

# WELCOME!



On behalf of Splash! Publications, we would like to welcome you to *California Geography*, one of several books in our State History series. Since this curriculum was designed by teachers, we are positive that you will find it to be the most comprehensive program you have ever utilized to teach students about the California's geography. We would like to take a few moments to familiarize you with the program.

## THE FORMAT

*California Geography* is an eight lesson program that takes students on a journey through the five regions of the United States before bringing them home to California's regions, California's water resources, and California's points of interest. Our goal is a curriculum that you can use the very first day you purchase our materials. No lessons to plan, comprehension questions to write, activities to create, or vocabulary words to define. Simply open the book and start teaching.

Each of the eight lessons requires students to complete vocabulary cards, read about a geography topic, and complete a Reading comprehension activity that will expose them to various standardized test formats. In addition, each lesson includes a balanced mix of lower and higher level activities for students to complete. Vocabulary quizzes, thought provoking discussion questions, mapping activities utilizing cardinal and intermediate directions, latitude longitude, grid systems, and number coordinates, creating color-coded maps, and designing a travel brochure are the types of activities that will guide students through their journey of *California Geography*.

## THE LESSON PLANS

On the next several pages, you will find the Lesson Plans for *California Geography*. The Lesson Plans clearly outline what students must do before, during, and after each lesson. Page numbers are listed so that you will immediately know what you need to photocopy before beginning each lesson. The answers to all activities, quizzes, and comprehension questions can be found on pages 93-101.

## THE VOCABULARY

Each lesson features words in bold type. We have included a Glossary on pages 88-92 to help students pronounce and define the words. Unlike a dictionary, the definitions in the Glossary are concise and written in context. Remember, we're teachers! Students will be exposed to these vocabulary words in the comprehension activities. They will also be tested on the vocabulary words four times throughout their study of *California Geography*.

Students will be responsible for filling out and studying the vocabulary cards. You may want to have students bring in a small box for storing their vocabulary cards. We don't have to tell you that incorporating these words into your Reading and Spelling programs will save time and make the words more meaningful for students.

# CALIFORNIA'S SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

*California Geography* was designed to align with California's current State Standards for Social Studies. These standards serve as a framework for California Social Studies curricula by providing student performance expectations in the areas of History and Social Sciences. On pages viii-ix, you will find quick reference charts listing the History and Social Sciences standards and the lessons and activities in *California Geography* that correlate with these standards.

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# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



## 1. Before reading the Northeast Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *borders, capital, capitol, coastal, colonists, constitution, economy, exhibits, factories, granite, Great Britain, historians, independence, invented, manufacturing, Pilgrims, preserve, refuge, regions, resort, resources, Revolutionary War, wilderness.* (pg. 1)

After reading the Northeast Region (pps. 2-3), students will:

- answer the Northeast Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 4)
- complete Northeast Regions discussion questions. (pg. 5)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot points of interest on a New England states map. (pps. 6-9)
- use latitude/longitude to plot points of interest on a Middle Atlantic states map. (pps. 12-33)

## 2. Before reading the Middle West Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *aviation, canals, minerals, petroglyphs.* (pg. 1)

After reading the Middle West Region (pps. 15-16), students will:

- answer the Middle West Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 17)
- complete discussion questions for the Middle West Region. (pg. 18)
- use number/letter pairs to plot historic sites on a Great Lakes states map. (pps. 19-21)
- use a grid system to locate state parks on a Great Plains states map. (pps. 22-24)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for California Geography Part I. (pps. 25-26)

# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



3. Before reading the Southeast Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *Civil War, climate, destructive, industries, limestone, military, prehistoric, profitable, straits, tourism, variety, vertical*. (pg. 1)

After reading the Southeast Region (pps. 27-28), students will:

- answer the Southeast Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 29)
- complete discussion questions for the Southeast Region. (pg. 30)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot points of interest on a Southeast states map. (pps. 31-34)

4. Before reading the Southwest Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *annual, arid, endangered, founders, gorge, humid, inhabited, livestock, nuclear, precipitation, pueblo, sagebrush, species*. (pg. 1)

After reading the Southwest Region (pps. 35-36), students will:

- answer the Southwest Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 37)
- complete discussion questions for the Southwest Region. (pg. 38)
- use latitude/longitude to plot points of interest on a Southwest states map. (pps. 39-43)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for California Geography Part II. (pps. 44-45)

5. Before reading the West Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *completion, culture, dwellings, erupt, extends, fertile, formations, fossil, geysers, glacier, inlet, islands, mammals, mountainous, reptiles, saloons, theory, transcontinental, treaty, unique, volcanic, weary*. (pg. 1)

After reading the West Region (pps. 46-47), students will:

- answer the West Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 48)
- complete discussion questions for the West Region. (pg. 49)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot points of interest on a Mountain states map. (pps. 50-54)
- use number coordinates to plot national parks and monuments on a Pacific states map. (pps. 55-57)

# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



6. Before reading California's Regions, students will:
- complete Vocabulary Cards for *aqueducts, coastal, current, elevations, irrigation, North America, peaks, pesticides, plateau, sediment, wetlands, yucca*. (pg. 1)

After reading California's Regions (pps. 58-61), students will:

- answer California's Regions Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 62)
- label each of California's four regions on a California map. (pg. 63)
- identify and describe each of California's four regions. (pg. 64)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for California Geography Part III. (pps. 65-66)

7. Before reading California's Water Resources, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *bay, delta, harbors, potash, recreation, reservoir, species, tributaries*. (pg. 1)

After reading California's Water Resources (pps. 67-69), students will:

- answer California's Water Resources Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 70)
- label California's water resources on California maps. (pps. 71-73)

8. Before reading California's Points of Interest, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *alpine, aviary, bluffs, boundaries, buttes, circumference, citizens, Civil War, construction, continental, descendants, endangered, erosion, European, explorations, extinct, geologic, habitats, immigrants, kayaking, landmark, migrating, monuments, pioneers, quarry, souvenirs, terrain, western hemisphere, World War II*. (pg. 1)

After reading California's Points of Interest (pps. 74-82), students will:

- answer California's Points of Interest Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 83)
- follow written directions to design a California Travel Brochure. (pps. 84-85)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for California Geography Part IV. (pps. 86-87)

