



Welcome to your first day of United States Geography.

In this course, you'll learn about all fifty states! Fifty states? That's right! If you didn't already know that, then consider this the first thing you learned.

But there's so much more that you'll learn in this class. Here are a few:

- \* You'll learn what each state LOOKS like
- \* You'll learn how to find each state on the map
- \* You'll learn which states border one another
- \* You'll learn about important people and places
- \* And you'll learn about interesting events that you never knew about before.

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## BUT WHY IS THIS COURSE IMPORTANT?

Well, knowing more about your country can benefit you in many ways. First, you may want to move to another area of the country when you get older. Wouldn't it be helpful to know the wide variety of options that are out there? Second, one day, you may be sitting with your family to plan your next vacation. If you knew of a neat place to go, wouldn't you want to tell them about it? And third, a good understanding of your country will help you in other classes that you'll be taking in the future. With that in mind, it doesn't hurt to get a good headstart.



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## SOME THINGS THAT YOU WILL NEED.

In this course, you will need the following:

- \* This manual which contains all your lessons.
- \* The book entitled "The Star-Spangled State Book."
- \* Pencils (and some crayons, if you have them).

The following are optional:

- \* A map of the United States
  - \* A globe
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## THE GAME PLAN

This class is a four-day-a-week class. That means you get a day off each week! (But don't get too excited. I'm sure your teacher has something else for you to do.)

Each day of class, you will need to complete a lesson from this workbook. The lessons are numbered at the top corner of each page, so it shouldn't be difficult to keep track of yourself.

Look at the top corner of this page. Do you see **LESSON 1.1**? Well, the first number stands for this course's week number, and the second number stands for this week's day number. Therefore, because today is the first week of your class (and it's also the first day of the week), you are doing Lesson 1.1. Tomorrow (the second day of your first week) is labeled Lesson 1.2.

Got it? Good!

Now, let's talk about the lessons. In a nutshell, there are three types of lessons. You have lessons where you will learn about the states; others where you'll take quizzes; and some where you'll take tests. State lessons are the most common. Quizzes and tests usually come at the end of the week.

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## OK, LET'S BEGIN!

Now that you have a brief outline of this course, let's complete LESSON 1.1.

You live in the United States of America. OK, so it's a long name, but sometimes you'll see other words to describe this country. Shorter words and phrases like:

- \* *The United States*
- \* *The U.S.A.*
- \* *The U.S.*
- \* *and America*

Can you think of any other nicknames for your country? If you can, write them on these lines.

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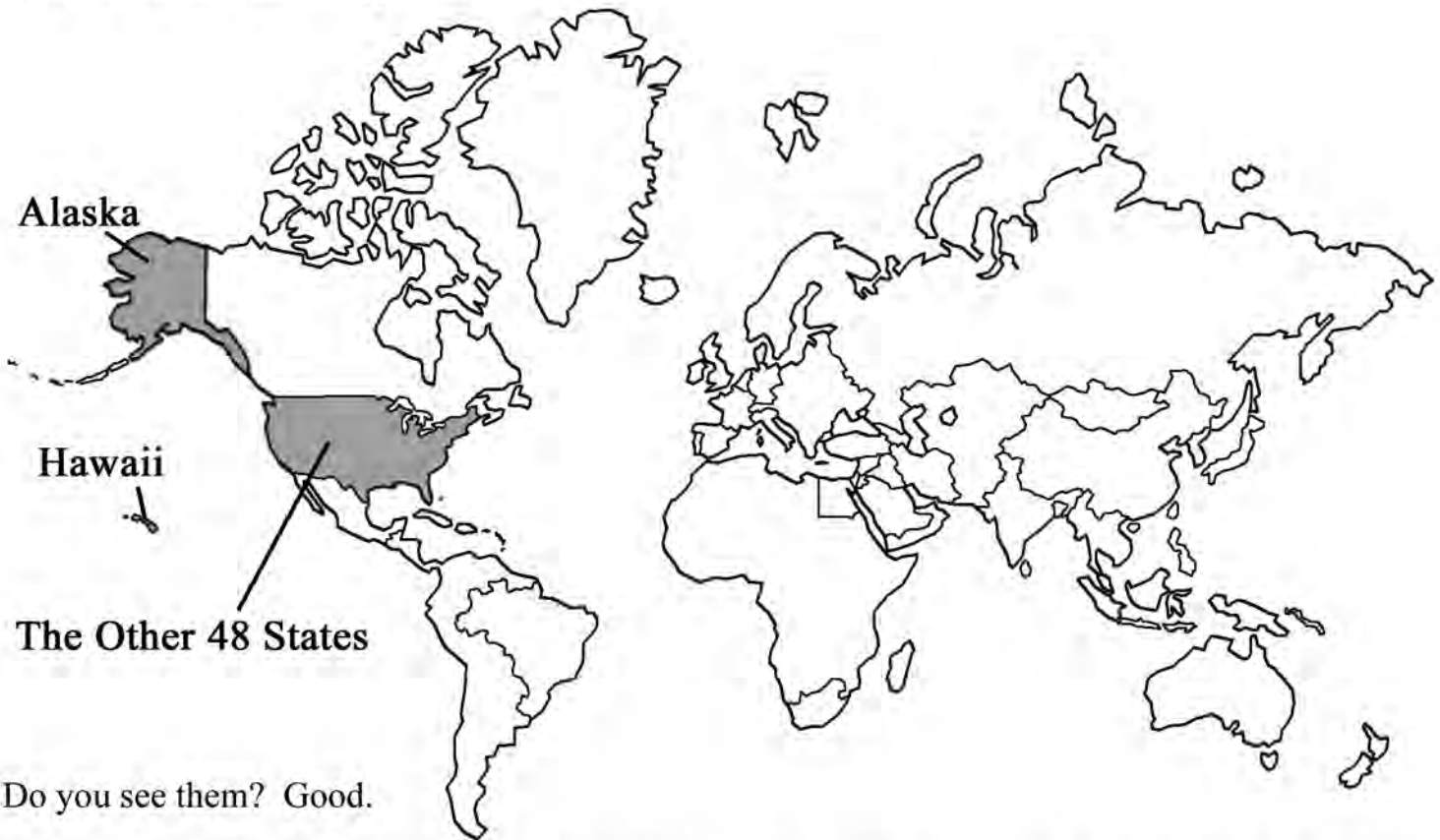
Now, as we said before, the United States is divided into fifty areas that we call states. Forty-eight of these states are clustered together like pieces of a puzzle. But two states aren't. They are located in other places in the world.

Do you know the names of these two states? If you do, write their names here:

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**GO TO THE NEXT PAGE.  
THIS LESSON IS NOT FINISHED YET.**

The two states that are located in other parts of the world are Alaska and Hawaii! They are shown on this small map of the world.



Do you see them? Good.

And now that you have this map of the world in front of you, take a look at it and try to remember which parts make up the United States of America. Trust me, you'll be asked to find the United States on your first quiz! And when you're asked, don't forget about Alaska and Hawaii.

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**ACTIVITY:** Do you have a globe handy? If you do, take a look at it and see if you can find Alaska, Hawaii, and the other 48 states.

Did you notice that Hawaii is made up of a cluster of small islands? That's right, there are many islands which help to form Hawaii. Did you notice anything else? Is Alaska way up near the North Pole? It certainly is! And the other 48 states? Are they all connected to one another? Yes, they are! And the lines that separate them from one another are called **BORDERS.**

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**TURN THE PAGE. THERE IS MORE TO LEARN.**

**A NEW MAP.** Here is another map of the United States. Take a look at it. Do you see any differences between the United States on this map and the United States on the world map? Well, this map has borders to show you all the states. But there is more. The little guy standing at the bottom of the page will tell you about them.



## Things you need to know:



Alaska and Hawaii (the islands) look out of place, don't they? Well, many U.S. maps look similar to this one. Do you know why they've been moved? Because Alaska and Hawaii are so far away from the other 48 states, someone came up with the cool idea to move them closer together and save space!

But that's not all they did. In order to save even more space, Alaska was shrunk and now appears smaller than California! Don't believe me? Well, take a look at a globe sometime and you'll see.

Oh, one more thing. Hawaii has been slightly enlarged so you wouldn't mistake it for some stray pencil marks.

Now that you have an overview of our country, take a rest. Your first lesson is over! See the stop sign? You will find one at the end of each lesson.



At the beginning of each day, turn to the correct lesson page in your *Star-Spangled WORKBOOK*. If the day's lesson is a quiz or test, then simply take the quiz or test; however, if the lesson is about a specific state, then you'll need to open your *Star-Spangled STATE Book* to the page of the state that's been identified. (For example, if you look at the next page, you'll notice that your first lesson is about Alabama. When you are ready to complete this lesson, you will need to turn to the *Alabama page* in your *Star-Spangled STATE Book*.)

Next, after finding the Alabama page in *The Star-Spangled STATE Book*, you'll need to read about the state. But be careful. If you don't understand the layout of the page, the information that you read may be confusing.

Let's take a look at a sample page from the *Star-Spangled STATE Book*. It's a copy of the *Alabama page*. Do you notice the black arrows and labels? These have been placed here to help you gain a better understanding of what you are studying. Do you see the state flag? Do you see the name of the state capital? Can you see Alabama's three largest cities? Birmingham is the largest; Montgomery is the next largest; and Mobile is the third largest city in the state.

**State Name** → ALABAMA

**Page Number** → 6

**Capital City** → CAPITAL: Montgomery

**Date of Statehood** → STATEHOOD: December 14, 1819

**Population/Land Area Rankings** → Population: 4,631,000 RANK: 22nd; Area: 50,750 square miles RANK: 28th

**Three largest cities (in order)** → Birmingham, Montgomery, Mobile

**State Picture** → [Map of Alabama]

**State Flag** → [Alabama State Flag]

**Statehood Number** → 22

**State 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.

**Two Stories** →

**Rosa Parks** →

**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.

**State Abbreviation** → AL

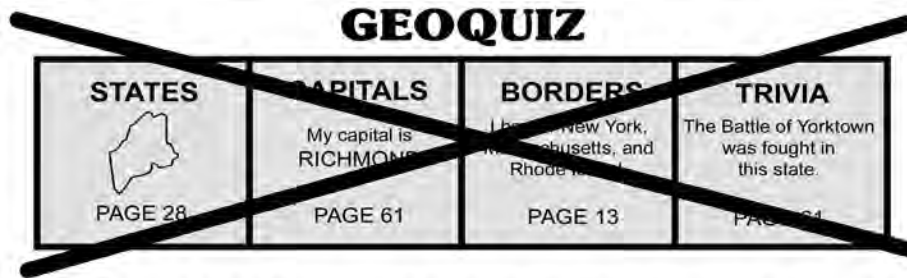
**GEOQUIZ**

<b>STATES</b> [Map of Alabama] PAGE 28	<b>CAPITALS</b> My capital is RICHMOND PAGE 61	<b>BORDERS</b> I border New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. PAGE 13	<b>TRIVIA</b> The Battle of Yorktown was fought in this state. PAGE 61
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GEOQUIZZES  
(More about these later)

TURN THE PAGE WHEN YOU ARE READY.

**NOTE:** At the bottom of the *Alabama page* is a section entitled “GEOQUIZ.” This section is actually a game that can be played, but you won’t be taught how to play it until later. So, for now, you need to ignore this section and understand that it contains information that has nothing to do with your state lessons.



**REMEMBER:** Ignore the GEOQUIZ section! Just study the information shown ABOVE it.

**COMPLETING A LESSON.** After you have finished learning about the day’s state, you will need to come back to this **WORKBOOK** and complete your lesson. The lesson page for the state will have a front and back side. A sample is shown below.

FRONT

LESSON 1.2

Here's your first state, Alabama. With this and every other state page, you will FIRST need to read about the state in the book entitled "The Star-Spangled State Book." Read and learn. Then, come back here to your Student Manual and complete that state's lesson page.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## ALABAMA

CAPITAL: Montgomery  
STATEHOOD: December 14, 1819


Montgomery  
Mobile


**ROSA PARKS**

**TRUMPS!**

**22 FACTS**

- 1. 1801, Montgomery arrived as the first capital of the state.
- 2. In 1862, Dr. Luther Carter performed the first open heart surgery in the Western Hemisphere. He was in Montgomery at the time.
- 3. Sports greats Henry Aaron, Willie Mays, and Joe Lewis were born in Alabama.
- 4. The first rocket to put a man in the moon was made in Alabama.
- 5. People from Alabama are called Alabamians.





5) Find Alabama on this map and shade it in.

6) What is the abbreviation for Alabama?

7) Yes or No? Was Alabama the 24th state to enter the Union?

BACK

**ALABAMA** LESSON 1.2

**ii. What do you remember about Alabama? Use the space below.**  
 Example: Rosa Parks was from Alabama.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

**iii. Write the definitions to these words in the spaces provided.**

Boycott – \_\_\_\_\_


Obstacle – \_\_\_\_\_

**iv. Draw a picture of Alabama.**




**v. Connect the word to its correct picture.**

ALABAMA



**vi. Find Alabama on this map.**




**vii. Unscramble these words.**

LIEBOM \_\_\_\_\_

SORA SPARK \_\_\_\_\_

OJE SWILE \_\_\_\_\_

SUB EATS \_\_\_\_\_



To complete a lesson, both sides of the page need to be filled out. Fortunately, these lessons may be completed with the aid of your *Star-Spangled STATE Book*. In other words, if you don’t know the answer, you can look it up! Now that’s not too difficult, is it? However, if you’re taking a quiz or a test, you may not use any written materials to help you. You’re on your own.

**Remember:** STATE PAGE = OPEN YOUR BOOK      QUIZ or TEST ≠ OPEN YOUR BOOK

OK, I think you’re ready. Now turn the page to Alabama and begin. Remember, in order to complete this lesson, you will need to go to the *Alabama page* in *The Star-Spangled STATE Book*. Go over there, study, and then come back and complete your lesson. Good luck!

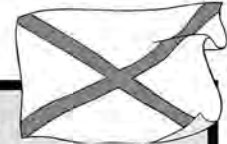
This lesson is about Alabama. Find the Alabama page in your *Star-Spangled STATE Book* and study it. Then, come back here and complete this lesson. Fill in all the blanks; complete all the tasks; and answer all the questions. In future state lessons, you will need to repeat these steps.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# ALABAMA

CAPITAL: Montgomery

STATEHOOD: December 14, 1819



Population: 4,631,000	Area: 50,750 square miles
RANK: 22nd	RANK: 28th

## 22 FACTS

- \* 1861. Montgomery served as the first capital of the 3).
- \* 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.

1)

### 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 2).

**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 4).



5) Find Alabama on this map and shade it in.

6) What is the abbreviation for Alabama? \_\_\_\_\_

7) (Yes or No) Was Alabama the 24th state to enter the Union?  
\_\_\_\_\_



II. What do you remember about Alabama? Use the space below.

*Example: Rosa Parks was from Alabama.*

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III. Write the definitions to these words in the spaces provided.

Boycott --

---

---

Obstacle --

---

---

IV. Draw a picture of Alabama.

V. Connect the word to its correct picture.

ALABAMA



VI. Find Alabama on this map.



VII. Unscramble these words.

LIEBOM

---

SORA SPARK

---

OJE SWILE

---

SUB EATS

---





NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# ALASKA



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CAPITAL: 1) \_\_\_\_\_

STATEHOOD: January 3, 1959

Population: 700,000  
RANK: 47th

Area: 570,374 square miles  
RANK: 1st

## 49 FACTS

- \* In 3) \_\_\_\_\_, 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 4) \_\_\_\_\_ mountain in the U.S.

2) **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.



**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.

5. Find Alaska on this map and shade it in.
6. (Yes or No) The abbreviation for Alaska is AK? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In what year did Alaska become a state?  
\_\_\_\_\_



II. What do you remember about Alaska? Use the space below.

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III. Write the definitions to these words in the spaces provided.

Tundra --

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---

Frontier --

---

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IV. Draw a picture of Alaska.

V. Connect each word to its picture.

ALABAMA

ALASKA



VI. Find Alaska on this map.



VII. Unscramble these words.

UNAEJU \_\_\_\_\_

WARBOR \_\_\_\_\_

LUGHISTN \_\_\_\_\_

SNARKSED \_\_\_\_\_



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# ARIZONA

CAPITAL: 1) \_\_\_\_\_

STATEHOOD: February 14, 1912



Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Population: 5,230,000 RANK: 20th	Area: 113,642 square miles RANK: 6th
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## 48 FACTS

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 2) \_\_\_\_\_ people visit each year.

\* Arizona is known as the Grand 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 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.



- Find Arizona on this map and shade it in.
- What is Arizona's population? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is Arizona's abbreviation? \_\_\_\_\_
- (True or False) Arizona was the 48th state to be admitted to the Union. \_\_\_\_\_



**II. What do you remember about Arizona? Use the space below.**

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**III. Write the definitions to these words in the spaces provided.**

**Grand --**

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**Natural --**

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**IV. Draw a picture of Arizona.**

**V. Connect each word to its picture.**

**ALABAMA**

**ALASKA**

**ARIZONA**



**VI. Find Arizona on this map.**



**VII. Unscramble these words.**

**WATTY PARE**

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**ZONARIA**

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**CONUTS**

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**NOLOND GIDBER**

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**Don't quit yet! You need to go to the next page and take a QUIZ!**

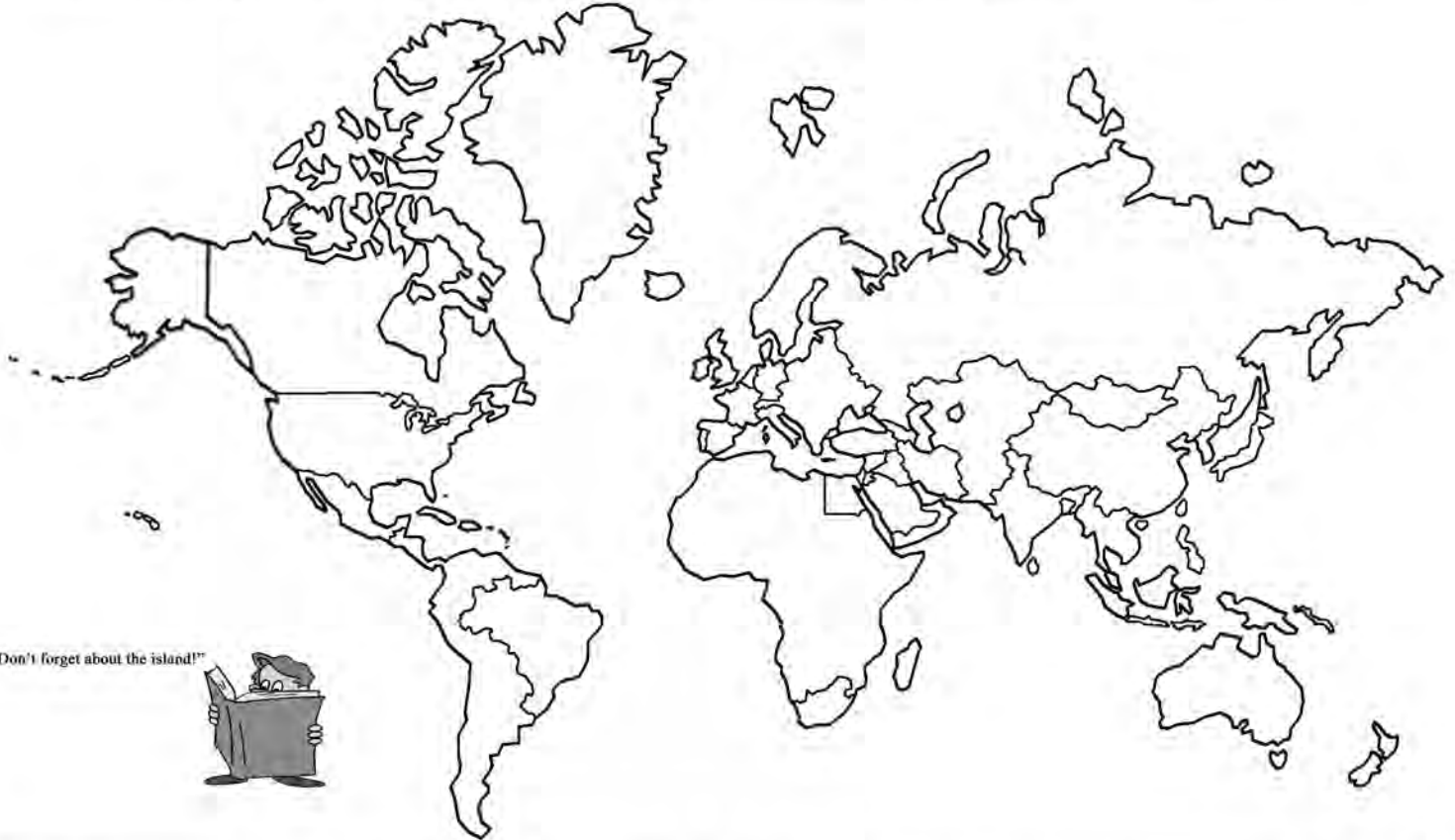
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

LESSON 1.4

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# QUIZ #1

1. Here is a map of the world. Color (or shade in) the area that is the United States of America.



2. Draw lines to connect each state name to its picture.

ARIZONA



ALASKA



ALABAMA



3. These three states are all scrambled up. Correctly spell them in the space provided.

ZONARIA \_\_\_\_\_

SLAAKA \_\_\_\_\_

AMABALA \_\_\_\_\_

# QUIZ #1

4. Three states are listed below. Color (or shade in) each of these states on the map. Then draw lines to connect each state name to its colored area.



**Alaska**

**Arizona**

**Alabama**

## SECTION 5

- A. The United States of America is divided into how many states? \_\_\_\_\_
- B. What is a border? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. I haven't mentioned this before, but there is a special name for the 48 states that are clustered together. Together, these 48 states are called the *Continental United States*. Now, with that in mind, which two states are NOT part of the *Continental United States*? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

