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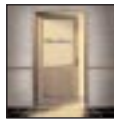
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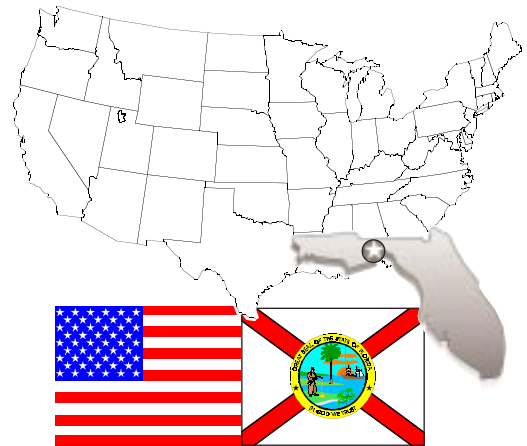
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Presents

FLORIDA
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, capital city, state government, famous citizens and the role of education and industry to 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 !

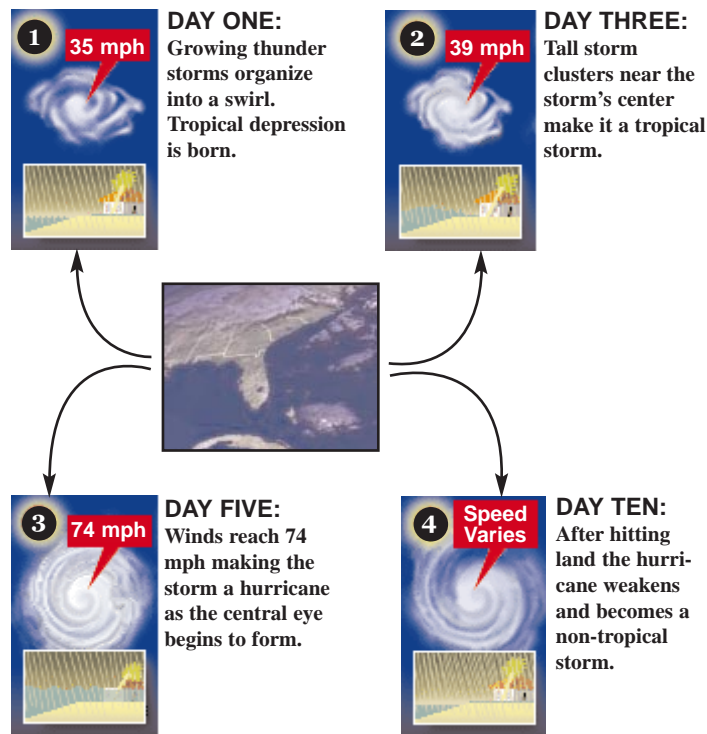
Discussion Points / Activities !

Geography !

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

The video mentions the severity of hurricanes which have affected Florida throughout its history. Assign the students to research what hurricanes are and how they develop. Perhaps have the students use the graphics provided below to accompany their research or have them draw their own illustrations.

Stages of a Florida Hurricane

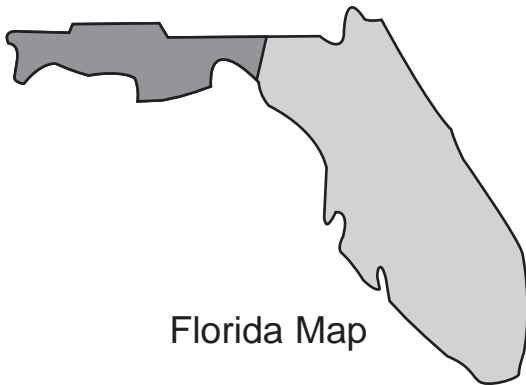


FLORIDA

Letters **A** & **B** describes the two names given to Florida's mainland. Write the name of the area on the solid black line. Then with a Black Marker write the letter **A** or **B** in the shaded regions to indicate where on the Florida Map each area is located. If needed use the vocabulary list on Pg. 2 & 3 of this guide.

A) The Florida _____ is the strip of land located in the northwestern part of the state, stretching along the northern shore of the Gulf of Mexico.

B) The 400 miles of mainland which extends southward bordered by the Atlantic Ocean along the eastern seashore and the Gulf of Mexico along its western shoreline is called the Florida _____.



Florida, the southern most state on the U.S. mainland, was named by early explorer Juan Ponce de Leon in honor of Pascua Florida, an Easter festival held each year in Spain. The states modern nickname is the "Sunshine State" because of it's consistently delightful year round climate. A top rated destination, the state has been visited by 60% of all Americans who traveled in the past 5 years. One of the last parts of North America to emerge from the sea, Florida has the longest coast line of any state except Alaska. Cayo's or small islands off the mainland of the state best known as the Florida Keys, are really fossilized remains of an ancient coral reef.

In the early 1500's, Spanish explorers landed near the nations oldest city, St. Augustine, and the city became the first permanent European settlement in what is now the United States. Burial mounds found along Florida's western coast confirm that Indians lived there as long as 10,000 years ago. Spain, France, England, the United States and the Confederacy have all laid claim to Florida at one time in it's varied history. In the 1800's, the U.S. purchased Florida from Spain for \$5 million dollars. Three years later, the capital city of Tallahassee (named after the Seminole Indians living in the area) was chosen to represent the new territory. Because of the desire for land already occupied by the native people, war between the Seminoles and the early settlers was inevitable. The second Seminole War started in 1835, lasted for 7 years, and ultimately resulted in displacement of the native people.

Like all states, Florida's state government provides services for the people of the state. The government is divided into three branches, each with a specific responsibility. The state government is headed by the governor of Florida who is elected by the people of the state. Florida's population skyrocketed in the 1960's with Miami earning the nickname "Latin Capital of America". Tourism is the states largest industry but citrus, sugar cane, and seafood also greatly contribute to the states fast growth. Banking, service industries, and manufacturing of high tech equipment will help to keep Florida's economy moving into the new millennium. It's tropical feel also helps to make Florida one of the most desirable of all 50 states.

VOCABULARY of FLORIDA

ANDREW JACKSON: During the first Seminole War in 1817, General Jackson led U.S. soldiers into victory. In 1835, a second Seminole War started while Jackson was U.S. President. The war lasted 7 years and cost the U.S. \$20 million dollars.

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

FLORIDA KEYS: Name from the Spanish word “cayo” meaning “small island”. A series of small islands curving 150 miles southwest around the tip of the Florida Peninsula.

JUAN PONCE DE LEON: Spanish Explorer, who in 1513 became the first European to discover Florida.

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

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER: Part of NASA headquarters, located on Merritt Island off the east coast of Florida. Since the 1950's Cape Canaveral, later renamed Cape Kennedy, has been used as the principle launch site for many space expeditions, including the Space Shuttle.

GEOGRAPHY of FLORIDA

The State of Florida is bordered by **two states** and **two bodies of water**. On the solid black line name each of these bordering regions.

- 1 _____ 3 _____
2 _____ 4 _____



Discussion Points / Activities

1. If possible visit some of the locations in Florida as discussed in the video (see Pg. 7 of this Guide).
2. Draw a map (if you like, use a computer or the map provided on page 12 of this guide) of Florida, indicating significant points of interest. For example, Tallahassee the state's capital city, Cape Canaveral and the Kennedy Space Center (located off the east coast of Florida's mainland on Merritt Island), important geographical regions, i.e. the Everglades (Swampy grasslands located across the Southern tip of the Florida's peninsula), or The Florida Keys (the small Islands located off the southern tip of Florida's Peninsula).
3. The video mentions two conflicts, in 1817 and again in 1835, which developed between the United States and the Seminole Indians. Discuss the main issues these two groups disagreed upon (*i.e. land-holdings, Seminoles housing escaped slaves, Seminoles wanted to avoid being displaced into Oklahoma*) and the final results created from these conflicts (*i.e. after losing the war some Indians left the territory and relocated themselves in other regions such as the Everglades, others were captured and sent west under military guard*). Today the government has maintained some Indian reservations throughout different parts of Florida.
4. Florida is home to various types of fruit, vegetables and wildlife. Instruct the students to identify and define some of the different life forms found in Florida.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: One of three branches of the Florida state government. The legislative branch makes the laws of the state. This branch includes the Florida Senate, of which there are 40 Senators and the House of Representatives of which there are 120 representatives. All are voted into office by the people of Florida.

PANHANDLE: The strip of land located in the northwestern part of Florida, stretching along the northern shore of the Gulf of Mexico.

PASCUA FLORIDA: Translated meaning "feast of flowers", an Easter festival held each year in Spain. While becoming the first European to arrive in Florida, a few days after Easter, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon named the new territory after the Spanish feast "Pascua Florida".

PENINSULA: 400 miles of mainland Florida which extends southward bordered by the Atlantic Ocean along the eastern seashore and the Gulf of Mexico along its western shoreline.

SEMINOLES: An Indian group which occupied parts of Florida during European exploration. During the early 1800's much of the land claimed by the Seminole Indians was being taken by American settlers. Tensions escalated and eventually led to wars which were won by the United States.

ST. AUGUSTINE: In 1565, Spanish explorer, Don Pedro Menendez founded St. Augustine, and it became the first permanent European settlement in the New World. In 1763, Spain relinquished control of Florida to England, and it was divided into two colonies. St. Augustine became the capital of East Florida while Pensacola became the capital of West Florida. St. Augustine is the oldest city in the U.S.

TALLAHASSEE: Located in the center of Florida's panhandle and became the state's capital city in 1823.

CHRONOLOGY of FLORIDA

1513: Spanish explorer, Ponce De Leon becomes the first European to discover the Florida region.

1539: Spanish explorer, Hernando de Soto leads a four year expedition throughout what is now the Southeastern U.S.

1565: King Philip II of Spain sends Pedro Menendez to claim Florida territories from France.

1763: Spain offers Florida to Britain in exchange for Cuba.

1775: Revolutionary War begins.

1779: Spain captures West Florida from Britain.

1783: Britain loses the ongoing Revolutionary War and returns East Florida to Spain.

1817: Conflict arises, eventually leading to war over landholdings between the Seminole Indians and the United States.

1821: The United States purchases Florida for \$5 million dollars from Spain.

1823: Tallahassee is chosen the Capital City of Florida.

1835: Tensions emerge again between the Seminole Indians and the United States leading to a seven year war. The U.S., while spending \$20 million dollars, eventually wins the war.

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

ANSWERS LIST :

Andrew Jackson • Cape Space • Tallahassee • Citrus State • Thomas Jefferson • St. Augustine • Beach State • Cape Canaveral • Swamplands • Sunshine State • Cypress Plain • Cape Florida • Florida Uplands • George Washington • St. Petersburg

10. A) The 3 main geographic regions within Florida include; East Gulf Coastal Plain, Atlantic Coastal Plain, and _____ .

B) _____ is the nickname given to Florida.

C) In 1817 _____ led U.S. troops into battle against the Seminole Indians and again in 1835 as the U.S. President.

D) In 1958, NASA established _____ as a major launch site for several space expeditions.

E) _____ is the oldest city in the nation.

Q & A for FLORIDA

1. Name and define the three branches of the Florida state government?
2. How many members belong to the Florida State Senate and House of Representatives? Can you name your local representatives?
3. Who elects the Governor of Florida? How many years does the Florida Governor's term serve? How many terms may a Florida Governor serve? Who is your current state Governor?
4. What European country was the first to claim Florida? Who was the first European explorer to discover Florida? Explain the origins for the name given to Florida?
5. Where is the state capital of Florida today?
6. What is a Seminole? Who is Osceola?
7. Name the 5 major nations which have represented Florida during its history.
8. In 1821, what country bought Florida for \$5 million dollars from Spain?
9. During the Civil War Florida joined what forces?

- **1845:** Florida becomes the 27th state of the U.S.
- **1853:** University of Florida is founded.
- **1860:** Abraham Lincoln elected president.
- **1861:** Civil War begins. Florida withdraws from the Union to join the Confederacy.
- **1868:** Florida is readmitted to the Union.
- **1890's:** Economic boom provides much prosperity for the Florida Region.
- **1926:** Major hurricane hits the Florida area temporarily ending the state's booming economy.
- **1928:** Another major hurricane crashes into the Florida coast again affecting the state's economy.
- **1929:** Great Depression
- **1958:** NASA establishes Cape Canaveral (renamed later Cape Kennedy) as a major launch site for many space explorations.
- **1963:** NASA opens the John F. Kennedy Space Center located off the east coast of the Florida peninsula.
- **1986:** Space Shuttle "Challenger" explodes in the air just after take off.
- **1992:** Hurricane Andrew hits the coast of Florida killing dozens of people and leaving thousands of Floridians homeless.

PEOPLE of FLORIDA

CHRIS EVERT: Born 1954 in Ft. Lauderdale, she became a world champion tennis player.

FAY DUNAWAY: Born 1941 in Bascom, Academy Award-winning actress.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON: (1871-1938) Writer, poet, diplomat and educator from Jacksonville. He wrote extensively on the issues concerning African-American communities and compiled a collection of African-American poetry.

JANET RENO: Born 1938 in Miami, first woman to be appointed U.S. attorney general.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON: (1785-1851) Ornithologist, artist especially known for his illustrations on nature. His famous work "The Birds of America" includes 1065 bird figures many of which are their natural size.

JOSEPH W. STILWELL: (1883-1946) U.S. General born in Palatka, FL. Fought in WW I and later became an authority on U.S.-China relations.

OSCEOLA: A Seminole Indian leader, who during the 2nd Seminole War, helped defend the landholdings of the Seminole Nation from U.S. troops.

SIDNEY POITIER: (1924-) Actor, director born in Miami. 1963 won Oscar for "*Lilies of the Field*". Some other famous works include: *In the Heat of the Night*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*; *Stir Crazy* and *Ghost Dad*.

TOM PETTY: Born 1952 in Gainesville, singer and songwriter.

ZORA NEALE HURSTON: Popular American author from Eatonville, FL.

PLACES of FLORIDA

Consider visiting these important places in Florida:

EVERGLADES & BIG CYPRESS SWAMP: National preserve and park located on the southern tip of Florida's peninsula. The Everglades cover 2,500 square miles of swampy grasslands.

FLORIDA KEYS: From the Spanish word "Cayo" meaning small islands. A series of small islands curving 150 miles southwest around the tip of the Florida Peninsula.

MODERN CAPITOL BUILDING: (Tallahassee) Includes: Bronze Medallions surrounding the Great Seal of Florida representing the five nations in Florida's history: Spain, France, England, the United States, and the Confederacy. Perhaps visit the observation deck.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION: (Tallahassee) Greek revival mansion with a two story central section with 6 cast stone columns and a magnificent balcony.

SAN LOUIS MISSION SITE: (Tallahassee) Includes a chapel, monastery, fort, Spanish houses, Indian lodge and houses dating from the 1500's.

TALLAHASSEE MUSEUM OF HISTORY & NATURAL SCIENCE: Visitors can observe different animals some of which are rarely seen in the wild. And experience different buildings from various architectural periods.

MUSEUM OF FLORIDA'S HISTORY: (Tallahassee) exhibits material covering 12,000 years of Florida's history.

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER: Part of NASA headquarters, located on Merritt Island off the east coast of Florida. Since the 1950's Cape Canaveral, later renamed Cape Kennedy, has been used as the principle launch site for many space expeditions.