

# Illinois State History Lapbook Journal



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

Written & designed by  
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# Illinois State History Lapbook Journal

Thanks for purchasing this product. Please check out our Lapbook Journals for other states. The Lapbook Journals are designed for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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-8<sup>th</sup> 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.

# **Illinois State History Lapbook Journal**

**The following  
pages contain the  
Study Guide**

**Print on white paper.**

# Illinois State History Lapbook Journal Study Guide



The Great Seal of Illinois

The state of Illinois was named after the Illinois River. The river was named by French explorer Robert Cavalier Sieur de La Salle in 1679 after the Indians he found living along the banks.

Illinois is the French spelling for the Illinois and Peoria Indian word "iliniwok," meaning men or warriors and perhaps referring to members of the Illinois tribe.

People who live in or come from Illinois are called Illinoisians, Illinoisans or Illinoisians.



Map of Illinois – Capital, Major Rivers

## STATEHOOD

Before Illinois became a State, it was known as the *Illinois Territory*. In early 1818, the General Assembly of the Illinois Territory sent a petition to the United States Congress asking to be admitted into the Union.

Granting of statehood in 1818 was controversial. The population numbered less than the required 60,000. Moreover, in order to include the Chicago port area, territorial representatives induced the U.S. Congress to draw the Illinois border 51 miles to the north of the original boundary as delimited by the Northwest Ordinance.

On Dec. 3, 1818, Illinois was admitted to the Union as the 21st state.

## STATE CONSTITUTION

The first constitution of the State of Illinois (1818) was compiled mainly with provisions taken from the constitutions of Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana. It was adopted by the delegates to the convention, but never submitted to the people of Illinois. This first constitution put virtually unlimited power in the hands of the Legislature while effectively keeping it away from the people.

In 1847, with an increase in the population, a movement began for calling a convention to "alter, amend, and revise" the constitution of 1818. The resulting constitution of 1848 was an improvement over the previous one, but still proved to be susceptible to abuses that encouraged greed of all kinds, which caused the Legislature to waste much time and attention, to the detriment of the public interest.

The Legislature of 1859 submitted a proposal, to hold a third constitutional convention, to a vote of the people. This proposal was endorsed in the election of 1860 and the convention convened in Springfield on January 7, 1862. According to law, the delegates to the convention were required to take an oath to support the state constitution, before starting the business of the convention. Unfortunately, the majority of the delegates not only refused to do this, but they assumed powers such as the right to interfere with military affairs - powers they did not have. This convention was soon termed a "high rolling convention", to the disgust of the people and their work was brought into disrepute. Once the delegates became aware that the convention was being severely criticized, they began to make a great effort to create a constitution acceptable to the people. The constitution was overwhelmingly defeated in the popular vote and matters left as they were until after the war.

Once the war was over and Reconstruction began, calls again began to be made for changes to the 1848 constitution. This need for constitutional changes was primarily based on the continuing growth in both population and economic complexity of Illinois.

Until 1970, Illinois had five state conventions for the purpose of creating a state constitution. Of these, the 1818, 1847, and 1869-70 conventions adopted constitutions that went into effect, while the proposed constitutions framed by the conventions of 1862 and 1922 were rejected. Illinois government basically remained static from 1870 to 1970. The sixth constitutional convention, in 1970, produced a new constitution which was approved by voters on December 15, 1970.

**PREAMBLE:** *We, the People of the State of Illinois - grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberty which He has permitted us to enjoy and seeking His blessing upon our endeavors - in order to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the people; maintain a representative and orderly government; eliminate poverty and inequality; assure legal, social and economic justice; provide opportunity for the fullest development of the individual; insure domestic tranquility; provide for the common defense; and secure the blessings of freedom and liberty to ourselves and our posterity - do ordain and establish this Constitution for the State of Illinois.*

## **STATE GOVERNMENT**

The Illinois state government is modeled after the federal government and is made up of three separate branches of state government – Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. The three branches share power and jointly govern the state of Illinois. County and local governments are also constitutional bodies with limited authority to levy taxes, pass legislation, and create and maintain local public infrastructure.

The Governor of the State of Illinois is an elected Constitutional officer, the head of the Executive branch, and the highest state office in Illinois. The executive branch is split into several statewide elected offices. The governor is responsible for enacting laws passed by the Illinois General Assembly. The Governor is elected by popular vote every four years, after which he or she must run for re-election. Illinois state governors are not subject to term limits.

The Illinois General Assembly is the Legislative branch of Illinois state government. The General Assembly is responsible for enacting the laws by which the State of Illinois is governed. It is bicameral and consists of the Illinois House of Representatives and the Illinois Senate.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES: Representatives in Illinois each represent people in a specific area of the state. These areas are called house districts. Based on Illinois' current population, there are 118 men and women representing 118 house districts in the Illinois House of Representatives. Each representative serves for a period of two years in the House of Representatives, after which he or she must run for re-election. Illinois state representatives are not subject to term limits.

STATE SENATORS: Senators in Illinois each represent people in a specific area of the state. These areas are called senate districts. There are currently 59 men and women representing 59 senate districts in the Illinois Senate. Each senator serves for a period of four years in the Senate, after which he or she must run for re-election. Illinois state senators are not subject to term limits.

The Judiciary branch is composed of the Supreme Court of Illinois, Illinois Appellate Court and Illinois Circuit Courts. The Supreme Court of Illinois is the highest judicial body in Illinois. The court oversees the lower courts and commissions that jointly make up the Judicial branch.



## 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 Illinois elect 2 people, like every other state, to represent them in the Senate and 19 people, based on Illinois' current population, to represent them in the House of Representatives.

## STATE SEAL

The Great Seal of the State of Illinois features an eagle carrying a shield in its talons. Thirteen stars and thirteen stripes on the shield represent the original thirteen states of the Union. This basic design has survived through several modifications since it was first conceived in 1818, the year that Illinois gained statehood. The date of the state's first constitution, Aug. 26, 1818, appears along the bottom arc of the circle, and 1868, the year of statehood, displays on the seal below 1868.



But what about that banner in the eagle's beak? And why is one of the words on the banner upside down? Here's where we get a hint of some intrigue and controversy...

When the banner first appeared on the seal, it read "State Sovereignty, National Union". But then, in 1867, the Secretary of State Sharon Tyndale decided that some changes should be made to the seal. Under Illinois law, the Secretary of State is the guardian of the seal, but changes need to be authorized by the General Assembly. So the Secretary of State approached Senator Allen Fuller with the idea of changing the seal, and the Senator brought the proposal to the General

Assembly. Now this was all happening at the time when the Civil War and issues of state's rights were still fresh in the nation's mind, and one of the changes that Tyndale had proposed was a change to the wording on that banner in the eagle's beak. The Secretary's proposal was to have the words on the banner read "National Union, State Sovereignty", instead of "State Sovereignty, National Union". The General Assembly disagreed, and decided that the wording should remain unchanged. So, the Secretary went along with the General Assembly's decision and made the minor changes that were agreed upon... almost. Perhaps it was a twinkle in the Secretary of State's eye (or maybe a bit of spite?), but the Secretary made one small change to that banner that still exists today -- the word "Sovereignty", which previously was as readable as any of the words on the banner, ended up being turned upside down on the 1868 seal.

## **STATE CAPITAL (Springfield, Illinois)**



The current Illinois State Capitol building was completed in 1889 and has an architectural style based in the French Renaissance. It is shaped like a Latin cross aligned to the major points of the compass.

It is the tallest non-skyscraper capitol, even taller than the United States Capitol in Washington, DC.

Source: [tripadvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com)

The first capitol building was in Kaskaskia, Illinois. It was a two-story brick building.

The second capitol building was in Vandalia, along the Kaskaskia River. It was the site of three capitol buildings. Vandalia's first capitol was a simple two-story structure, which was destroyed by fire. In 1824, Vandalia's second capitol was built to replace the burnt building for \$15,000. Soon after the third capitol building was built, many Illinoisans began lobbying to move the capital to a more central location in the state. In 1833, the General Assembly responded by passing an act allowing Illinoisans to choose their capital city. This worried the people of Vandalia, who did not want to lose the capital. Therefore, in 1836, without authorization from the General Assembly, the city tore down the third capitol building and replaced it with the fourth, a brick state house costing \$16,000. Despite this, after strong pressure from Abraham Lincoln, the capital was moved to Springfield, Illinois by an 1837 legislative vote.

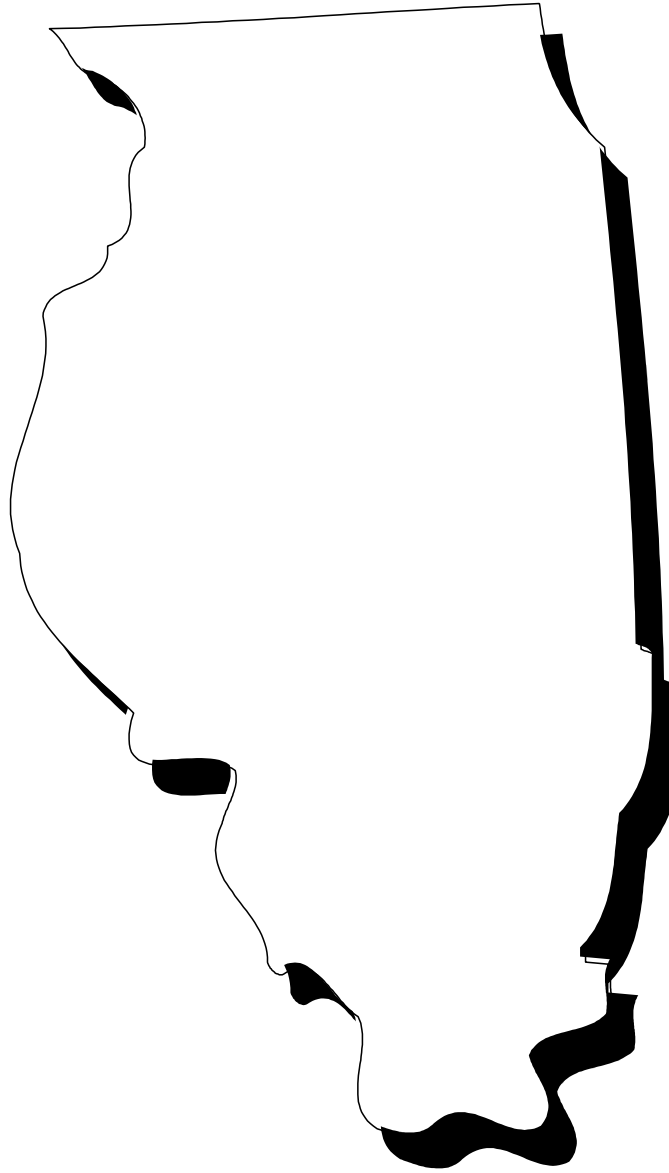
Illinois' fifth capitol building was built in Springfield in 1853 at a cost of \$260,000. As Illinois prospered and its population increased, it became apparent that a much larger Capitol was needed. The crowding which occurred during the Civil War expansion of government demonstrated the old Capitol's inadequacies. An enabling act authorizing a new Capitol building was passed by the Twenty-fifth General Assembly on February 24, 1867. This act resulted in the construction of the sixth and final capitol. Construction was begun in 1868 and took over twenty years to complete at a cost of \$4.5 million.

**Illinois State History  
Lapbook Journal**

**The following  
pages contain the  
Journal Pages**

**Print on white paper.**

# Illinois



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): \_\_\_\_\_

**Illinois**

## State Flag

Draw the state flag above.

### State Flag Information:

When adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

Colors: \_\_\_\_\_

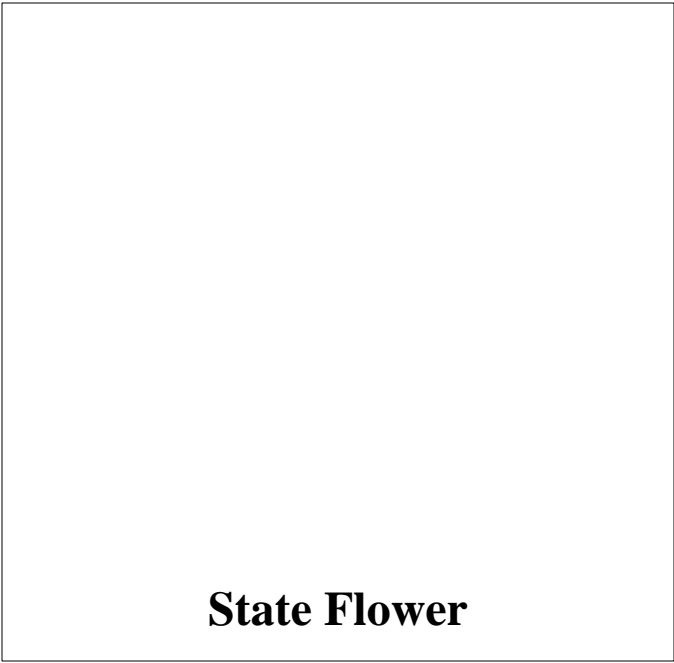
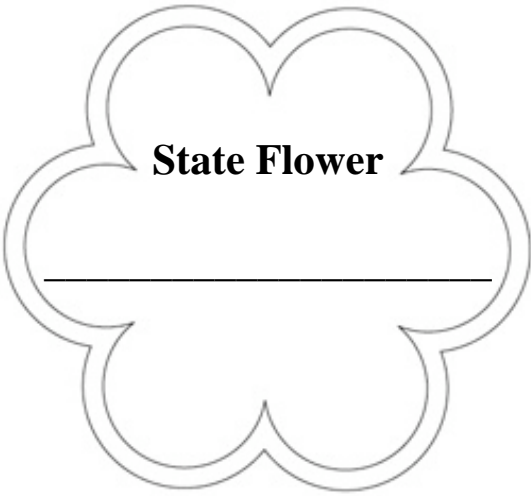
Specific design: \_\_\_\_\_

History: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

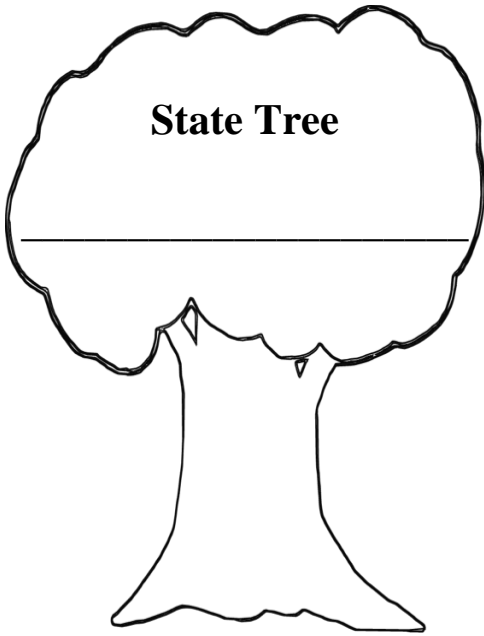
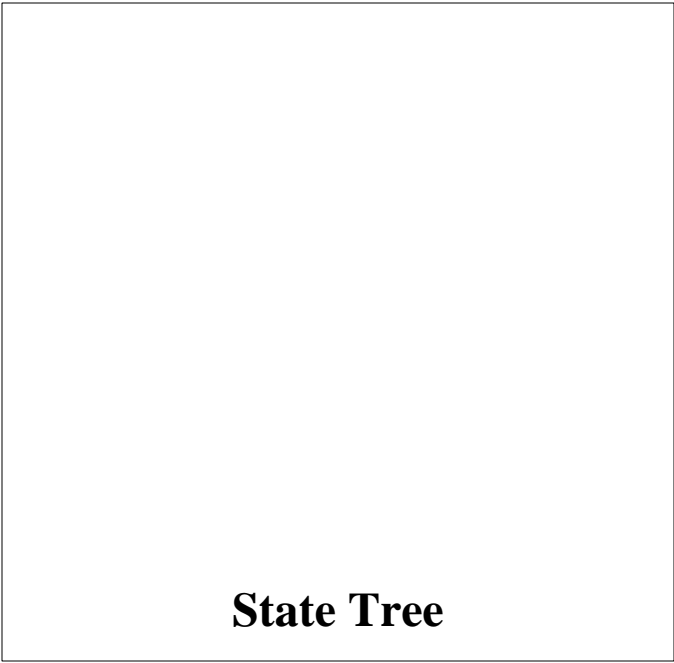
\_\_\_\_\_

# Illinois



Draw the state flower above.

## State Symbols



Draw the state tree above.

# Illinois

**Illinois 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).

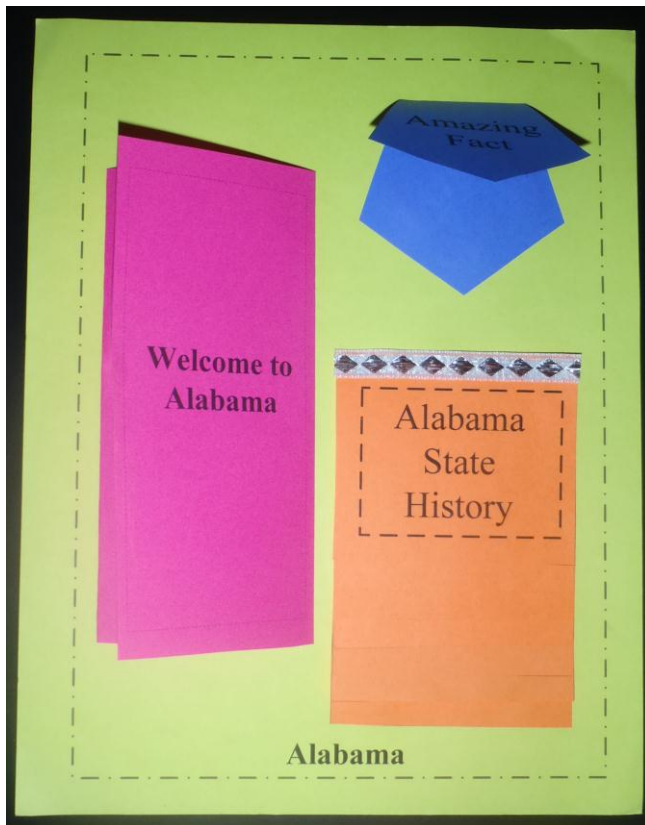
**2. Lapbook Booklet Instructions:** This is where you will find instructions for cutting out, assembling, and completing each booklet.

**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.

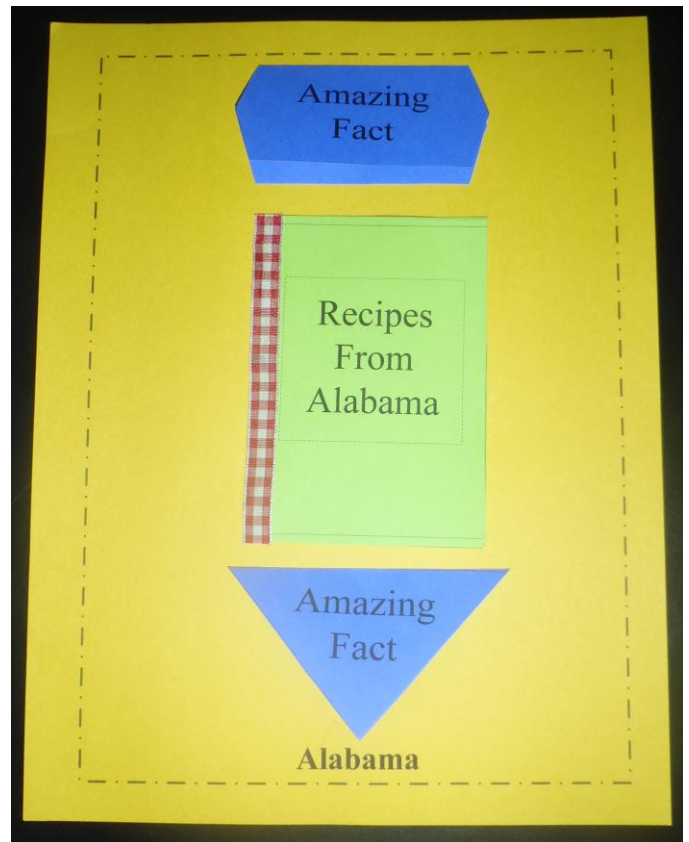
**2. Lapbook Background Pages** – This is where you will glue each of your Lapbook Booklets. We suggest printing this page on white or another light color of cardstock.

# Illinois 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**

# Illinois 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.

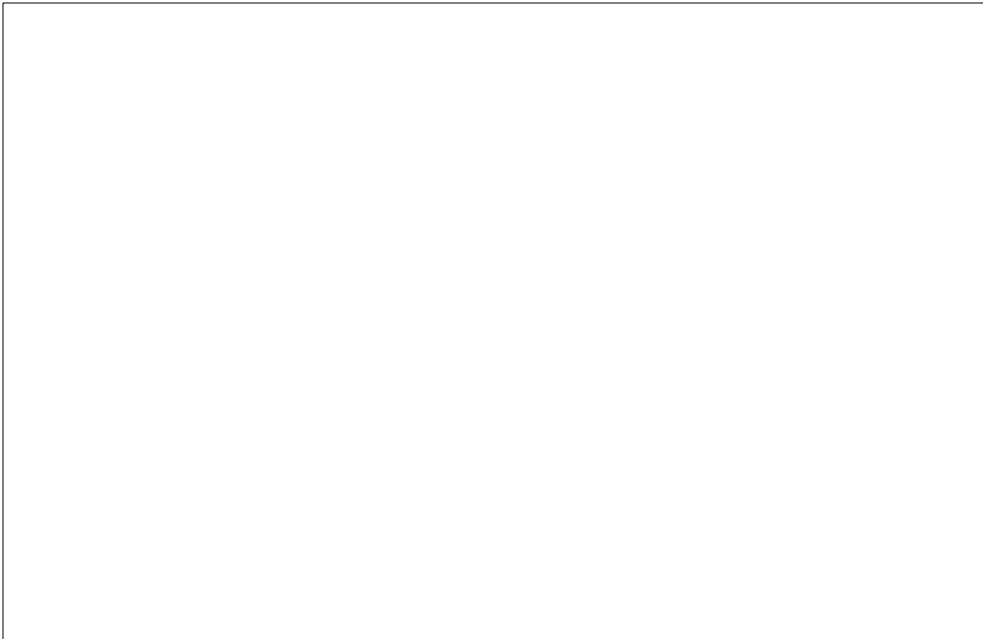
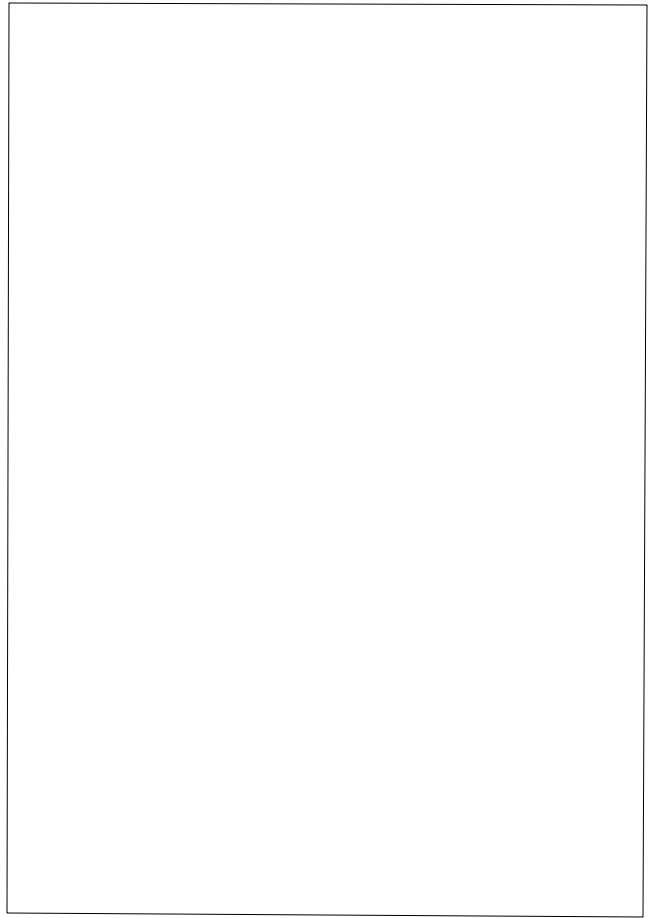
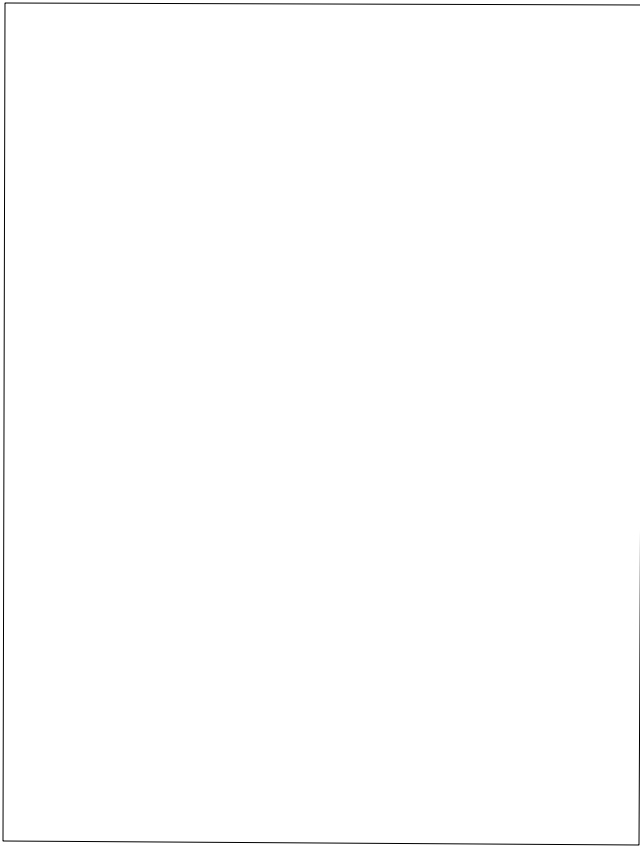
**Completion Instructions:** During your study of this state, you have learned about many different aspects of the state's history. Inside this booklet, tell what you remember from your study. You may choose to also draw/glue pictures in this booklet. Notice how each page is a little longer than the 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.

Illinois  
State  
History



**Welcome to  
Illinois**