



On behalf of Splash! Publications, we would like to welcome you to one of several books in our U.S. Regions Series: *The Mountain States*. 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 Mountain states. We would like to take a few moments to familiarize you with the program.

THE FORMAT

The Mountain States is a six lesson program covering each of the Mountain states. 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 six lessons requires students to complete vocabulary cards, read about one of the Mountain states, and complete a two-part Reading and Language 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 and state capital quizzes, coordinate mapping, cardinal and intermediate direction mapping, grid math, writing activities utilizing graphic organizers, and using scale measurement are the types of activities that will guide students on their journey through *The Mountain States*.

THE LESSON PLANS

On the next several pages, you will find the Lesson Plans for *The Mountain States*. 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 are located on pages 95-100.

THE VOCABULARY

Each lesson features words in bold type. We have included a Glossary on pages 89-94 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 Reading and Language comprehension activities. They will also be tested on the vocabulary words five times throughout their study of *The Mountain States*. 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.

THE NATIONAL SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

The Mountain States was designed to align with the National Standards for Social Studies. These standards serve as a framework for Social Studies curricula by providing student performance expectations across ten thematic strands. On page viii, you will find a quick reference chart illustrating the ten strands and the activities from *The Mountain States* that correlate with these themes.



THE AUDIO CDs

The Mountain States includes two Audio CDs. They can be found in the CD sleeves in the back of this book. Each of the five lessons has been professionally recorded word-for-word. Learning about history involves a tremendous amount of reading and we hope that having the curriculum in audio format will help facilitate this process.

THE COPYRIGHT

First Edition, 2010

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Illustrations and cover design by Victoria J. Smith

ISBN 978-1-935255-25-3

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LESSONS *at a* GLANCE

1. Before reading Colorado, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *abandoned, adobe, archaeologists, artifacts, bison, capital, capitol, captive, cavalry, centennial, Civil War, colonies, convinced, cultural, culture, defeated, defend, depleted, descendants, disputes, drought, dunes, dwellings, elevation, eroded, federal, fossilized, founded, Gadsden Purchase, geologists, gorge, habitats, historians, ignored, independence, investigate, keelboats, livestock, Mexican War, military, monuments, motto, nomadic, North America, pioneers, plains, prairie, prehistoric, preserves, providence, quarries, raiding, reservation, sea level, species, summit, surrendered, suspension bridge, treaty, yucca.* (pg. 1)

After reading Colorado (pps. 2-9), students will:

- answer Colorado Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 10)
- complete Colorado Language Skills Exercise. (pg. 11)
- fill in Colorado and its state capital on the Mountain States Study Guide. (pg. 12)
- use number coordinates to plot Colorado's points of interest on a map. (pps. 13-15)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Mountain States Part I. (pps. 16-17)

2. Before reading Idaho, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *barley, blacksmith, border, Congress, craters, economy, erupted, expedition, extinct, fertile, flint, fossils, geysers, glacier, gristmill, inhabitants, irrigate, lava, mammal, mammoths, mission, missionaries, publish, reduced, reptiles, steamboat, syringe, unique, veto, western hemisphere.* (pg. 1)

After reading Idaho (pps. 18-23), students will:

- answer Idaho Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 24)
- complete Idaho Language Skills Exercise. (pg. 25)
- fill in Idaho and its state capital on the Mountain States Study Guide. (pg. 12)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot national points of interest on a Mountain States map. (pps. 26-30)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Mountain States Part II. (pps. 31-32)



LESSONS *at a* GLANCE

3. Before reading Montana, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *addicted, allies, ammunition, climate, criminals, elected, financial, harsh, interpreter, minerals, outnumbered, pelts, rumors, saloons, theory, tourist, trespassers, ventured, violated*. (pg. 1)

After reading Montana (pps. 33-39), students will:

- answer Montana Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 40)
- complete Montana Language Skills Exercise. (pg. 41)
- fill in Montana and its state capital on the Mountain States Study Guide. (pg. 12)
- read about Famous People: Mountain Men. (pg. 42)
- use a graphic organizer to write a Mountain Man story. (pps. 43-44)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Mountain States Part III. (pps. 45-46)

4. Before reading Nevada, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *alpine, ambushed, arid, constitution, debts, desolate, diameter, disrupted, domesticated, enforcing, inland, Mormons, mountainous, Pony Express, prospectors, pyramid, rejected, republic, revenge, revolt, sagebrush, Texas Revolution, urged*. (pg. 1)

After reading Nevada (pps. 47-53), students will:

- answer Nevada Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 54)
- complete Nevada Language Skills Exercise. (pg. 55)
- fill in Nevada and its state capital on the Mountain States Study Guide. (pg. 12)
- use letter pairs to complete Nevada Grid Math. (pps. 56-58)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Mountain States Part IV. (pps. 59-60)



LESSONS *at a* GLANCE

5. Before reading Utah, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *canals, completion, denied, factories, ice age, immigrants, industries, migrated militia, nationalities, persecuted, petitioned, profitable, restore, sawmills, secure, tanneries, transcontinental*. (pg. 1)

After reading Utah (pps. 61-66), students will:

- answer Utah Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 67)
- complete Utah Language Skills Exercise. (pg. 68)
- fill in Utah and its state capital on the Mountain States Study Guide. (pg. 12)
- use a scale ruler to measure the distance traveled by the railroads in the Mountain states. (pps. 69-71)
- put a puzzle together showing the route traveled by the railroads through the Mountain states. (pg. 72)

6. Before reading Wyoming, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *appointed, dedicated, equality, Europeans, extend, manufacturing, participants, pastures, timber*. (pg. 1)

After reading Wyoming (pps. 73-79), students will:

- answer Wyoming Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 80)
- complete Wyoming Language Skills Exercise. (pg. 81)
- fill in Wyoming and its state capital on the Mountain States Study Guide. (pg. 12)
- create a map and use a scale ruler to measure the distance traveled from home to the video store. (pps. 82-85)
- take a states and capitals quiz for the Mountain states. (pg. 86)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Mountain States Part V. (pps. 87-88)

