



U.S. PUZZLE MAP

REFERENCE GUIDE

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U.S. PUZZLE MAP

Reference Guide

Acknowledgements	iv
Introduction	1
Features of the U.S. Puzzle Map	3
Facts about the States	7
Suggested Activities	35
References	37
Related Products	39

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The *U.S. Puzzle Map* was designed with continuous input from **Mary Helen Welsh** and **Diane Foster**, two very talented teachers at the Kentucky School for the Blind. The map's beautiful color contrast and the presentation of Alaska and Hawaii (new puzzle pieces) are features greatly influenced by both teachers' recommendations.

Within the American Printing House (APH), the expertise of **Will Evans**, **Fred Otto**, and **Eleanor Pester** was often sought as design decisions

were needed. **Tuck Tinsley** (President of APH) and **Debbie Willis** (Director of Educational Research) were continually supportive, appreciative, and encouraging of the project leaders' efforts.

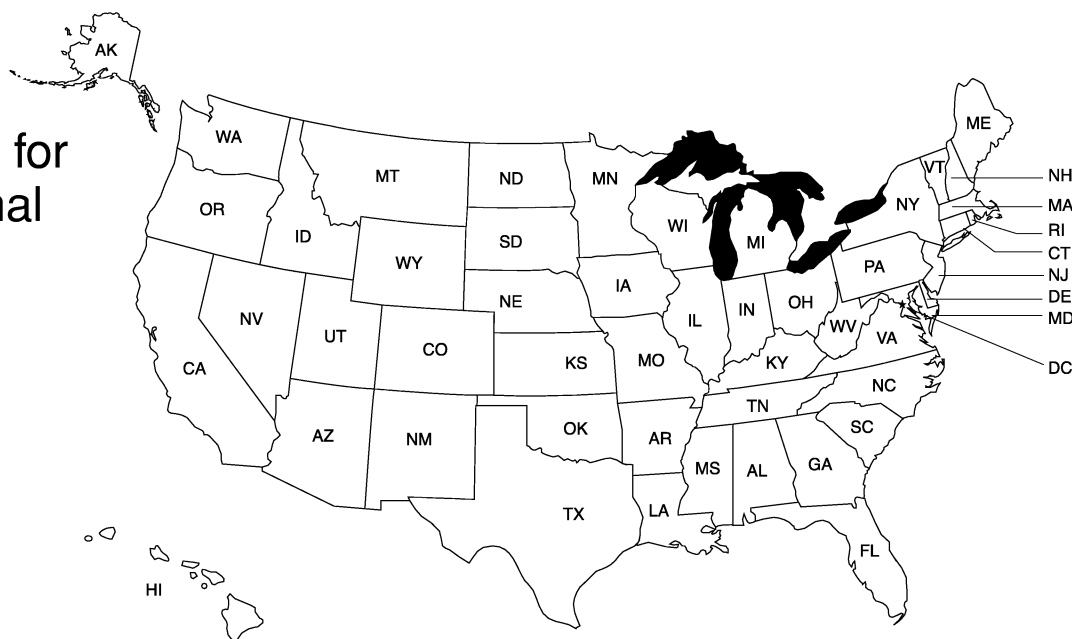
Special thanks is extended to all those in APH's production area, who regularly work "behind-the-scenes," but are responsible for painting the map, collating and assembling the puzzle pieces, die-cutting the overlays, and printing and brailleing the accompanying documentation.

The *U.S. Puzzle Map* is a redesign of a take-apart map that was copyrighted in 1939 and available from the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) until 1988. The many enhancements to the previous design include the following:

- Addition of the Alaska and Hawaii puzzle pieces
- More visually appealing and contrasting colors
- A frame with incised state boundaries and state abbreviations in braille
- Improved tactile indicators for the national and state capitals

- A modernized frame
- Masking overlays for assessment purposes
- Finger holes for easier removal of states
- Lighter-weight for portability
- An accompanying reference guide
- Greater affordability

Although the map is specifically designed for persons with blindness and visual impairments, it is certainly a valuable educational tool for anyone and any classroom.



STATE COLORS

The colors for the state puzzle pieces were chosen to provide optimal visual contrast for persons with low vision. Listed below are state groupings by color:

Yellow States

Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Georgia
Iowa
Maine
Montana
Michigan
Virginia

Green States

Delaware
Illinois
Kansas
Louisiana
Minnesota
Nevada
New Mexico

New York
Tennessee
Washington
West Virginia
Wyoming

Orange States

Florida
Idaho
Indiana
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Dakota
Vermont

Gray States

Alabama
Alaska

Arizona
Missouri
New Hampshire
New Jersey
North Dakota
Ohio
Rhode Island

Purple States

Hawaii
Kentucky
Maryland
Massachusetts
Nebraska
Oregon
South Carolina
Texas
Utah
Wisconsin

EXTRA PUZZLE PIECES

For your convenience, extra puzzle pieces of small states are provided.

Rhode Island and
Connecticut (joined)
New Jersey and Delaware
(joined)
New Hampshire
Vermont
Massachusetts

TACTILE INDICATORS

Two types of tactile indicators are encountered on the states of the *U.S. Puzzle Map*. A rounded tactile marker appears on each puzzle piece to indicate the location of the state's capital; these indicators are painted black. In contrast to these bump-like indicators, a low cylinder or tower-like indicator painted white appears at the location of the national capital, Washington, DC.

RIVERS, LAKES, AND BAYS

Listed below are major rivers, lakes, and bays that are painted on the *U.S. Puzzle Map*.

Rivers

Arkansas River
Colorado River
Columbia River
Delaware River
Green River
Hudson River
Mississippi River
Missouri River
Ohio River
Platte River
Potomac River
Red River
Rio Grande
Snake River

Lakes

Great Lakes
Erie
Huron
Ontario
Michigan
Superior
Great Salt Lake
Okeechobee

Bays

Chesapeake Bay
Puget Sound
San Francisco Bay

PUZZLE FRAME

The frame of the *U.S. Puzzle Map* provides helpful information, including mileage scales, latitude/longitude lines, braille state abbreviations, incised state boundaries, portions of surrounding countries, and finger holes. Each of the frame's features is described in more detail below.

Surrounding Countries

The surrounding countries of Mexico (northern portion) and Canada (southern portion) are painted light brown and permanently affixed to the frame of the map. Notice that the western edge of Canada is also shown next to the Alaska puzzle piece.

Latitude and Longitude Lines

The longitude and latitude lines are indicated in braille and raised print. These lines are incised to reduce tactile clutter on the map.

State Abbreviations and Boundary Lines

The postal abbreviation of each state appears in braille within the incised state boundary lines

or area. Because of space constraints, the two-letter state abbreviations for Rhode Island and Delaware are not included and only a one-letter abbreviation is included for the states of Vermont (V), New Hampshire (H), and New Jersey (J). For correct state abbreviations, see section of Reference Guide on "Facts About the States."

Mileage Scales

Three mileage scales appear on the map's frame—one for the main map, one for Hawaii, and one for Alaska. The contiguous states and Hawaii are presented in the same scale. Alaska, however, is *not* in the same scale as the main map. While studying the map, keep in mind the following about Alaska and Hawaii:

1. Although it may not appear so on the *U.S. Puzzle Map*, Alaska is by far the largest state (656,424 square miles) in the Union with regard to area; it is over twice the size of Texas! If Alaska were represented in the same scale as the main map, including its Aleutian Islands

(which are not completely shown on the puzzle piece), the state would stretch from Los Angeles, California to Washington, DC, the nation's capital.

2. Although Hawaii is really a long chain of separate islands that stretch far into the North Pacific Ocean, it is usually considered to be a cluster or group of main islands. These islands are represented on the *U.S. Puzzle Map* in the same scale as the mainland and are grouped together on one puzzle piece, but are painted separately.

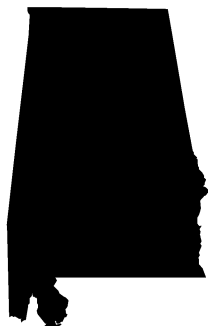
Finger Holes

Four finger holes are located on the map's frame and aid in the removal of puzzle pieces. These

finger holes are located in Alaska, Texas, Montana, and Florida. Simply reach under the frame and push the desired puzzle piece and/or masking overlay out of the frame (see description of "Masking Overlays").

MASKING OVERLAYS

Three reusable masking overlays are provided for assessment purposes. Simply insert the white styrene overlays into the frame of the puzzle to "mask" or hide the braille state abbreviations and incised state boundaries. Without access to the frame's visual and tactile clues, assembling the puzzle map will be more challenging and a true test.



ALABAMA

The Yellowhammer State

State Abbreviation: AL

Capital: Montgomery

Statehood: 22nd State/
December 14, 1819

Major Cities: Birmingham, Mobile,
Huntsville

Major Rivers: Tombigbee, Alabama, Coosa,
Tennessee, Chattahoochee, Black Warrior

Bordering States: FL, GA, MS, TN

State Bird: Yellowhammer

State Flower: Camellia

State Tree: Southern Pine

ALASKA

The Last Frontier

State Abbreviation: AK

Capital: Juneau

Statehood: 49th State/ January 3, 1959

Major Cities: Anchorage, Fairbanks

Major Rivers: Yukon, Kuskokwin

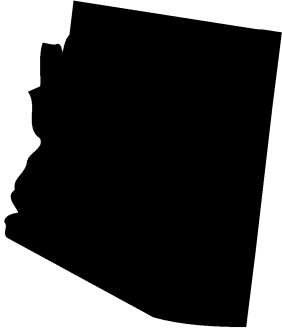
Bordering States: Alaska does not border
any state.

State Bird: Willow Ptarmigan

State Flower: Forget-me-not

State Tree: Sitka Spruce





ARIZONA

The Grand Canyon State

State Abbreviation: AZ

Capital: Phoenix

Statehood: 48th State/
February 14, 1912

Major Cities: Tucson, Mesa,
Scottsdale, Tempe

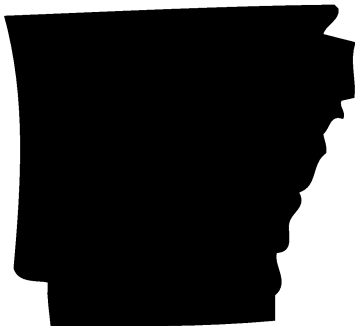
Major Rivers: Gila, Colorado, Salt, Verde

Bordering States: CA, CO, NV, NM, UT

State Bird: Cactus Wren

State Flower: Saguaro Cactus Blossom

State Tree: Palo Verde



ARKANSAS

The Natural State

State Abbreviation: AR

Capital: Little Rock

Statehood: 25th State/June 15, 1836

Major Cities: Fort Smith, Fayetteville,
North Little Rock

Major Rivers: Arkansas, Mississippi,
White

Bordering States: LA, MS, MO, OK,
TN, TX

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Flower: Apple Blossom

State Tree: Pine



CALIFORNIA

The Golden State

State Abbreviation: CA

Capital: Sacramento

Statehood: 31st State/September 9, 1850

Major Cities: Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose, San Francisco, Oakland, Long Beach

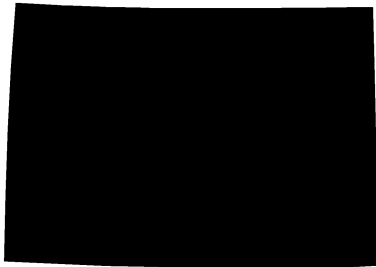
Major Rivers: Sacramento, San Joaquin, Colorado

Bordering States: AZ, NV, OR

State Bird: California Valley Quail

State Flower: Golden Poppy

State Tree: California Redwood



COLORADO

The Centennial State

State Abbreviation: CO

Capital: Denver

Statehood: 38th State/August 1, 1876

Major Cities: Colorado Springs, Aurora

Major Rivers: Arkansas, Rio Grande, Colorado, South Platte

Bordering States: KS, NE, NM, OK, UT, WY, AZ

State Bird: Lark Bunting

State Flower: Rocky Mountain Columbine

State Tree: Colorado Blue Spruce



CONNECTICUT

The Constitution State

State Abbreviation: CT

Capital: Hartford

Statehood: 5th State/January 9, 1788

Major Cities: Bridgeport, New Haven, Stamford, New London, Waterbury

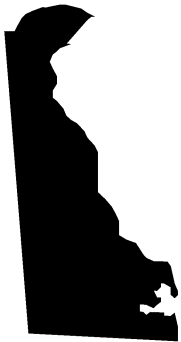
Major Rivers: Housatonic, Connecticut

Bordering States: MA, NY, RI

State Bird: American Robin

State Flower: Mountain Laurel

State Tree: White Oak



DELAWARE

The First State

State Abbreviation: DE

Capital: Dover

Statehood: 1st State/December 7, 1787

Major Cities: Wilmington, Newark

Major Rivers: Delaware

Bordering States: MD, NJ, PA

State Bird: Blue Hen Chicken

State Flower: Peach Blossom

State Tree: American Holly



FLORIDA

The Sunshine State

State Abbreviation: FL

Capital: Tallahassee

Statehood: 27th State/March 3, 1845

Major Cities: Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Pensacola

Major Rivers: Suwanne, Apalachicola, St. Johns, Kissimmee

Bordering States: AL, GA

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Flower: Orange Blossom

State Tree: Sabal Palmetto



GEORGIA

Empire of the South

State Abbreviation: GA

Capital: Atlanta

Statehood: 4th State/January 2, 1788

Major Cities: Columbus, Savannah, Macon

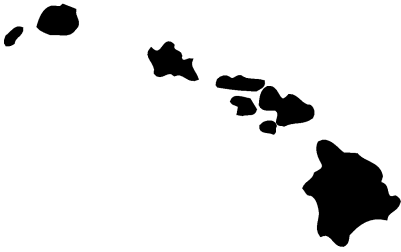
Major Rivers: Chattahoochee, Savannah, Altamaha, Flint

Bordering States: AL, FL, NC, SC, TN

State Bird: Brown Thrasher

State Flower: Cherokee Rose

State Tree: Live Oak



HAWAII

The Aloha State

State Abbreviation: HI

Capital: Honolulu

Statehood: 50th State/August 21, 1959

Major Cities: Hilo, Kailua, Kaneohe, Pearl City, Waipahu

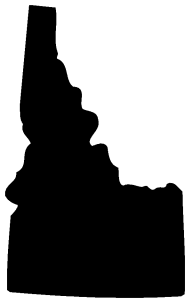
Major Rivers: Wailuku

Bordering States: Hawaii is only surrounded by the Pacific Ocean.

State Bird: Nene (Hawaiian Goose)

State Flower: Yellow Hibiscus

State Tree: Kukui (Candlenut)



IDAHO

The Gem State

State Abbreviation: ID

Capital: Boise

Statehood: 43rd State/July 3, 1890

Major Cities: Pocatello, Idaho Falls

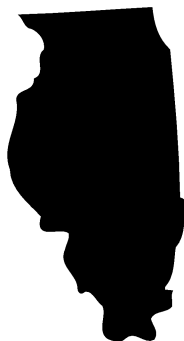
Major Rivers: Snake, Salmon

Bordering States: NV, UT, WY, MT, WA, OR

State Bird: Mountain Bluebird

State Flower: Syringa (Mock Orange)

State Tree: Western White Pine



ILLINOIS

The Prairie State

State Abbreviation: IL

Capital: Springfield

Statehood: 21st State/December 3, 1818

Major Cities: Peoria, Rockford, Chicago

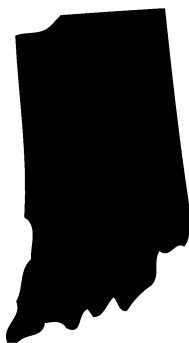
Major Rivers: Mississippi, Kaskaskia, Illinois, Ohio, Wabash

Bordering States: KY, IN, WI, IA, MO

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Native Violet

State Tree: White Oak



INDIANA

The Hoosier State

State Abbreviation: IN

Capital: Indianapolis

Statehood: 19th State/December 11, 1816

Major Cities: Fort Wayne, Evansville, Gary, South Bend

Major Rivers: Wabash, Ohio, Kankakee

Bordering States: KY, IL, MI, OH

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Peony

State Tree: Tulip Tree



IOWA

The Hawkeye State

State Abbreviation: IA

Capital: Des Moines

Statehood: 29th State/December 28, 1846

Major Cities: Sioux City, Cedar Rapids, Davenport

Major Rivers: Des Moines, Mississippi, Missouri, Big Sioux

Bordering States: NE, SD, MN, WI, IL, MO

State Bird: Eastern Goldfinch

State Flower: Wild Rose

State Tree: Oak



KANSAS

The Sunflower State

State Abbreviation: KS

Capital: Topeka

Statehood: 34th State/January 29, 1861

Major Cities: Wichita, Kansas City

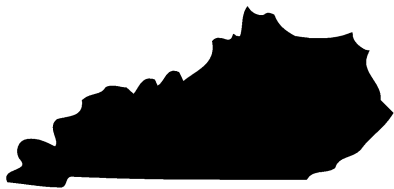
Major Rivers: Arkansas, Kansas, Smokey Hill, Republican, Missouri

Bordering States: OK, CO, NE, MO

State Bird: Western Meadowlark

State Flower: Native Sunflower

State Tree: Cottonwood



KENTUCKY

The Bluegrass State

State Abbreviation: KY

Capital: Frankfort

Statehood: 15th State/June 1, 1792

Major Cities: Louisville, Lexington

Major Rivers: Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Cumberland

Bordering States: OH, WV, VA, TN, MO, IL, IN

State Bird: Kentucky Cardinal

State Flower: Goldenrod

State Tree: Tulip Poplar



LOUISIANA

The Pelican State

State Abbreviation: LA

Capital: Baton Rouge

Statehood: 18th State/April 30, 1812

Major Cities: Shreveport, New Orleans

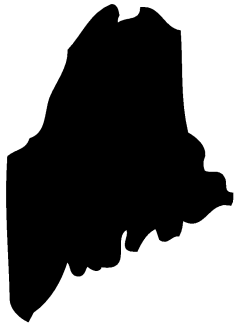
Major Rivers: Red, Sabine, Ouachita, Mississippi, Pearl

Bordering States: TX, AR, MS

State Bird: Eastern Brown Pelican

State Flower: Magnolia

State Tree: Bald Cypress



MAINE

The Pine Tree State

State Abbreviation: ME

Capital: Augusta

Statehood: 23rd State/March 15, 1820

Major Cities: Lewiston, Portland

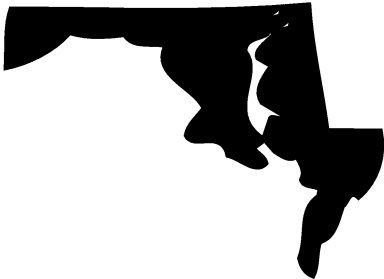
Major Rivers: Kennebec, Penobscot, St. Croix, Androscoggin, St. John, Allagash

Bordering States: NH

State Bird: Chickadee

State Flower: White Pine Cone and Tassel

State Tree: White Pine



MARYLAND

The Free State

State Abbreviation: MD

Capital: Annapolis

Statehood: 7th State/April 28, 1788

Major Cities: Baltimore, Frederick

Major Rivers: Potomac, Patuxent

Bordering States: VA, WV, PA, DE

State Bird: Baltimore Oriole

State Flower: Black-eyed Susan

State Tree: White Oak



MASSACHUSETTS

The Bay State

State Abbreviation: MA

Capital: Boston

Statehood: 6th State/February 6, 1788

Major Cities: New Bedford, Springfield, Worcester

Major Rivers: Housatonic, Connecticut, Charles

Bordering States: RI, CT, NY, VT, NH

State Bird: Chickadee

State Flower: Mayflower

State Tree: American Elm



MICHIGAN

The Wolverine State

State Abbreviation: MI

Capital: Lansing

Statehood: 26th State/January 26, 1837

Major Cities: Detroit, Dearborn, Grand Rapids, Flint

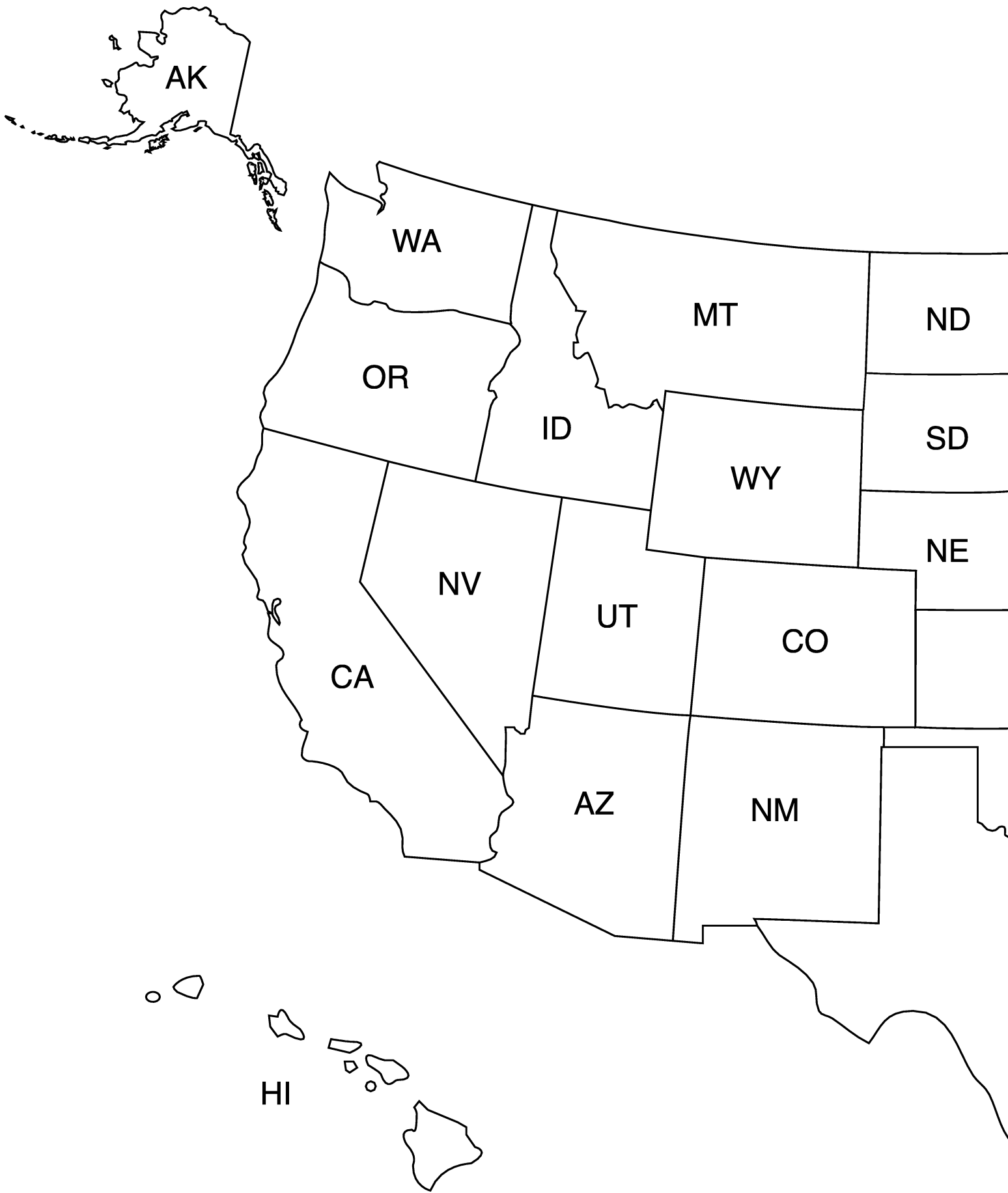
Major Rivers: Muskegon, Menominee

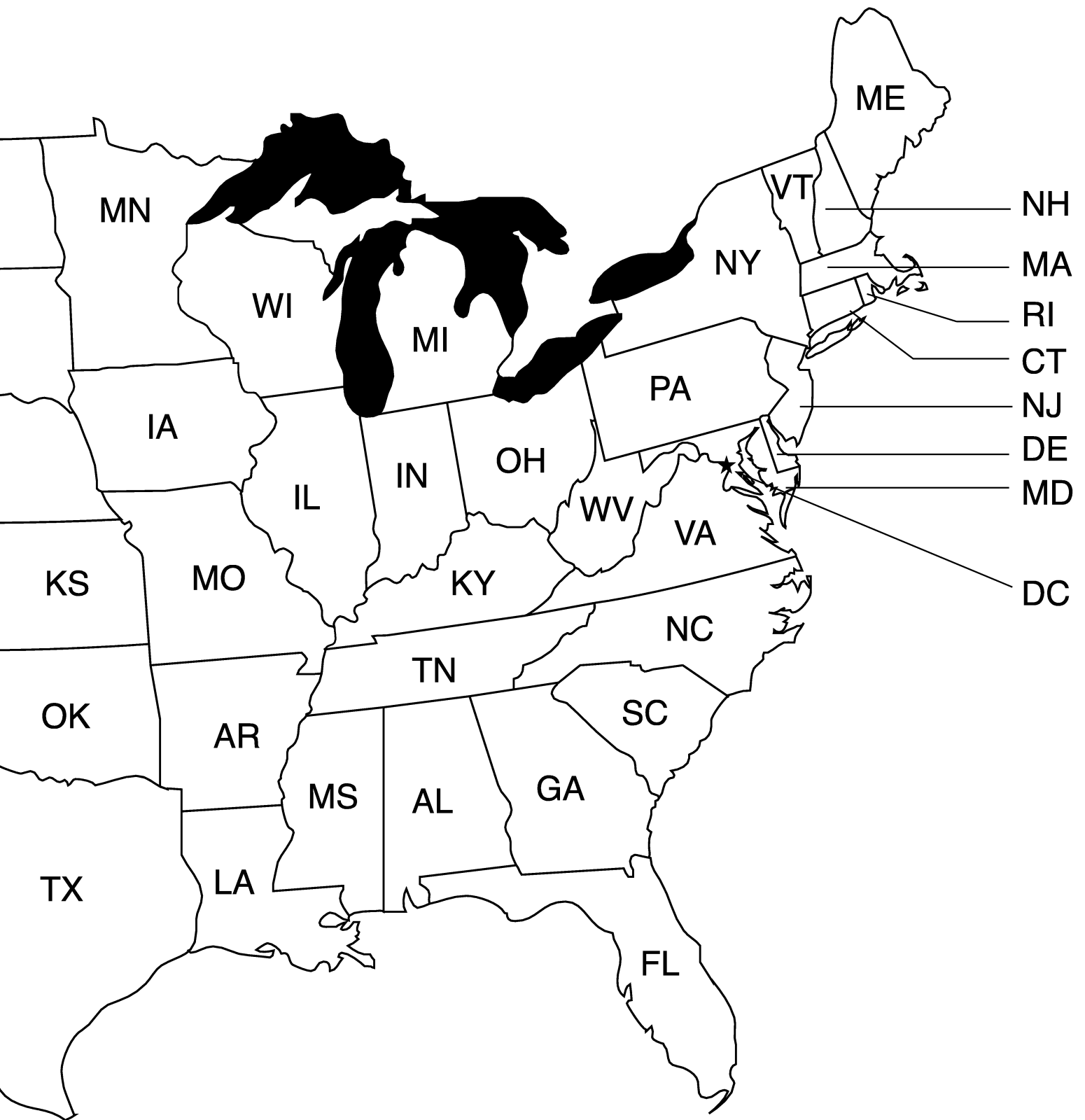
Bordering States: WI, IN, OH

State Bird: Robin

State Flower: Apple Blossom

State Tree: White Pine







MINNESOTA

North Star State

State Abbreviation: MN

Capital: St. Paul

Statehood: 32nd State/May 11, 1858

Major Cities: Rochester, Minneapolis, Duluth

Major Rivers: Minnesota, Mississippi, Red

Bordering States: IA, SD, ND, WI

State Bird: Common Loon

State Flower: Pink and White Lady's Slipper

State Tree: Red Pine



MISSISSIPPI

The Magnolia State

State Abbreviation: MS

Capital: Jackson

Statehood: 20th State/December 10, 1817

Major Cities: Meridian, Biloxi

Major Rivers: Yazoo, Mississippi,
Big Black, Pearl

Bordering States: LA, AR, TN, AL

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Flower: Magnolia

State Tree: Magnolia



MISSOURI

The Show Me State

State Abbreviation: MO

Capital: Jefferson City

Statehood: 24th State/August 10, 1821

Major Cities: Springfield, Kansas City, St. Louis, Independence

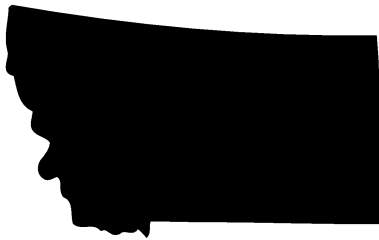
Major Rivers: Missouri, Mississippi, Grand

Bordering States: OK, KS, IA, IL, KY, TN, AR, NE

State Bird: Bluebird

State Flower: Hawthorn

State Tree: Flowering Dogwood



MONTANA

The Treasure State

State Abbreviation: MT

Capital: Helena

Statehood: 41st State/November 8, 1889

Major Cities: Great Falls, Billings, Butte

Major Rivers: Missouri, Yellowstone, Clark Fork

Bordering States: ID, ND, SD, WY

State Bird: Western Meadowlark

State Flower: Bitterroot

State Tree: Ponderosa Pine



NEBRASKA

The Cornhusker State

State Abbreviation: NE

Capital: Lincoln

Statehood: 37th State/March 1, 1867

Major Cities: Grand Island, Omaha

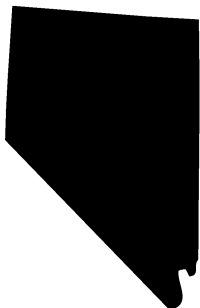
Major Rivers: South Platte, North Platte, Missouri

Bordering States: KS, CO, WY, SD, IA, MO

State Bird: Western Meadowlark

State Flower: Goldenrod

State Tree: Cottonwood



NEVADA

The Silver State

State Abbreviation: NV

Capital: Carson City

Statehood: 36th State/October 31, 1864

Major Cities: Las Vegas, Reno

Major Rivers: Colorado, Humboldt

Bordering States: CA, OR, ID, UT, AZ

State Bird: Mountain Bluebird

State Flower: Sagebrush

State Tree: Single-leaf Piñon and Bristlecone Pine



NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Granite State

State Abbreviation: NH

Capital: Concord

Statehood: 9th State/June 21, 1788

Major Cities: Manchester, Nashua

Major Rivers: Connecticut, Merrimack

Bordering States: ME, MA, VT

State Bird: Purple Finch

State Flower: Purple Lilac

State Tree: White Birch



NEW JERSEY

The Garden State

State Abbreviation: NJ

Capital: Trenton

Statehood: 3rd State/December 18, 1787

Major Cities: Newark, Jersey City,
Patterson, Elizabeth

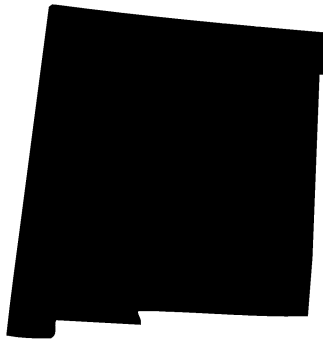
Major Rivers: Delaware, Hudson

Bordering States: DE, PA, NY

State Bird: Eastern Goldfinch

State Flower: Purple Violet

State Tree: Red Oak



NEW MEXICO

The Land of Enchantment

State Abbreviation: NM

Capital: Santa Fe

Statehood: 47th State/January 6, 1912

Major Cities: Albuquerque, Roswell

Major Rivers: Rio Grande, Pecos, San Juan

Bordering States: TX, AZ, CO, OK, UT

State Bird: Roadrunner

State Flower: Yucca

State Tree: Piñon



NEW YORK

The Empire State

State Abbreviation: NY

Capital: Albany

Statehood: 11th State/July 26, 1788

Major Cities: Buffalo, New York City, Rochester, Syracuse

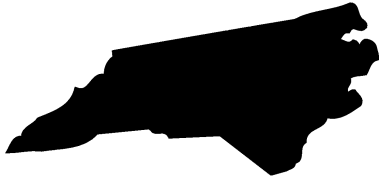
Major Rivers: St. Lawrence, Hudson, Mohawk

Bordering States: PA, NJ, CT, MA, VT

State Bird: Bluebird

State Flower: Rose

State Tree: Sugar Maple



NORTH CAROLINA

The Tar Heel State

State Abbreviation: NC

Capital: Raleigh

Statehood: 12th State/November 21, 1789

Major Cities: Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Charlotte

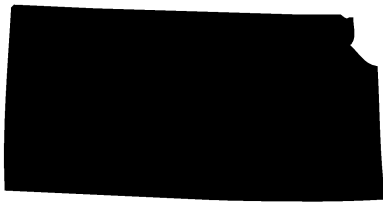
Major Rivers: Roanoke, Neuse, Cape Fear

Bordering States: SC, TN, GA, VA

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Flowering Dogwood

State Tree: Longleaf Pine



NORTH DAKOTA

The Flickertail State

State Abbreviation: ND

Capital: Bismarck

Statehood: 39th State/November 2, 1889

Major Cities: Fargo, Minot, Grand Forks

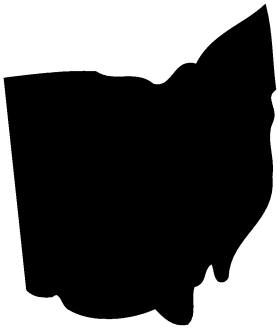
Major Rivers: Missouri, Red, Little Missouri

Bordering States: SD, MT, MN

State Bird: Western Meadowlark

State Flower: Wild Prairie Rose

State Tree: American Elm



OHIO

The Buckeye State

State Abbreviation: OH

Capital: Columbus

Statehood: 17th State/March 1, 1803

Major Cities: Akron, Cleveland, Dayton, Toledo, Cincinnati

Major Rivers: Ohio, Scioto, Great Miami, Muskingum

Bordering States: WV, KY, IN, MI, PA

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Scarlet Carnation

State Tree: Buckeye



OKLAHOMA

The Sooner State

State Abbreviation: OK

Capital: Oklahoma City

Statehood: 46th State/November 16, 1907

Major Cities: Tulsa, Norman, Lawton

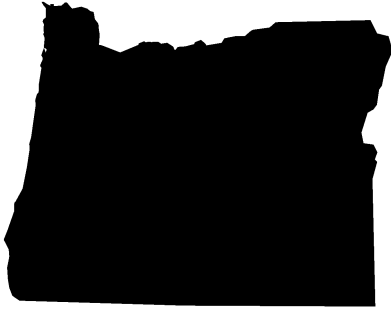
Major Rivers: Arkansas, Red, Canadian

Bordering States: TX, KS, MO, AR, NM, CO

State Bird: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

State Flower: Mistletoe

State Tree: Redbud



OREGON

The Beaver State

State Abbreviation: OR

Capital: Salem

Statehood: 33rd State/February 14, 1859

Major Cities: Portland, Eugene

Major Rivers: Snake, Columbia, Willamette

Bordering States: CA, NV, ID, WA

State Bird: Western Meadowlark

State Flower: Oregon Grape

State Tree: Douglas Fir



PENNSYLVANIA

The Keystone State

State Abbreviation: PA

Capital: Harrisburg

Statehood: 2nd State/December 12, 1787

Major Cities: Philadelphia, Pittsburg,
Allentown

Major Rivers: Susquehanna, Monongahela,
Ohio, Allegheny, Delaware

Bordering States: MD, WV, OH, NY, NJ, DE

State Bird: Ruffed Grouse

State Flower: Mountain Laurel

State Tree: Hemlock



RHODE ISLAND

The Ocean State

State Abbreviation: RI

Capital: Providence

Statehood: 13th State/May 29, 1790

Major Cities: Newport, Pawtucket, Warwick

Major Rivers: Blackstone, Providence, Pawtuxet, Pawcatuck, Blackstone

Bordering States: CT, MA

State Bird: Rhode Island Red

State Flower: Violet

State Tree: Red Maple



SOUTH CAROLINA

The Palmetto State

State Abbreviation: SC

Capital: Columbia

Statehood: 8th State/May 23, 1788

Major Cities: Greenville, Charleston

Major Rivers: Savannah, Saluda, Santee, Pee Dee, Congaree

Bordering States: GA, NC

State Bird: Carolina Wren

State Flower: Yellow Jessamine

State Tree: Palmetto



SOUTH DAKOTA

Mount Rushmore State

State Abbreviation: SD

Capital: Pierre

Statehood: 40th State/November 2, 1889

Major Cities: Sioux Falls, Rapid City

Major Rivers: Missouri, White, Grand, James, Big Sioux, Cheyenne

Bordering States: NE, WY, MT, ND, MN, IA

State Bird: Ring-necked Pheasant

State Flower: Pasque Flower

State Tree: Black Hills Spruce



TENNESSEE

The Volunteer State

State Abbreviation: TN

Capital: Nashville

Statehood: 16th State/June 1, 1796

Major Cities: Knoxville, Memphis, Chattanooga

Major Rivers: Tennessee, Mississippi, Cumberland

Bordering States: MS, KY, VA, NC, GA, AL, AR, MO

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Flower: Iris

State Tree: Tulip Poplar



TEXAS

The Lone Star State

State Abbreviation: TX

Capital: Austin

Statehood: 28th State/December 29, 1845

Major Cities: San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth

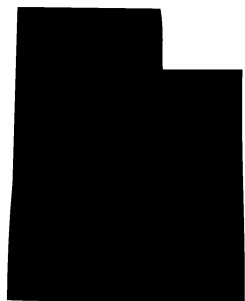
Major Rivers: Rio Grande, Colorado, Sabine, Red, Pecos, Brazos

Bordering States: NM, OK, AR, LA

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Flower: Bluebonnet

State Tree: Pecan



UTAH

The Beehive State

State Abbreviation: UT

Capital: Salt Lake City

Statehood: 45th State/January 4, 1896

Major Cities: Provo, Ogden

Major Rivers: Colorado, Green, Sevier

Bordering States: NV, ID, CO, AZ, NM, WY

State Bird: California Gull

State Flower: Sego Lily

State Tree: Blue Spruce



VERMONT

The Green Mountain State

State Abbreviation: VT

Capital: Montpelier

Statehood: 14th State/March 4, 1791

Major Cities: Rutland, Burlington, Brattleboro

Major Rivers: Connecticut

Bordering States: NY, MA, NH

State Bird: Hermit Thrush

State Flower: Red Clover

State Tree: Sugar Maple



VIRGINIA

The Old Dominion

State Abbreviation: VA

Capital: Richmond

Statehood: 10th State/June 25, 1788

Major Cities: Norfolk, Virginia Beach

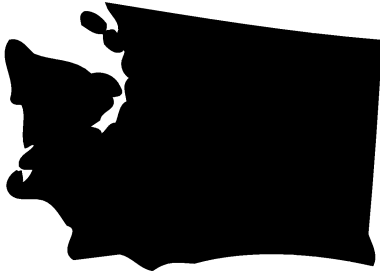
Major Rivers: James, Potomac,
Rappahannock

Bordering States: NC, TN, KY, WV, MD

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Dogwood Blossom

State Tree: Dogwood Tree



WASHINGTON

The Evergreen State

State Abbreviation: WA

Capital: Olympia

Statehood: 42nd State/November 11, 1889

Major Cities: Spokane, Seattle, Tacoma

Major Rivers: Columbia, Snake

Bordering States: OR, ID

State Bird: Willow Goldfinch

State Flower: Western Rhododendron

State Tree: Western Hemlock



WEST VIRGINIA

The Mountain State

State Abbreviation: WV

Capital: Charleston

Statehood: 35th State/June 20, 1863

Major Cities: Huntington, Wheeling

Major Rivers: Ohio, Potomac, Kanawha, New

Bordering States: KY, OH, PA, MD, VA

State Bird: Cardinal

State Flower: Rhododendron

State Tree: Sugar Maple



WISCONSIN

The Badger State

State Abbreviation: WI

Capital: Madison

Statehood: 30th State/May 29, 1848

Major Cities: Milwaukee, Racine, Green Bay

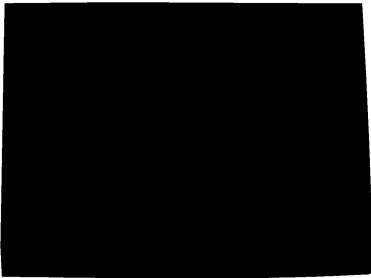
Major Rivers: St. Croix, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Menominee

Bordering States: IL, IA, MN, MI

State Bird: Robin

State Flower: Wood Violet

State Tree: Sugar Maple



WYOMING

The Equality State

State Abbreviation: WY

Capital: Cheyenne

Statehood: 44th State/July 10, 1890

Major Cities: Casper

Major Rivers: North Platte, Bighorn, Green

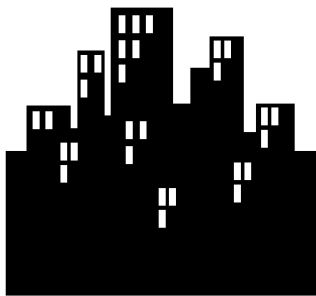
Bordering States: ID, MT, SD, NE, CO, UT

State Bird: Meadowlark

State Flower: Indian Paintbrush

State Tree: Cottonwood

- ▲ Find the location of a variety of topographical landmarks on the map and identify them, e.g., rivers, mountains, peninsulas, islands, etc.
- ▲ Review the Great Lakes and find their locations.
- ▲ Use the map to enrich history lessons, such as Civil War battles, home states of American presidents, Lewis and Clark Expedition, etc.
- ▲ Review the location of the 13 original American colonies.
- ▲ Find the most mountainous states.
- ▲ Enrich current events by finding the location of states, cities, etc., mentioned in the news.
- ▲ Find the states that border the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Arctic Ocean.
- ▲ List the states that are most recognizable by their shape. What features make them easy to identify?
- ▲ Estimate distances between various states using the mileage scale.
- ▲ Note if the location of a state can be guessed by its physical size or shape. Where do smaller states seem to be located? Where do rectangular states tend to be located?
- ▲ Talk about regions of the United States, such as southwestern states, mid-Atlantic states, etc. Insert only the states that make up each region discussed.



▲ Research additional facts about each state using a variety of sources, including the Internet. [See References on page 37 for examples of helpful books and websites.]

▲ Review directional concepts such as *north, south, east, west*, e.g., Which state is north of your home state?



▲ Review travel routes for vacation trips. For example, “How many states would you travel through to get from Kentucky to Florida in the shortest distance?”

▲ Review locations of where natural disasters such as volcanoes, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, etc., are likely to occur.



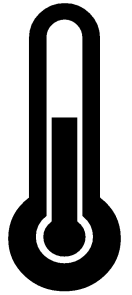
▲ Review the locations of famous trails: Oregon Trail, Mormon Trail, Sante Fe Trail, etc.

▲ Insert only the states that border Canada.

▲ Insert only the states that border Mexico.

▲ Research national parks (e.g., Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, etc.) and find their approximate location on the map.

▲ Discuss state climates. Which states usually have the warmest or coldest temperatures?



▲ Which states are known for being popular vacation destinations?

▲ Place states onto the map, one at a time, according to their statehood date (first to last) or state size (largest to smallest). [Keep in mind that some states are joined on the same puzzle piece.]

▲ Which latitude lines are visible on the map? Which longitude lines?

▲ Identify capitals of each state and locate them.

▲ Find the location of Washington, DC.

▲ Research the highest and lowest point of each state.

▲ Research the origins of state names.

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