Plush: expensive, fancy
Adjacent: next to, beside

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is "Liberty and Prosperity". Borders are Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware, and the Atlantic Ocean. The population is 8.9 million people, squeezed into 8,722 square miles, making New Jersey among the most densely-populated states in the nation. Even so, 790,000 acres support 9,800 farms that grow some of the best tasting tomatoes, blueberries, cranberries, and peaches in America. For that reason, New Jersey is called "The Garden State". Industries include more than 15,000 factories that produce chemicals, petroleum, prescription drugs, and electrical items. Other sources of revenue are horse ranches, gambling, and tourism. National ***equestrian*** competitions are held in New Jersey.

The two major rivers are the Delaware and Hudson. Both waterways are traveled daily by cargo barges, ships, ferries, and recreational boats. Three tunnels (Holland, Lincoln, and Canal Street) carry traffic under the Hudson River, connecting New Jersey with New York City.

A major battle of the War of Independence was fought at Trenton, New Jersey, when General George Washington led his men on a daring surprise attack on Christmas night, 1776, to defeat a German force that had been hired by England to crush the colonists into submission. That colonial victory inspired the Americans to fight for freedom from England. Washington's men proceeded down to Princeton, where they conducted another surprise attack. The combination of "hit and run" victories proved that the Americans were a ***formidable*** foe that the British would not easily conquer.



Washington Crossing the Delaware — a famous painting depicting the Christmas sneak attack by Washington's forces against Hessian mercenaries stationed at Trenton.

Thomas Edison conducted experiments with light bulbs at Menlo Park, New Jersey. He eventually designed and built the first ***incandescent*** light bulb. He claimed to have failed 1,000 times, but that each failure brought him closer to success. His ***ingenuity*** led to the formation of General Electric Company, that enabled towns, industries, homes, and farms to "see in the dark" and develop the manufacturing industry by applying electrical motors to produce goods. You will learn more about Edison in the vignette at the end of this lesson.

Edison, sharks, and hurricanes were not the only things that brought notoriety to New Jersey. In 1937, the first Atlantic Ocean crossing in a blimp ended tragically as the Hindenburg helium-filled airship struck an electrical wire and exploded in a ball of fire. Thirty-six people died. On a lighter side, a man named Les Paul invented the first solid body electric guitar, changing the sound and way music is played. Unfortunately, the compact population of New Jersey also breeds a high crime rate, automobile thefts, and

VOCABULARY

Equestrian: pertaining to horses
Formidable: powerful
Incandescent: vacuum tube with filament
Ingenuity: cleverness; inventiveness

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school drop-out percentage. Auto insurance, as well as apartment rent and property taxes, are rated among the highest in the nation. Newark International Airport is one of the nation's busiest air terminals.

Princeton University was established in 1700 as the College of New Jersey, to train preachers and lawyers. The name was changed to Princeton in 1896. It is among the prestigious Ivy League universities (including Brown, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, and Yale), that no longer emphasize Biblical perspectives. Rather, curriculum focus is on such subjects as business, research, international affairs, and political studies.

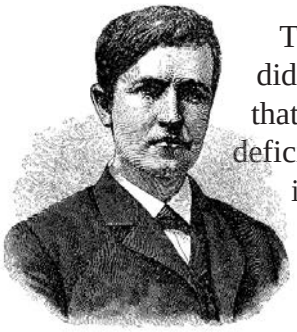


The Hindenburg Disaster occurred on May 6, 1937, in New Jersey. The radio broadcast of an eyewitness journalist's frantic account of the tragedy famously coined the phrase "Oh, the humanity!", which has since become ingrained in popular culture.

VOCABULARY

Inquisitiveness: curiosity
Intensely: serious, deep evaluation
Illumination: lighting

Famous Person Vignette: Thomas A. Edison



Thomas Edison didn't let an accident that caused a hearing deficiency stop his interest in learning. His hearing difficulty caused Edison to be homeschooled by his mother. He learned to observe events around him, and to study what he observed. As a young man, he became employed as a telegraph operator, and became interested in electricity. He was not content simply to use electricity to transmit messages over metal wires; he wanted to know how electricity worked. His ***inquisitiveness*** led to the development of the phonograph in 1877. That invention propelled Thomas Edison into scientific circles. He was called a genius. Even though invention of the phonograph was significant, it was not the item that actually earned worldwide notoriety for Thomas Edison.

He set up a laboratory at Menlo Park, New Jersey, where he surrounded himself with brilliant men who labored ***intensely*** on Edison's experiments and studied the achievements of other inventors. His team earned 1,093 patents for inventions, including the incandescent lightbulb (1879). That little item was a big achievement that led to ***illumination*** of homes, farms, and factories that greatly accelerated the industrial revolution in America. The next challenge was to build electricity-producing plants that would transport direct current (DC) electricity to light bulbs and motors, not only in cities, but to distant farms and factories. That need stimulated Edison to install generating plants all along the eastern seaboard and into the Midwest.

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George Westinghouse, from Pennsylvania, saw an opportunity to establish a competitive company to produce alternative current (AC) electricity. He eventually employed 50,000 people to produce generating plants, electric stoves, and other electricity-powered items. The competitive nature of Edison and Westinghouse combined to put electrical items in factories, homes, ranches, service stations, stores, hotels, and restaurants in every community. Their combined companies, along with automobile production by Henry Ford and other inventors, were highly instrumental in putting America as a worldwide leader in the industrial revolution. Thomas Edison believed in learning from the achievements of other men, hard work, and taking time to think, analyze, and evaluate the cause and effect of laws of creation. He took opportunity to observe that certain laws of creation were established for mankind to harness for the benefit of people.



Edison's Light Bulb

VOCABULARY

Overalls: denim work clothes

LIFE PRINCIPLE:

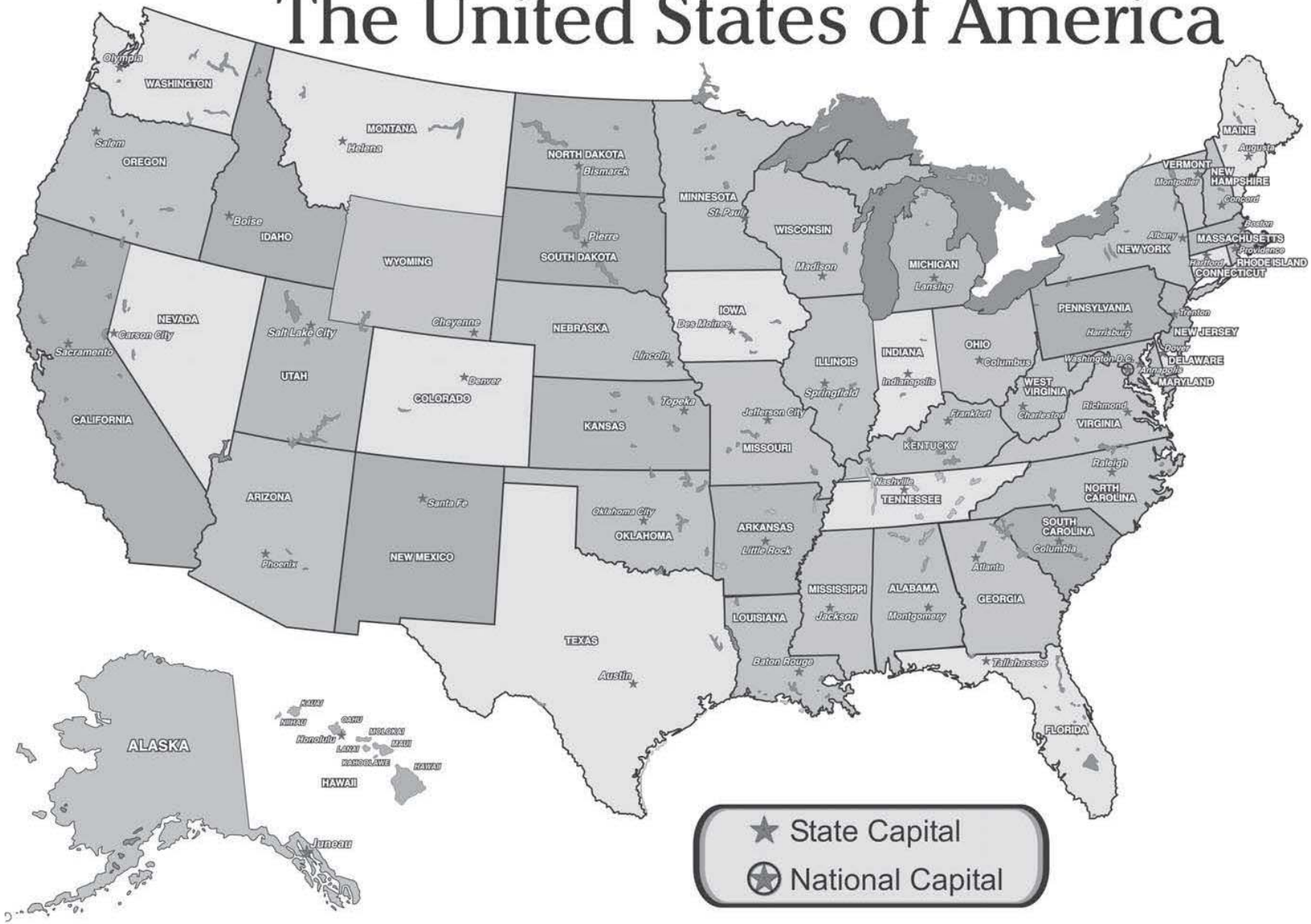
*"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in **overalls** and looks like work."*

-Thomas A. Edison (Inventor)

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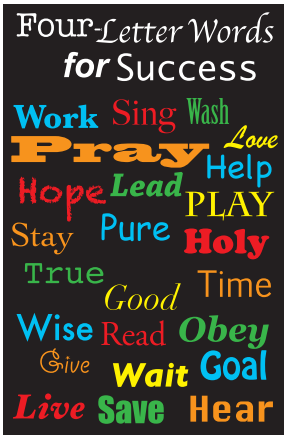
The United States of America



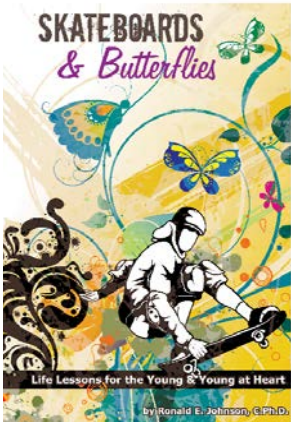
MAIN RIVERS OF THE UNITED STATES



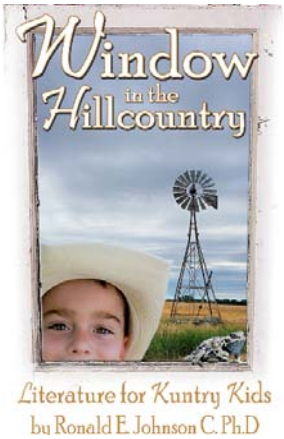
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This 5.5 x 8.5 inch soft cover reader is a collection of short stories about a youth's adventures in rural Texas, wildlife mystery vignettes, poems and life principles. The collection includes a pleasant combination of humor, mystery, and nostalgia. It is a wonderful reader for pre-teen youth who hunger for positive role models and "rainy day" light reading that elicits dreams and fantasy about better tomorrows. This delightful book is excellent as a reader or gift for students ages 8-14.

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