

Lesson 3: State History

Getting Started

Over the next couple of days you will explore the history of your state. You will examine how people have modified the environment and how growth and development have changed life in your state.

Stuff You Need

- ✓ art materials for drawing or painting* (Activity 4 - Option 1)
- ✓ books and websites about the history of your state
- ✓ journal
- ✓ blank drawing paper* (Activity 4 - Option 1)
- ✓ glue
- ✓ scissors

Ideas to Think About

- How was the Native American's relationship with the land different from that of the settlers?
- How have people modified and adapted to the geography of a region?
- How does the history of a state impact the culture of the state?

Things to Know

- The year your state became a state.
- Major events in the history of your state.
- Native-American tribes that lived on the land that is now your state.

Reading and Questions

Locate books and websites with information about the history of your state. Answer the questions below.

1. What year did your state become a state?

2. What were three important historical events that occurred in your state? List the date of each event.

3. List the names of Native American Indian tribes that lived in your state.

Activities

Activity 1: Native Americans

Research one of the Native-American tribes that lived or still lives in your state. Complete the information on the "Native American" pages provided. Think about how life changed for the Native-American people once the settlers moved in and claimed the land.

Activity 2: Changes to the Land

In your journal, list ten examples of how the settlers changed the land. How did development and population growth affect the way of life that existed before settlers moved to the region? How have people adapted to the land over years?

Activity 3: State History Timeline

As you read about the history of your state, record important dates and events on the "State History Timeline" pages. Find out about settlers in your state — where they came from and how they arrived. Which side was your state on during the Civil War (if applicable)? Find important events that occurred in the recent history of your state, too.

Activity 4: Commemorating a Historical Event

Select one of the following options to commemorate a historical event in your state.

Option 1

Artists throughout history have painted pictures of historical events. Create a painting or detailed drawing that depicts one of the events from your timeline.

Option 2

There are people around the country who reenact historical events for fun. They dress up and play the part of historical people. Reenact one of the events from your timeline. Choose characters and write a short script for the reenactment. Use the "Historical Reenactment" page to plan your reenactment.

Activity 5: Time Machine

Go back in time to a historical event that took place in your state. Write a journal entry about the event as if you had witnessed the event firsthand. Then return to the current year and record three effects that event had on your state, the country, your community, or your family.

Wrapping Up

Each state in America has its own history. The history of a state shapes its traditions. Think about what makes your state's history unique and how it has a special place in the history of our country.

If you are using the "Timeline of American History", put the date when your state joined the United States on your timeline. You will find five cards that read "Important Historical Event in _____" in the set of cards for the timeline. These are for historical events that occurred in your state and can be added to the "Timeline of American History." Record the event and a simple illustration for the event before adding them to your timeline.

Native Americans

Directions: Research one of the Native American tribes from your state and complete the next two pages.

Tribe:

Geographic Location:

Clothing:

Traditions:

Food:

Homes:

Artifacts:

Religion:

Other Important Information:

Directions: Create a timeline that shows important historical events that have occurred in your state.

HISTORY OF



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(your state's name)

Parent Overview

Lesson 3: State History

Getting Started

? Big Ideas

- How was the Native American's relationship with the land different from that of the settlers?
- How have people modified and adapted to the geography of a region?
- How does the history of a state impact the culture of the state?



Facts and Definitions

- The year your state became a state.
- Major events in the history of your state.
- Native-American tribes that lived on the land that is now your state.

⦿ Skills

- Trace the growth and development of your state. (SS)
- Locate and describe American Indian tribes that lived in your state in the past or still live there today. (SS)
- Assess changes in ways of living over time. (SS)
- Identify important events associated with your state's history. (SS)

Introducing the Lesson

Explain to your child that today he will read about some important events that have occurred in the history of your state and will examine how people came to live there.

Reading and Questions (Answers)

1. What year did your state become a state?
2. What were three important historical events that occurred in your state? List the dates of each event.
3. List the names of Native American Indian tribes that lived in your state.

Outline of Activities and Answer Keys

Activity 1: Native Americans

Help your child locate information about a Native American tribe indigenous to your state.

Activity 2: Changes to the Land

Encourage your child to read his list of ten ways the environment has changed and how people have adapted to the environment as the state has grown.

Activity 3: State History Timeline

Discuss the events your child chose to record on his timeline. Make suggestions for any important events he may have left off.

Activity 4: Commemorating a Historical Event

For this historical event commemoration activity, your child will select the option that most interests him.

Option 1

Look over your child's drawing and ask him why he chose that specific event. What about it interests him?

Option 2

Read your child's script and discuss how he chose to depict the historical event. What about that event interests him?

Activity 5: Time Machine

Encourage your child to read his firsthand account of the event he observed when he went back in his time machine. Then ask him to describe the three ways the event has affected life in the future.

Wrapping Up

Questions to Discuss

- How has the history of our state shaped its culture and traditions?
- How has our state changed since the arrival of the first settlers?
- Which changes have been positive? Which changes have been negative?

Things to Review

Review some of the major events that have occurred in the history of your state. Discuss the positive and negative outcomes that have occurred because of population growth and advancements.