

Independent State Project

Due Monday, December 6, 2004

Choose a state in the United States that you would like to learn more about. The information you obtain through your research will be used as a resource by your classmates during our ongoing study of the regions of the United States. You will present your project to the class during the week of December 6th. You may use note cards in your presentation, but may not read from your project.

The following information should be presented in each project and arranged in an organized fashion. Use the list below to guide you:

1. The name of the state
2. A map of the state that includes a title, compass rose, scale and a legend (G)
3. A well-written paragraph introducing the state
4. The region in which the state is found (G4.9):
 - **Northeast:** New England States or Middle Atlantic States
 - **South:** Atlantic Coast and Appalachian States, Southeast and Gulf States, or South Central States
 - **Midwest:** Great Lakes States or Plains States
 - **West:** Mountain States, Southwest Desert States or Pacific States
5. The state capital and at least one other major city (G4.10)
6. Describe the following (G4.11, 4.8):
 - climate**
 - major physical features** (landforms, major waterways, lakes and oceans)
 - major natural resources**
7. **National parks and unique features** found within the state (include illustrations) (G4.12)
8. Air distance from Boston to the capital of your state
9. Major monuments and historical sites (include illustrations) (H)
10. States that border your state (G4.9)

*** Optional: Describe the people who make up your state and explain their contribution to American Culture (indigenous people such as Navajo, Seminoles, Sioux, Hawaiians, and Inuits; African Americans; major European immigrants such as English, Germans, Italians, Scots, Irish, Jews, Poles, and Scandinavians; major Spanish-speaking and Asian immigrant groups) (H4.15).**

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You may demonstrate your knowledge of your selected state in one of four ways:

1. Create a PowerPoint Slideshow

Your slideshow should be a minimum of 8 slides long. In addition to the information listed above, the presentation should include pictures that illustrate the major physical and historical features of your state.

- Your first slide should provide the name of the state and the outline map, followed by a slide containing the introductory paragraph.
- You may group the remaining information in any way that you choose. I expect that you will present your findings in both pictures and well-developed paragraph form.
- Your last slide should be a list (bibliography) of the sources that you used in researching your state.



2. Create a State Shoebox

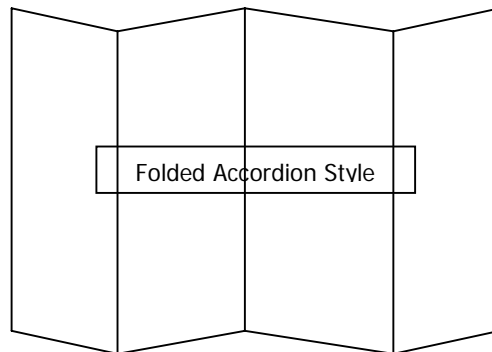
Cover a shoebox with construction paper and use the sides of the box to organize your research findings. On your shoebox, include pictures illustrating the major physical and historical features of your state.

- The outline map and name of your state should be on the cover of the shoebox, and the introductory paragraph should be glued underneath the cover.
- You may group the remaining information in any way that you choose. I expect that you will present your findings in well-developed paragraph form, passed in with your shoebox.
- Inside your shoebox you should place one or two objects that represent something about the state.
- The list (bibliography) of the sources that you used should be placed on the bottom of the box.



3. Create a Travel Brochure

Accordion fold a large piece of art paper to create a travel brochure (visit a travel agent, or see me for an example). In addition to the above information, your travel brochure should include pictures from the state that would appeal to travelers.



- The goal of a travel brochure is to highlight the most interesting and important features or attractions of the state, to encourage someone to want to visit.
- Your information should be a combination of paragraphs and bulleted information.
- The last page of your travel brochure should include a list (bibliography) of the sources you used in your research.



4. Create a book of your state

You may group the above information in any way that you choose. It is expected that your research will be presented in well-developed paragraphs.

The book should have:

- A cover with the name of the state
- A table of contents
- An introductory paragraph page, and a minimum of 5 additional pages.
- Include pictures to illustrate the information you are presenting
- A bibliography listing the sources you used in your research.

Please read the directions with your parents and keep these directions in a safe place. Sign and return the acknowledgement below by November 8, 2004.

I understand that _____ has a project due on December 6, 2004.

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

I would like to study a state in the region(s) circled below:

The Northeast The South The West The Midwest

Your Signature_____