

INTRODUCTION

Learning about our 50 unique states will be a rewarding experience for you. However, before beginning, you may find it beneficial to read the following information.

- 1) Each state is listed in alphabetical order.
- 2) At certain places within this book, *INFO* pages have been inserted to give you a more organized look at certain important facts. (An index of these *INFO* pages can be found on the next page.)
- 3) Information for each state includes:
 - * the name of the state's capital
 - * the date that the state entered the Union
 - * the state's population and population ranking
 - * the state's land area and land area ranking
 - * the names of the state's three most populous cities
 - * a picture of the state and the state's flag
 - * two stories about the state
 - * a *STATE FACTS* box that contains some quick facts about the state
 - * and a number in the *STATE FACTS* box that represents that state's order of admission to the Union. For example, since Hawaii was the 50th state, the number *50* will appear in its *STATE FACTS* box. To find out what the number's *COLOR* represents, turn to the Civil War map on page 14.
- 4) As mentioned before, a state's three most populous cities can be found on its *STATE PAGE*. Take a look at Alabama on page 6 of this book. Do you see *BIRMINGHAM*, *MONTGOMERY*, and *MOBILE*? These are listed in order with the most populous city being mentioned first. In other words, Birmingham is the largest city in Alabama, Montgomery is the second largest, and Mobile rounds out the third spot.
- 5) At the bottom of each *STATE PAGE* is the challenge of all challenges: the four *GEOQUIZZES*! If you want to learn more about the *GEOQUIZZES*, turn to page 5.

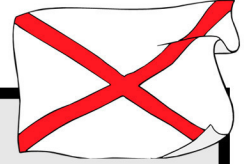
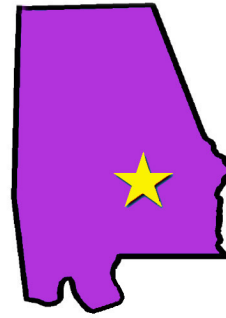


BEWARE!
READ THIS PAGE BEFORE
CONTINUING.

ALABAMA

CAPITAL: Montgomery

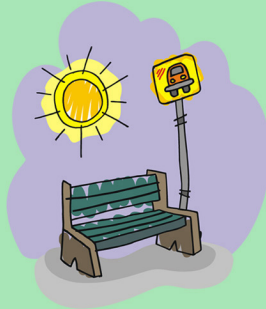
STATEHOOD: December 14, 1819



Population: 4,631,000
RANK: 22nd

Area: 50,750 square miles
RANK: 28th

Birmingham
Montgomery
Mobile



**ROSA
PARKS**

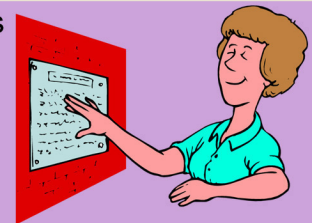
MONTGOMERY. In 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man. She was imprisoned and later released. However, her act led to a boycott of Montgomery's transportation system which gained much attention throughout the nation. Later, the Supreme Court declared many of the state's segregation laws unconstitutional and other stands against injustice began. No doubt, the civil rights movement owes a lot to the efforts of Rosa Parks.

22

FACTS

- * 1861. Montgomery served as the first capital of the Confederacy.
- * In 1902, Dr. Luther Hill performed the first open heart surgery in the Western Hemisphere. He was in Montgomery at the time.
- * Sports greats Henry Aaron, Willie Mays, and Joe Lewis were born in Alabama.
- * The first rocket to put a man on the moon was made in Alabama.
- * People from Alabama are called Alabamians.

TRIUMPH. Blind and deaf from the age of nineteen months, Helen Adams Keller became a renowned author and lecturer. Learning to read, write, and speak in several languages, she not only was considered America's "First Lady of Courage," she became an inspiration to the world. Alabama honored Helen Keller for her ability to overcome obstacles by featuring her portrait on the backside of the state's quarter.



AL

GEOQUIZ

STATES



PAGE 28

CAPITALS

My capital is
RICHMOND

PAGE 61

BORDERS

I border New York,
Massachusetts, and
Rhode Island.

PAGE 13

TRIVIA

The Battle of Yorktown
was fought in
this state.

PAGE 61

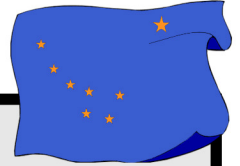
ALASKA

CAPITAL: Juneau

STATEHOOD: January 3, 1959

Population: 700,000
RANK: 47th

Area: 570,374 square miles
RANK: 1st



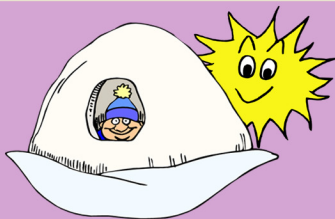
Anchorage
Juneau
Fairbanks

The Great Race. The Alaskan Iditarod is a dogsled race that covers over 1,150 miles. As participants make their way from Anchorage to Nome, they must cross frozen rivers, barren mountain ranges, dense forests, desolate tundras, and windy coastlines. It's no wonder that, after facing sub-zero temperatures and blinding winds for days at a time, some consider it a victory to just reach the finish line.



49 FACTS

- * In 1867, the U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia. The price was just over 7 million dollars, or about 2 cents per acre. What a deal!
- * Gold was discovered in Alaska by Joe Juneau in 1880. The state's capital is named in his honor.
- * Alaska is called the Last Frontier State.
- * By far, Alaska has more land than any other state.
- * Alaska's Mount McKinley is the tallest mountain in the U.S.

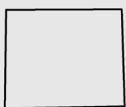


What time is it? Because of the natural wobble of the earth, the sun doesn't set in Barrow (America's northernmost city) between May 10th and August 2nd of each year! That's right, twenty-four hours of sunlight for more than 80 straight days. Then, come November, the sun doesn't rise above the horizon for sixty straight days on this city of nearly 5,000 people.

AK

GEOQUIZ

STATES



I am not Wyoming.

PAGE 12

CAPITALS

My capital is
PHOENIX

PAGE 8

BORDERS

I border North Dakota,
Iowa, and Wisconsin.

PAGE 33

TRIVIA

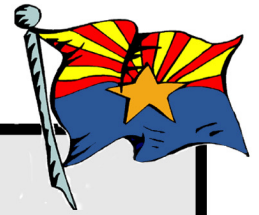
The only state that
I border is
New Hampshire.

PAGE 28

ARIZONA

CAPITAL: Phoenix

STATEHOOD: February 14, 1912

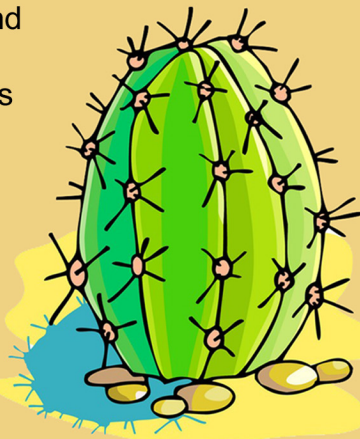


Population: 5,230,000
RANK: 20th

Area: 113,642 square miles
RANK: 6th

Phoenix Tucson Mesa

ONE OF SEVEN. The Grand Canyon is considered one of the seven natural wonders of the world. Stretching for over 277 miles, Arizona's magnificent ditch has an average width of 10 miles and an average depth of one mile. So, if you plan to visit the desert state, be careful of that first step!

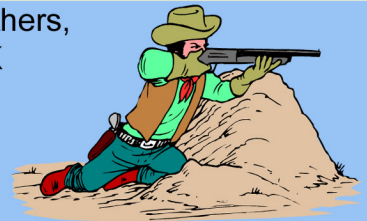


Note: In 1915, only 106,000 visitors saw the canyon. Today, more than four million people visit each year.

48 FACTS

- * Arizona is known as the Grand Canyon State.
- * It's hard to believe, but the original London bridge is in Arizona! It was brought to the state from England and rebuilt, stone by stone.
- * Arizona produces more copper than any other state.
- * The tallest fountain in the world is believed to be located in Fountain Hills, Arizona.
- * At least five flags have flown over the land that is now Arizona.

TOMBSTONE. On October 26th, 1881, Sheriff Wyatt Earp and his brothers, Morgan and Virgil, met their friend, Doc Holliday, on their way to the OK Corral. Here they confronted the Clanton and McLaury gang that had earlier threatened to kill the Earps. In the historic moments to follow, gunfire was exchanged and three men lay dead: Billy Clanton, Tom McLaury, and Frank McLaury. The fight lasted about 30 seconds.



AZ

GEOQUIZ

STATES



PAGE 36

CAPITALS

My capital is
LANSING

PAGE 32

BORDERS

I don't border any
states, but I do
touch Canada.

PAGE 7

TRIVIA

I am called the
LONE STAR
State.

PAGE 57

THE 13 COLONIES

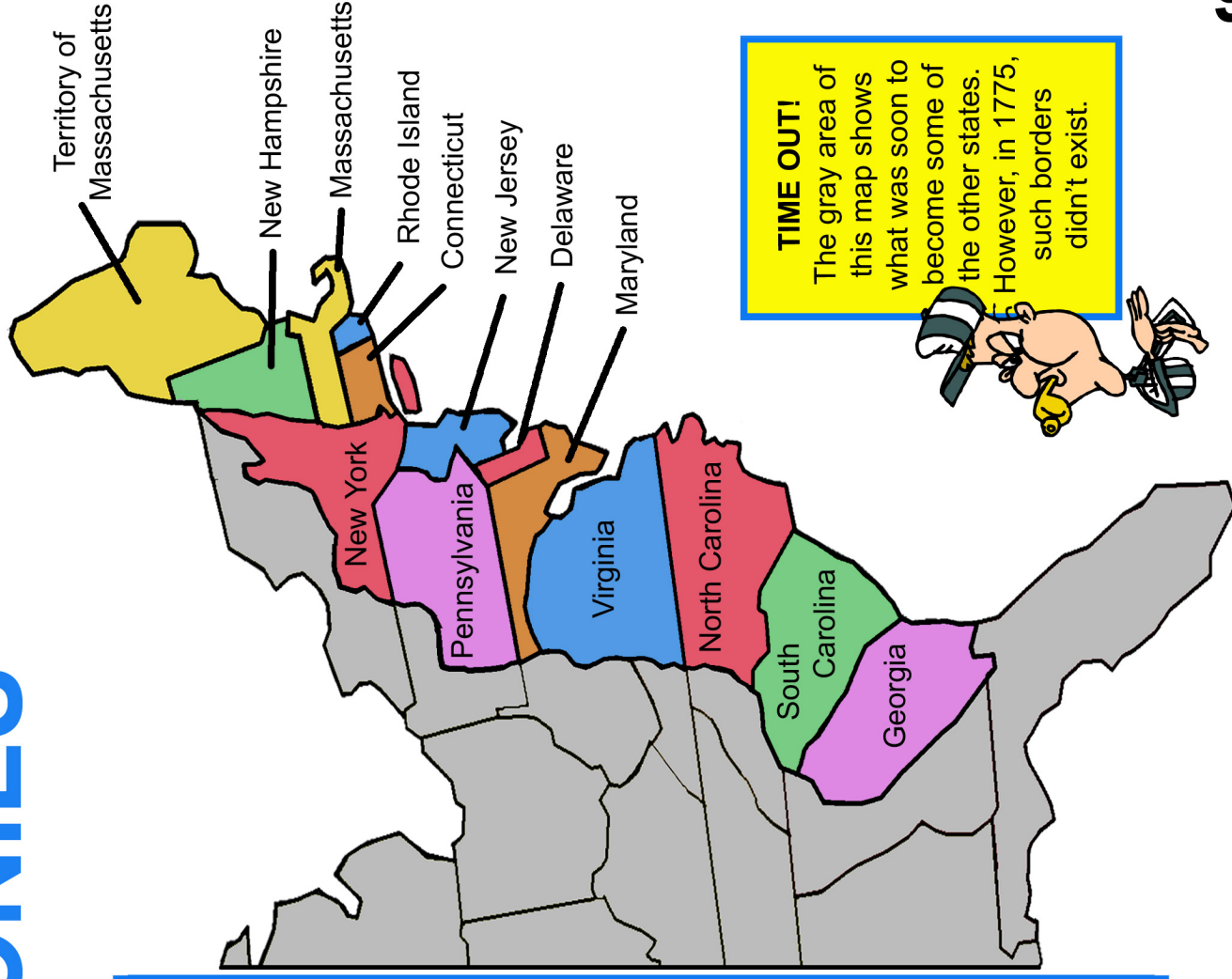
A NEW NATION. Prior to the thirteen colonies gaining their independence from England, the map of our fledgling nation looked similar to this one. Small, isn't it?

Georgia was almost half its current size. North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York still had room for growth. And the lands that were to become Maine and Vermont were parts of other colonies.

Yes, the land area was small, but so was the population. Let's look at how far this nation has come.

CENSUS YEAR	POPULATION
1790	3,900,000
1820	9,600,000
1850	23,000,000
1880	50,000,000
1910	92,000,000
1940	132,000,000
1970	203,000,000
2000	281,000,000

The results are amazing. Less than 4,000,000 people were counted in the first census. Today, there are over seventy Americans for every one that existed a little over 200 years ago! And, since the beginning of World War II, the population of the U.S. has more than doubled.



TIME OUT!

The gray area of this map shows what was soon to become some of the other states. However, in 1775, such borders didn't exist.

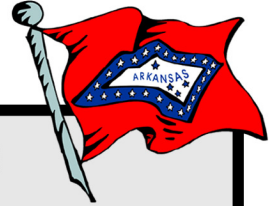
ARKANSAS

CAPITAL: Little Rock

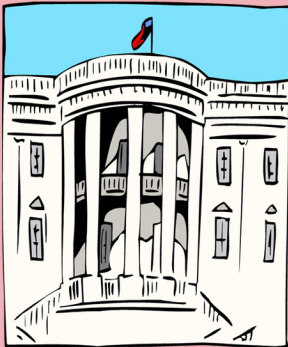
STATEHOOD: June 15, 1836

Population: 2,750,000
RANK: 33rd

Area: 52,075 square miles
RANK: 27th



Little Rock
Fort Smith
Fayetteville



Bill Clinton

TWO TERMS. William Jefferson "Bill" Clinton, a native son of Arkansas, became the 42nd President of the United States in 1993. He served two terms and focused much of his domestic priorities on creating a universal healthcare system, improving education, restricting handgun sales, and strengthening America's environmental regulations. When he left office, his approval rating was a lofty 65%.

25 FACTS

- * Arkansas is called the Natural State.
- * In 1880, General Douglas MacArthur was born in Little Rock.
- * Arkansas is home to Bentonville. Here, Sam Walton founded his Wal-Mart stores.
- * Arkansas is famous for the Ozark National Forest and its many hot springs.
- * A person from Arkansas is called an Arkansan.

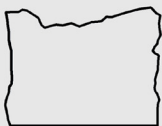
NATURAL RESOURCES. Arkansas ranks first in the world in its production of bromine, an element that's useful in making sanitizers, dyes, and flameproofing agents. Also, over 80% of our nation's bauxite comes from Arkansas. So, what's bauxite? It's the ore from which our aluminum is made.



AR

GEOQUIZ

STATES



PAGE 49

CAPITALS

My capital is
MONTPELIER

PAGE 59

BORDERS

I border Idaho,
Wyoming, and
Colorado.

PAGE 58

TRIVIA

The Great Salt Lake
is in this state.

PAGE 58