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A **S**TATE of the **U**NION
5-PART Series

CALIFORNIA

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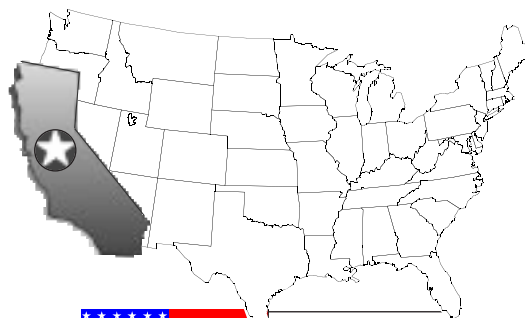
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Presents

CALIFORNIA
A
STATE of the **U**NION



INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

The purpose of “A State of the Union” video series is to provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of the geography, history, and important developments of each state. Especially designed to appeal to younger viewers and closely aligned with state education guidelines, each up-to-date program covers early state history, geographic significance, the capital city, state government, famous citizens and the role of education and industry in the states vitality.

As a complementary device with each video, an instructional guide suggests exercises to help teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a student’s level of comprehension.

The instructional guide provides:

Vocabulary

Chronology

People & Places

Q & A

Discussion Points / Activities

Geography

Permission granted to copy the exercises provided in this guide. For educational use ONLY.

For many years earthquakes have affected different parts of California. On paper or a computer, explain and illustrate what earthquakes are and how they occur. If needed use the illustrations below or if possible draw your own graphics (use a computer).



CALIFORNIA

Known as the Golden State, California has something for everyone. Warm weather, diverse topography, beautiful vistas and extensive coastline have all helped to fuel California's tremendous growth. The state has some of the most populated metropolitan areas in all of North America. Inhabited by as many as 300,000 Native Americans who spoke 100 different languages when the first Europeans arrived, California has a varied and interesting historical past. People like Cabrillo, Drake, Vizcaino and Friar Junipero Serra all left their mark on this vast territory. Today one can still feel their presence during a visit to one of the many missions or presidios that dot the state. Later the Mexican government disbanded the California missions and turned them into ranchos, or large estates. Over 8 million acres were placed into the hands of private rancheros.

Once a part of Mexico, early California settlers resented being ruled by outsiders just as the settlers did in Texas. These resentments ultimately culminated in 1846 when the Mexican War began. By 1848 Mexico had surrendered and relinquished its claim to Texas as well as California. California was now ready to establish its government and capital city. In time, Sacramento became the official capital city and a capitol building was commissioned. Today California's capitol is a strong modern building restored to its original condition. The grounds that surround the building showcase plantings from around the world. Sacramento ranks among the nation's fastest growing urban centers and you will find the largest concentration of restored buildings in the west there, known as Old Sacramento.

Today California remains an exciting and vibrant state, with a diverse population of over 32 million people who enjoy their heritage in many festivals and respected museums. It offers a strong education system, pioneering the first tax supported junior college in the United States, strong employment opportunities, tremendous agricultural development and a trend setting populace that keeps California one of the top destinations within the United States.

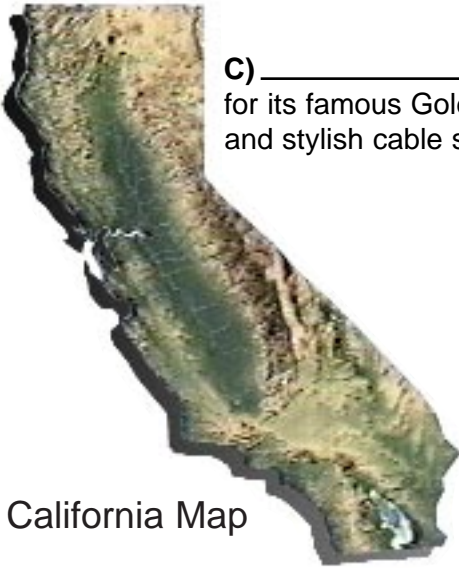
Letters A thru C describe three California cities. Write the name of that city on the solid black line. Then with a Black Marker write the letter **A**, **B**, **C** to indicate where on the California Map each city is located.

A) Is the present-day capital city of California

_____.

B) _____ is the second largest city in the United States.

C) _____ is known for its famous Golden Gate Bridge and stylish cable street cars.



California Map

VOCABULARY of CALIFORNIA

BEAR FLAG REVOLT: an incident where a group of settlers in Sonoma invaded General Mariano Vallejo's estate. After capturing the estate, the settlers unveiled a flag bearing a star, a grizzly bear, and the word "California Republic". The flag is now the official state flag.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH: One of three branches of the California state government. Headed by the Governor of California, the executive branch enforces the laws of the state. The Governor serves a 4 year term and is elected by the people of California.

FRANCISCAN FRIAR JUNIPERO SERRA: a Franciscan priest enlisted by Gaspar de Portola, the Spanish governor of Baja California, to build several missions along California's scenic ocean coastline.

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE: Completed in 1937, this famous bridge stretches 8,981 feet long and connects northern California to the peninsula of San Francisco.

GOLD RUSH: In 1849, the discovery of gold in California brought about a mass migration of people who sought great fortune. Because of the year, people migrating during the gold rush became known as the "Forty-Niners". During this time, California's population increased from 15,000 to about 100,000 people.

JOHN A. SUTTER, JR. : In 1849, Sutter founded Sacramento as a town, which quickly became a prominent mining center during the California gold rush.

GEOGRAPHY of CALIFORNIA

The State of California is bordered by **three states, one country and one body of water**. On the solid black line name each of these bordering regions.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____



Discussion Points / Activities

1. If possible visit some of the locations in California as discussed in the video. SEE Pg. 7 of this guide. Also checkout the internet for websites about California's rich heritage.

2. Draw a map (if you like, use a computer or the map provided on page 12) of California, indicating significant points of interest. For example, the capital city, (i.e. Sacramento), important sites, (i.e. Golden Gate Bridge) etc.

3. Discuss how each of the following events have affected the past and present-day conditions in California:

- 1) 1849 Gold Rush
- 2) 1869 First Transcontinental Railroad System
- 3) 1930's Great Depression
- 4) 1980's-90's "Silicon Valley" Computer Revolution

4. During its history, several different people/countries claimed California. Explain the arrival of each of these groups; i.e important individuals, wars, events etc:

- 1) Prior to 1500's Indians occupy California until the arrival of Europeans
- 2) 1542 Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo claims California territory for Spain.
- 3) 1821 Mexico wins independence from Spain, a year later California becomes a province of Mexico.
- 4) 1848 United States wins Mexican War, two years later California becomes the 31st state.

JUAN RODRIGUEZ CABRILLO: A Portuguese explorer working for Spain, who in 1542 became the first European to see the coast of what is now California.

JUDICIAL BRANCH: One of three branches of the California state government. The judicial branch applies the laws for each individual case. This branch refers to both the judges and courts including the California State Supreme Court.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: One of three branches of the California state government. The legislative branch makes the laws of the state. This branch includes the California Senate made up of 40 Senators and 80 assembly members - all of which are voted into office by the people of California.

SACRAMENTO: Capital City of California, located in north central California and became the mining center during the gold rush of 1849.

SAN ANDREAS FAULT: One of California's most famous fault lines. Located along the Pacific coastline, movements of the earth's crust along this fault causes earthquakes.

SILICON VALLEY: Popular nickname given to Santa Clara County which has become the world leader in the production of high-tech electronic equipment.

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD SYSTEM: In 1869, this first transcontinental rail system linked Sacramento with the eastern United States.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK: Located in eastern California in the Sierra Nevada region, and is home to the highest waterfalls in North America.

CHRONOLOGY of CALIFORNIA

1542: Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo becomes the first European to see the coast of what is now California.

1769: The first of several missions built along California's coast is opened near present-day San Diego. By 1823, 21 missions stretched 600 miles from San Diego up to Sonoma.

1826: Jedeliah Strong Smith becomes the first American explorer to discover California by land.

1842: Francisco Lopez, while digging for wild onions, discovers the first gold found in California. Seven years later this prompted the famous "Gold Rush".

1846: The United States declares war on Mexico. The incident known as the "Bear Flag Revolt" occurs when a group of settlers in Sonoma invade General Mariano Vallejo's estate.

1848: United States and Mexico sign a peace treaty and Mexico surrenders its claim to California.

1849: In hopes of great fortune the "Gold Rush" begins, as the discovery of gold initiates a mass migration of people, known as the "Forty-Niners", into California.

1850: California becomes the 31st state.

1856-1874: After several remodeling efforts the original Capitol Building is constructed.

1874: Levi denim jeans first made in California.

Fill in the blank by selecting the words from the answers list:

ANSWERS LIST :

Hurricanes • Francisco Lopez • San Francisco
Silicon Valley • Sierra Nevada • Sacramento • Hilltop
Plains • Tornadoes • Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo • Earthquakes
Comp USA • Sonoma • Grassy Plains • Computerland

10. A) The 8 main geographic regions within California include; Klamath Mountains, Coast Ranges, Cascade Mountains, Central Valley, Basin & Range Region, Los Angeles Ranges, San Diego Ranges and the _____ .

B) California has many fault lines. Movements of the earth's crust along these fault lines causes _____ .

C) _____ was a Portuguese explorer working for Spain, who became the first European to see the coast of what is now California.

D) In 1849, John A. Sutter, Jr. founded _____ as a town which eventually became California's present-day capital city.

E) Santa Clara County has become the world leader in the production of high-tech electronic equipment and is nicknamed _____ .

Q & A for CALIFORNIA

1. Name and define the three branches of the California state government?
2. How many members belong to the California State Senate and Assembly?
3. Who elects the Governor of California? How many years make up the California's Governor's term? How many terms may a California Governor serve?
4. By 1823 twenty-one missions stretched 600 miles along California's west coast. What Franciscan priest was enlisted to begin building these famous missions?
5. What European country was the first to explore California? In 1822 this European country then lost its claim to California and it became a province of this North American country?
6. Explain the incident called the "Bear Flag Revolt".
7. In 1842, gold was first discovered in California by Francisco Lopez and seven years later the "gold rush" began. Define what the "gold rush" was and how it affected California.
8. California is the 3rd largest state. Name the two states larger than California?

- **1853:** The "gold rush" begins to slow down.
- **1869:** The first transcontinental railroad system links Sacramento with the eastern United States.
- **1870-1880:** Widespread unemployment and bank failures cause an economic depression. Anti-Chinese riots occur because many unemployed workers blame their troubles on Chinese laborers, who were willing to work for low wages.
- **1906:** Powerful earthquake in San Francisco destroys 28,000 buildings and kills more than 600 people.
- **1910:** Hollywood becomes the motion picture capital of the world.
- **1914:** The Panama Canal is completed which allows the sea route between California and the east to be shortened.
- **1928:** Walt Disney's "Steamboat Willy", featuring Mickey Mouse, is produced and becomes the first synchronized sound cartoon.
- **1930's:** The "Great Depression" causes economic hardship throughout the U.S. and thousands of people begin drifting into California.
- **1937:** The Golden Gate Bridge is completed, stretching 8,981 ft., connecting northern California to the peninsula of San Francisco.
- **1941:** U.S. enters World War II and California becomes the nation's aircraft center.
- **1989:** Major earthquake hits the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area killing 63 people.

PEOPLE of CALIFORNIA

ACADEMY AWARD WINNING ACTORS & ACTRESSES:

Robert Redford-Born 1937 in Santa Monica, CA; **Tom Hanks**-Born 1956 in Concord, CA; **Natalie Cole** (Grammy Award winner)-Born 1950 in Los Angeles, CA; **Cher**-Born 1946 in El Centro, CA.

FLORENCE GRIFFITH JOYNER: Born 1959 in Los Angeles, CA. She broke the world record for the 100 meter and the 200 meter dashes at the 1988 Olympics.

GEORGE S. PATTON: (1885-1945) American general born in San Gabriel, CA. He played a key role in commanding U.S. army troops during World War II.

JOE DIMAGGIO: Born in Martinez, CA and considered one of the greatest baseball players. Hit safely in 56 straight games, a major league record.

MARILYN MONROE: Born in Los Angeles who became a popular film actress during the 1950's and 60's.

RICHARD NIXON: 1913-1994, born in Yorba Linda, CA. U.S. statesmen and 37th president (1969-1974)

ROBERT FROST: Born in San Francisco and was considered one of the most popular 20th century American poets.

RONALD REAGAN: (1911-) 40th President (1981-1989) Governor of California in 1966.

SALLY RIDE: Born 1951 in Encino, CA. An American astronaut/astrophysicist who became the first American woman in space.

TIGER WOODS: Born 1975 in Long Beach, CA. Golf champion who became the youngest Masters champion ever.

PLACES of CALIFORNIA

Consider visiting these important places in California:

CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM: (Sacramento) most visited and largest railroad museum in North America.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY: (Sacramento)

CAPITOL BUILDING: (Sacramento) 1856-1874: After several remodeling efforts the original Capitol Building is constructed.

CROCKER ART MUSEUM: (Sacramento) oldest public art museum. Displaying California art from 1850 to the present; ceramic collections; Indian and Persian miniature paintings; American paintings and photography.

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE: (near San Francisco) completed in 1937 stretching 8,981 ft., connecting northern California to the peninsula of San Francisco.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION: (Sacramento) presently a museum displaying memorabilia from thirteen first families who previously lived there.

HIGHWAY 1: Drive along this scenic highway to explore 800 miles of California's beautiful coastline.

HOLLYWOOD: (Near Los Angeles) Motion Picture capital of the world.

OLD CHINATOWN: (Sacramento) experience the rich heritage of Chinese Culture.

SACRAMENTO ARCHIVES & MUSEUM COLLECTION: (Sacramento) offers 5.5 miles of shelves filled with treasures from Sacramento's history.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK: Home to several of the highest waterfalls in North America.