

# STATE THE FACTS

REM 119

**A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM**



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# State the Facts

## To the Teacher:

This book has been created not only to provide some basic information about each of the fifty states, but to increase reading comprehension in a content area as well. Reading level is third grade.

This book features:

1. a reading page on each state.
2. a question page which can be used with every state.
3. a bonus research activity for each state.
4. two United States outline maps.
5. a question page to be used with a source other than this book (i.e., a homework or enrichment assignment).
6. an alphabetized list of states, capitals, and abbreviations.
7. a capitals and abbreviations test page.
8. addresses for an agency in each state which will provide information upon request.
9. a letter format which may be used to request information from a state.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

1. What state are you working on?\_\_\_\_\_
2. Where is this state located?\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is its nickname?\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the state flower?\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the state tree?\_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the state bird?\_\_\_\_\_
7. What does the state name mean? or Where did it get its name?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the state capital?\_\_\_\_\_
9. What do we call people who live in this state?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Name four plants or animals raised on farms in this state.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Name three mineral products of this state.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Name three things made in this state.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Name three cities in this state.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. Name three things that bring visitors to this state.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. What would you like to see if you visited this state?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Alabama

Alabama is in the southeastern part of the United States. It is called “The Heart of Dixie.” The state flower is the camellia. The state tree is the southern pine tree. The yellowhammer is the state bird.

The word “Alabama” comes from the name of an Indian tribe. It means, “I clear the thicket.” The state capital is Montgomery. People who live in Alabama are called “Alabamians.”

Farmers in Alabama grow soybeans, cotton, and peanuts. They also raise hogs and cattle. Mineral products that come from Alabama are coal, oil, natural gas, and stone. Steel, iron, plastics, and paper are made in the state. Birmingham, Mobile, and Montgomery are big cities in Alabama.

People go to Huntsville to see the Marshall Space Flight Center. Many rockets have been made at the center. The rocket which carried the first men who landed on the moon was designed there. Visitors can ride on machines used to train astronauts.

Many people go to Alabama to camp, hike, hunt, and fish. Some come to enjoy the beaches along the Gulf of Mexico.

Visitors also like to visit places to learn about the Civil War. They go to battle sites and the homes of famous soldiers. One well-known place is the home of Jefferson Davis. He was the President of the Confederate States of America.

Another interesting place to see is the Tuskegee Institute. There, Dr. George Washington Carver found many ways to use peanuts. He also studied soybeans. Tuskegee Institute is a college. It was started by Booker T. Washington, who was once a slave.

**BONUS:** Helen Keller was born in Alabama. On a separate piece of paper, write a short report about Helen Keller.



# Alaska

Alaska is the state farthest north in the United States. It is our largest state. It is called "The Last Frontier." The state flower is the forget-me-not. The state tree is the Sitka spruce tree. The willow ptarmigan is the state bird.

The word "Alaska" means "great land." The state capital is Juneau. People who live in Alaska are called "Alaskans."

Farmers in Alaska grow hay and vegetables. They also raise dairy cattle. Fishermen catch salmon, shrimp, and crabs. Mineral products that come from Alaska are oil, gold, and stone. Paper, wood and food products, and glass are made in Alaska. People trap wild animals for their fur. Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka are cities in the state.

The top part of the state is near the Arctic Circle. It is very cold and snowy there. Eskimos live in that part of the state. There are many Native Americans in Alaska, too. Some of them carve totem poles.

People travel a lot by airplane in Alaska. There are not many roads outside of the big cities. You can go there to see beautiful mountains and forests. Mount McKinley, the highest peak in the United States, is there. People also visit glaciers and Eskimo villages.

Alaskans like to camp, hunt, and fish in their beautiful state. Many of the people who live in Alaska moved there to leave behind the more hectic lifestyles of the "lower 48."



**BONUS:** Sometimes the aurora borealis (northern lights) can be seen in the sky in Alaska. On a separate piece of paper, write a short report about the northern lights.

# Arizona

Arizona is in the southwestern part of the United States. It is called "The Grand Canyon State." The state flower is the saguaro cactus blossom. The state tree is the paloverde tree. The cactus wren is the state bird.

The word "Arizona" means "small spring." The state capital is Phoenix. People who live in Arizona are called "Arizonans."

Farmers in Arizona grow cotton, hay, and citrus fruit. They also raise beef cattle and dairy cattle. Mineral products that come from Arizona are copper, coal, and sand. Electronic equipment, food products, and lumber are made in Arizona. Phoenix, Tucson, Tempe, Mesa, and Scottsdale are cities in the state.

There are many Native American tribes in Arizona. They make jewelry, pottery, and baskets.

People go to the Grand Canyon National Park. They see the largest canyon in the United States. It was made by the Colorado River. The river washed away the rocks and made the canyon. The Petrified Forest is another place to go. There you can see giant logs which have turned to stone.

There are big hotels in and near Phoenix and Tucson where people stay in the winter. They come to get away from the snowy weather where they live.

Arizona is a land of deserts and mountains. You can camp, hunt, and fish in the mountains and lakes. In the desert, you can see many odd plants and animals. People also like to go to rodeos in Arizona.

**BONUS:** Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman judge on the United States Supreme Court, is from Arizona. On a separate piece of paper, write a short report about Sandra Day O'Connor.

