

California State History Lapbook Journal



Designed for
6th-12th Grades,
but could be
adjusted for
younger grade
levels.

Written & designed by
Cyndi Kinney & Judy Trout
of Knowledge Box Central



California State History Lapbook Journal
Copyright © 2012 Knowledge Box Central
www.KnowledgeBoxCentral.com



ISBN #

Ebook: 978-1-61625-455-1

CD: 978-1-61625-456-8

Printed: 978-1-61625-457-5

Publisher: Knowledge Box Central
<http://www.knowledgeboxcentral.com>

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher, except as provided by USA copyright law.

The purchaser of the eBook or CD is licensed to copy this information for use with the immediate family members only. If you are interested in copying for a larger group, please contact the publisher.

Printed format is not to be copied and is consumable. It is designed for one student only.

All information and graphics within this product are originals or have been used with permission from its owners, and credit has been given when appropriate. These include, but are not limited to the following: www.iclipart.com, and Art Explosion Clipart.



California State History Lapbook Journal

Thanks for purchasing this product. Please check out our Lapbook Journals for other states. The Lapbook Journals are designed for 6th-12th grades but could be adjusted for use with younger students.

Please also check out our Lapbooks for each state, and these are designed for K-8th grades.

We are designing these products, Lapbook Journals and Lapbooks, so that they follow the same Study Guide. This will allow for a family to study State History TOGETHER, with each age group using the product (Lapbook Journal or Lapbook) that best suits that group. The parent may teach from ONE Study Guide and allow each student to document what he is learning in his own way.

How to Use This Product:

- 1. Supplies:** Gather the following supplies: 3-ring binder (2 inches), scissors, white paper, colored paper, light colored cardstock, glue, staples & stapler, ribbon, hole punch, metal brad fasteners (optional), and crayons or colored pencils. (If you purchased the printed format of this product, then you will need all of the listed supplies except the paper.)
- 2. Brochures/Pamphlets:** Contact a Chamber of Commerce or travel agent within your state, and request brochures and pamphlets. Place a pocket inside your binder, and keep your brochures and pamphlets there. During your study, you may refer to these to help with answering the questions. You may also choose to cut out some of the words or pictures from them and decorate the pages of your notebook.
- 3. Study Guide:** This guide contains an overview of this state's history. Websites where you can find additional information are included on the last page of the Study Guide.
- 4. Journal Pages:** These pages contain many questions that you will need to answer during your study of this state's history. There are 2 blank pages at the end of this section, and these are for your State Report. This will be a short essay that tells a brief overview of what you have learned during your study. You may add pages, as needed.
- 5. Lapbook Pages:** This is where you will create 6 booklets that further document what you have learned during your study. If you enjoy hand-on projects, you may complete these and glue them on the last 2 pages of this section. If you choose not to complete these booklets, then we suggest that you make sure to cover the requested information in your State Report in the previous section.

California State History Lapbook Journal

**The following
pages contain the
Study Guide**

Print on white paper.

California State History Lapbook Journal Study Guide



The Great Seal of California

The name *California* originates from the Spanish conquistadors, taken from "Las Serges de Esplandian," a Spanish romance written about 1510 which describes an imaginary island; an earthly paradise. *Baja California* (lower California - now in Mexico) was first visited by the Spanish in 1533. Present-day California was called *Alta California* (upper California).

People who live in California or who come from California are called Californians.



Map of California – Capital, Major Lakes and Rivers

STATEHOOD

With the gold rush came a huge increase in population in California and a pressing need for civil government. After a heated debate in the U.S. Congress, arising out of the slavery issue, California entered the Union as a free, non-slavery state and was admitted to the Union as the 31st state on September 9, 1850.

STATE CONSTITUTION

The California Constitution is the document that establishes and describes the duties, powers, structure and function of the government of California. The state's first constitution was adopted in November 1849 in advance of California attaining U.S. statehood. California was admitted to the Union on September 9, 1850. The constitution of 1849 was superseded by the current constitution, which was ratified on May 7, 1879.

California's constitution can be amended through statewide votes of the electorate on legislatively-referred constitutional amendments and initiated constitutional amendments. It can also be amended through a process beginning with a constitutional convention.

PREAMBLE: We, the People of the State of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure and perpetuate its blessings, do establish this Constitution.

STATE GOVERNMENT

California's state government is organized into three branches of government: executive branch, consisting of the Governor of California and other elected constitutional officers; legislative branch, consisting of the California State Legislature which includes the Assembly and the Senate; and the judicial branch constituting of the Supreme Court of California and lower courts. Government is exercised through state agencies and commissions as well as local governments consisting of counties, cities and special districts including school districts.

The Governor of California is the chief executive officer of the state and is elected by citizens for a four-year term and may serve for two consecutive terms. The governor's responsibilities include making annual State of the State addresses to the California State Legislature, submitting the budget, and ensuring that state laws are enforced. The position was created in 1849, before California became a state.

The California State Legislature is a bicameral body consisting of the lower house, the California State Assembly, with 80 members, and the upper house, the California State Senate, with 40 members. New legislators convene each new two-year session, to organize, in the Assembly and Senate Chambers, respectively, at noon on the first Monday in December following the election. After the organizational meeting, both houses are in recess until the first Monday in January, except when the first Monday is January 1st or January 1st is a Sunday, in which case they meet the following Wednesday.

Members of the Assembly are elected from eighty districts, serve two year terms, and since 1990 are limited to being elected three times. Members of the Senate serve four year terms and are

limited to being elected twice. There are forty Senate districts, with half of the seats up for election on alternate (two year) election cycles.

The judicial system of California is the largest in the United States that is fully staffed by professional law-trained judges; a person must be admitted to practice law before they can become a judge in California. Today, California's system is divided into three levels, with the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal serving as appellate courts reviewing the decisions of the Superior Courts.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

The legislative branch of the United States government makes laws for our nation and raises and distributes money to run the United States government. The most evident part of the legislative branch is the United States Congress. Congress is divided into two parts, called houses. The two parts are the Senate and the House of Representatives. Congress is referred to as a bicameral body because it is made up of two houses. The Latin roots of the word bicameral, "bi" and "cameral," mean two chambers or rooms.

Members of the Senate are called Senators and members of the House of Representatives are called Representatives. Senators and representatives serving in these two bodies are sometimes referred to as congressmen, or women, and sometimes as legislators because their business is to legislate or make laws. The role of the legislative branch is defined in the United States Constitution.

Each state elects people to represent them in the United States Congress in Washington, DC. The citizens of each state elect two senators to represent them in the Senate. They also elect representatives to represent them in the House of Representatives. The number of representatives each state sends to the House of Representatives is not a specific number like the Senate, but is based on the population of the state. The people, that are elected to represent the state's citizens in the United States Congress, are referred to as the congressional delegation.

There are 100 senators in the U.S. Senate. Each is elected to a term, in the Senate, of six years. There are 435 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives. Each is elected to a term, in the "House," of two years.

The citizens of California elect two people, like every other state, to represent them in the Senate and 52 people, based on California's current population, to represent them in the House of Representatives.

STATE SEAL



The Great Seal of California

Eureka!

Under the gaze of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom, a miner works near the Sacramento River. A grizzly bear rests at her feet and ships ply the river. The Sierra Nevada Mountains rise in the background. Wildlife, agriculture, natural beauty, commerce, and opportunity are all represented on California's Great Seal.

The state motto, *Eureka*, sits over the mountains. A Greek word that means "I have found it," *Eureka* refers to the discovery of gold in California. The miner, working with a pick, is another reference to the gold that was found in California. A pan and a rocker are also depicted on the seal near the miner. The pan was used to separate the gold from the dirt; just add water. The rocker is a larger and more sophisticated "pan." It allowed miners to process more dirt and sand faster. At the time the seal was designed, people were coming from all over the world looking to "strike it rich" in the gold fields.

Virtually all of the products coming in and out of California were carried over water routes at the time the seal was designed. Mining supplies, letters from home, luxuries, household items, and gold were all carried on ships. From the eastern United States, ships sailed south around Cape Horn and north to California. The ships, on a representation of the Sacramento River, symbolize the commercial greatness of California.

A sheaf of grain in the foreground represents California's agricultural wealth. In fact, many who came looking for gold found farming to be more profitable. Today, California is an agricultural giant among the states.

At the feet of Minerva, stands the California grizzly bear. A symbol of strength and independence, the grizzly bear is the Official State Animal and is the prominent feature on the California State Flag. Grizzly bears were, at one time, common in the state but the mass movement of people into California during the gold rush strained their habitat and caused their numbers to decline sharply. Today there are no wild grizzly bears left in California.

The seal was designed by Major R. S. Garnett of the U.S. Army, and adopted at the Constitutional Convention of 1849 before California became a state in June 1850. At the time of the seal's adoption, thirty states comprised the United States. Near the upper edge of the seal are 31 stars, anticipating California's admission. The original 1849 design is depicted to the right.



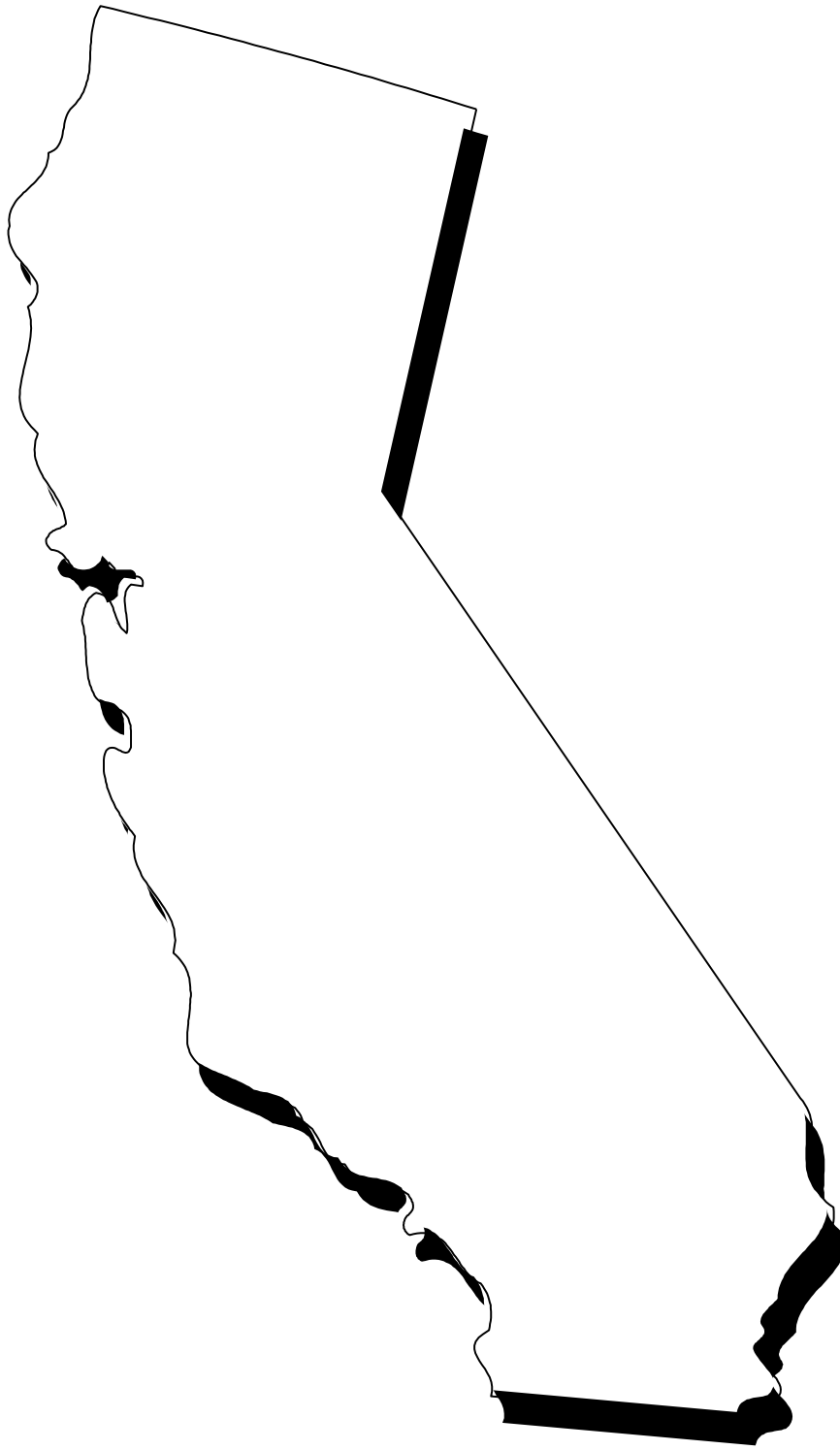
In 1937 minor changes were made to the seal.

California State History Lapbook Journal

**The following
pages contain the
Journal Pages**

Print on white paper.

California



Label the capital city, major cities, and major bodies of water.

When did this state become a state? _____

Rank in statehood: _____

Capital city &
its population:

Northern border: _____

Southern border: _____

Eastern border: _____

Western border: _____

Total area:

State's rank in size
(area):

State's total population: _____

City with largest population: _____

State's rank in population: _____

State's total area: _____

State's rank in size (area): _____

California



State Flag

Draw the state flag above.

State Flag Information:

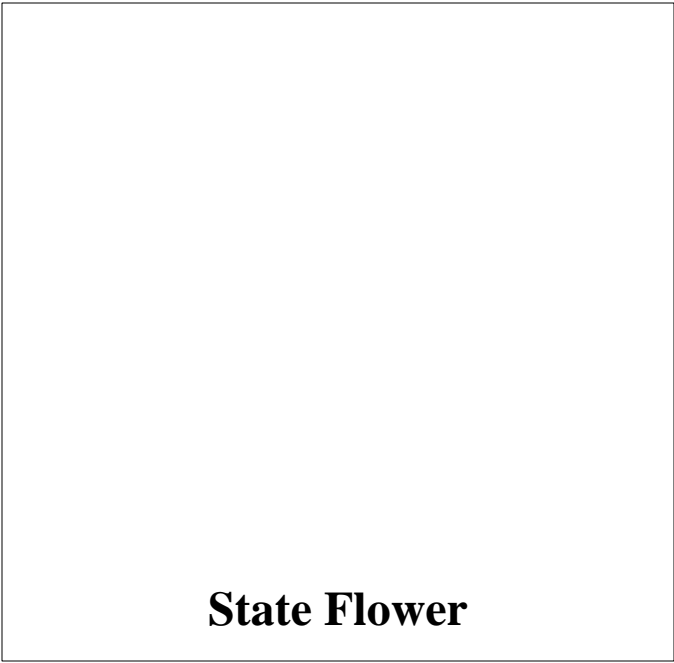
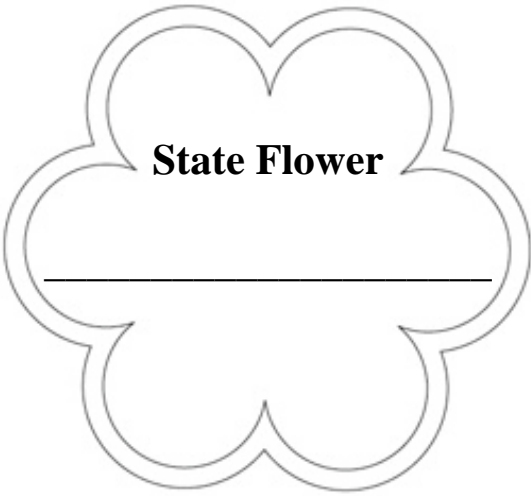
When adopted: _____

Colors: _____

Specific design: _____

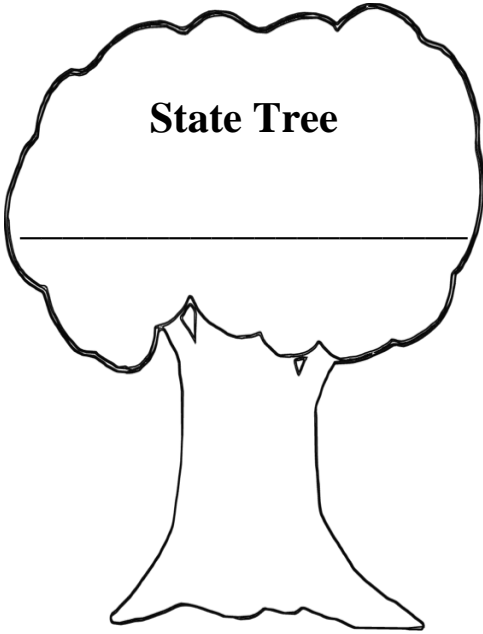
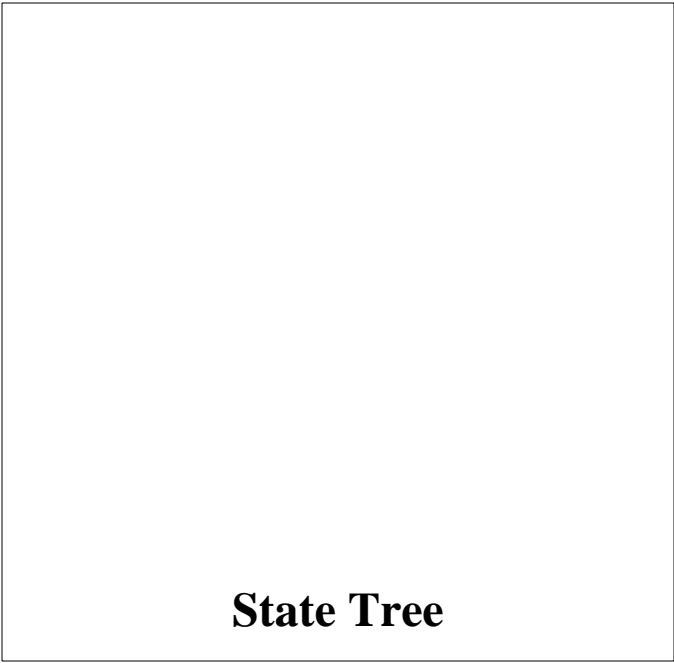
History: _____

California



Draw the state flower above.

State Symbols



Draw the state tree above.

California

California State History Lapbook Journal

**The following
pages contain the
Lapbook Pages**

On the pages in this section, you will find:

1. Pictures of completed Lapbook Page:

This is just a SAMPLE (The one in the picture is for Alabama, but each state will have the same booklets).

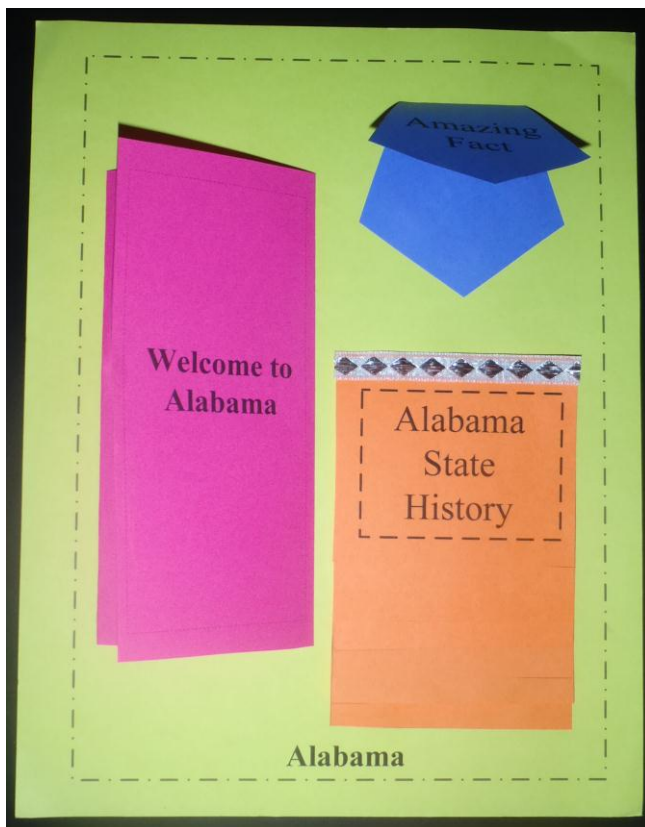
2. Lapbook Booklet Instructions: This is where you will find instructions for cutting out, assembling, and completing each booklet.

3. Lapbook Booklet Templates: Each booklet will be labeled so that you can easily find them when reading through the Lapbook Booklet Instructions. Print these on colored paper.

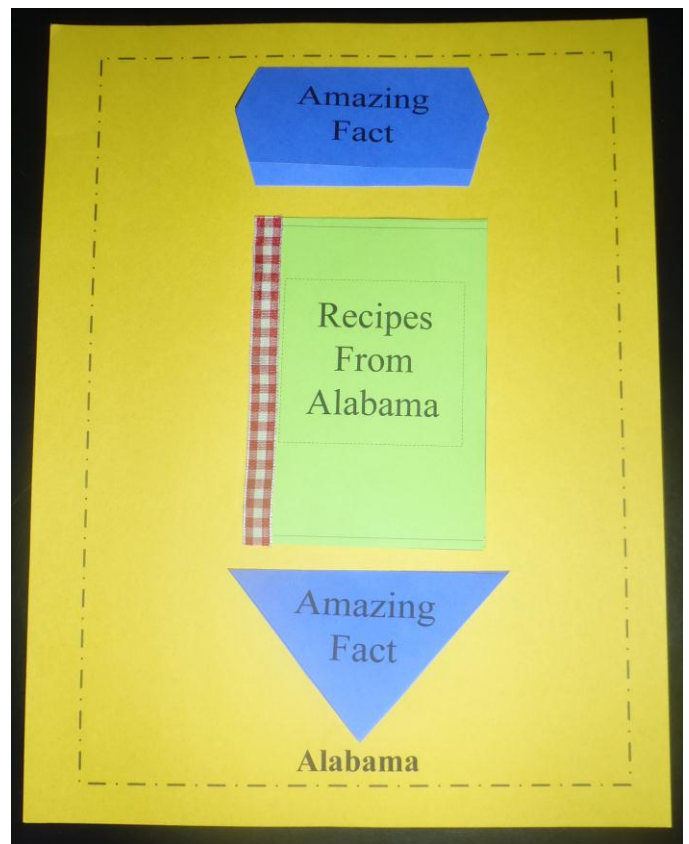
2. Lapbook Background Pages – This is where you will glue each of your Lapbook Booklets. We suggest printing this page on white or another light color of cardstock.

California State History Lapbook Journal Lapbook Pages

This is a SAMPLE of completed Lapbook Pages.
You may choose to arrange your booklets
differently. Be creative!



Page 1



Page 2

California State History

Lapbook Journal

Lapbook Pages

Booklet #1: State History

Assembly Instructions: Cut out each page along the outer black lines. Stack the pages so that the title is on top and the pages get longer toward the back of the stack. Along the top of the stack, secure with staples. You may choose to cover the stapled area with a ribbon like in the picture. Instead of staples, you may choose to punch 2 holes and secure with metal brad fasteners or tie a ribbon.

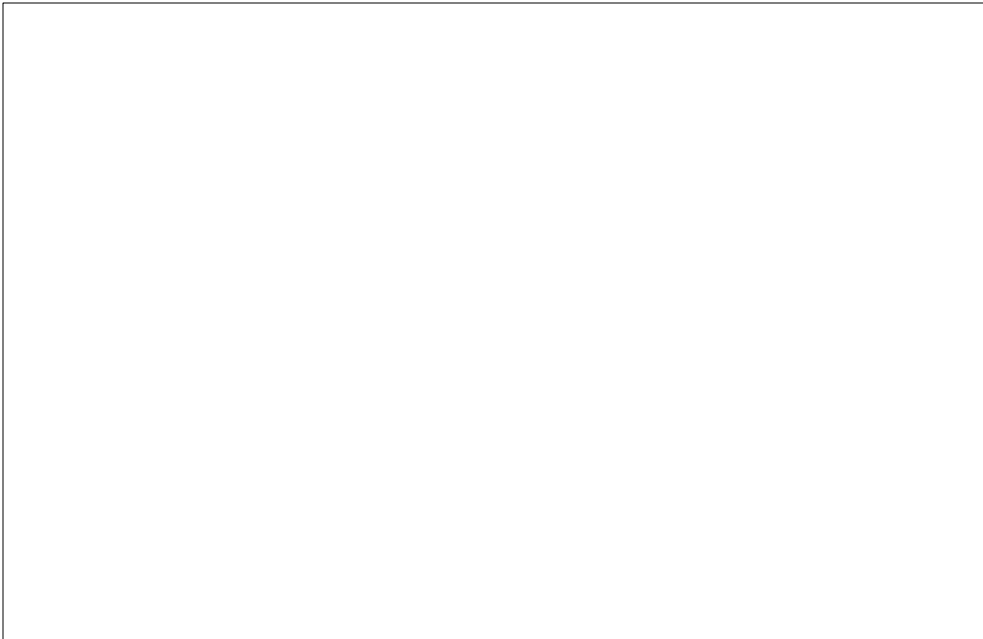
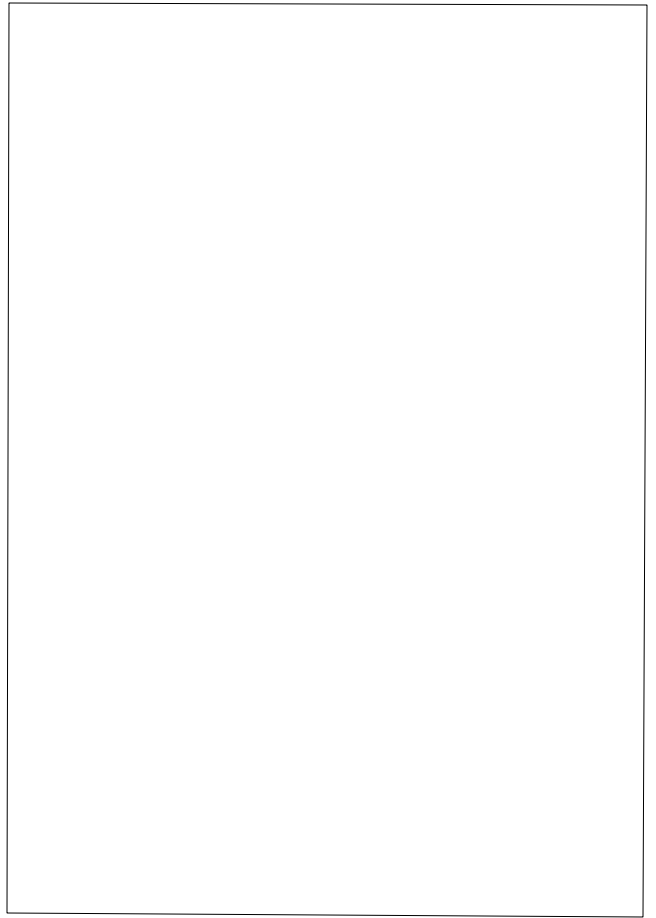
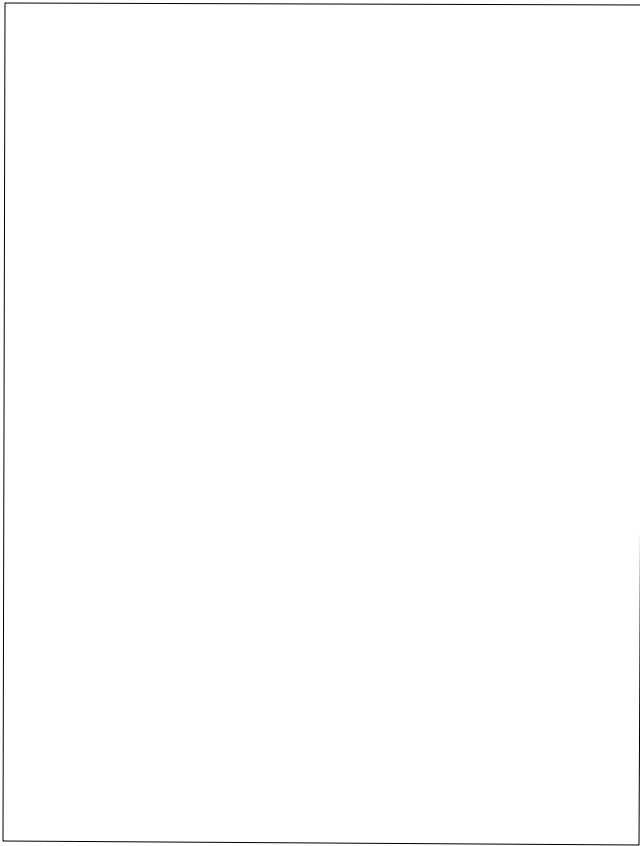
Completion Instructions: During your study of this state, you have learned about many different aspects of the state's history. Inside this booklet, tell what you remember from your study. You may choose to also draw/glue pictures in this booklet. Notice how each page is a little longer than the one before. This creates "tabs" on the bottom of each page. Use this space (bottom of each page) to write the subject of what you will tell about on each page. For example, you may want to label one page "War" or "Constitution" or whatever you choose.

Booklet #2: State Brochure

Assembly Instructions: Cut out each page along the outer black lines. Tri-fold this booklet so that the title is on the front.

Completion Instructions: There are so many wonderful places to visit and facts to know about each state. Pretend that you are creating a travel brochure that would be seen by people who were considering visiting this state. Inside (and on the outside) this booklet, tell about all of the reasons that someone should visit. You may choose to draw and/or glue pictures also.

California
State
History



**Welcome to
California**