



## Bridgeway Island Elementary

### Fifth Grade State Reports (Total 275 points)

There are four sections to this SOCIAL STUDIES STATE project:

1. **ABC book of state** (researched facts) - worth 150 pts. See 2<sup>nd</sup> page for more information.
2. **Visual Presentation [Poster Board or Tri Fold]** - Worth 50 pts.
3. **Living History Oral Presentation [on their assigned state]** – dressed in ‘old west’ or famous historian attire and delivers a one(1)minute speech on state. **Worth 50 pts.**
4. **“State Fair” day**- bring in a food that is produced in your state to share with your classmates. (Example apple pie from Washington State apples)- **Worth 25 pts**

This year-long project is designed to introduce students to both research and computer skills, in the process of learning about our United States. This assignment culminates with a representation of their individually assigned states through a “book”. This book is an alphabet book and each letter represents a different area of research. Although pictures are essential in this project, we are looking for the students to be able to research the various topics and be able to write a **brief explanation (1-2 paragraphs) of their findings**. We are strongly encouraging that each page be typed and formatted on the computer and would like for the final book to be presented in a 3-Ring Binder Notebook with a clear top (to be used for the book cover design). Many students like to put each page in a clear sheet protector and we have found this to be a great way of displaying and ultimately saving them.

**This is not a copy and paste only project! It is a project designed for the students to learn how to research and put together their research in an informational text.**

The ABC books should reflect the year-long research for their state. The book must have a cover page, a title page, a table of contents, and a bibliography. Each letter should have its own page and each page should be numbered.

State Book and Poster Due Date: **May 8, 2015 (No Late Work Accepted!)**

#### **State Fair scheduled for May 13, 2015**

1. Students will have minimum time to work on it during school, therefore a significant amount of the research needs to be completed at home, and throughout the rest of the school year.
2. **NEATNESS and Creativity matter!**
3. **No Late Work** will be accepted. As students have ample time to complete it, we will not be flexible on this.
4. The food section of the project will be shared during the State Fair. For example- if the student state is Florida, they might bring Key Lime pie cut into bite sizes or oranges to share. **If the food needs serving items, please send them in. We will not be able to supply necessities, due to the large number of students involved.** Please keep in mind that we cannot cook food in the classroom, the food needs to be prepared in advance.

**ABC Research book: Please read each item carefully.**

The letters of the alphabet and their topics are as follows:

- A- Animals that reside in the state's environment. This is not just the state animal, but address the environment and the ecosystem these animals reside in.
- B- The State Bird.
- C- Various Crops that are grown in the state's agricultural system. Explain why these particular crops are grown in this state.
- D- Drawing of the State's flag.
- E- Education in the state. (Range of research should be universities in state; the number of universities/colleges in state; any of them particularly well-known; the educational costs per student, , graduation rates, etc.)
- F- Famous people (plural) from the state; who they are and *what they did*. You must have more than one.
- G- Current Governor and state capital, with information and details. Just a picture not allowed.
- H- History of the state and any important historical events that occurred there. Research the history!
- I- Indian tribes from the state, with details on their history there.
- J- Jobs- Each state has jobs for their state/area. What are the main means of employment for their residents? (This is good when done with a graph). This is not asking for the kind of jobs that are found everywhere (teachers, doctors, nurses, waiters, etc.) Do not research a 'help wanted' ad, but research employment. Is there an industry that is predominant in that state?
- K- Kinds of food from that part of our country- what foods is your state (states region) famous for? Why?
- L- Landmarks- ex. Rocky Mountains, Grand Canyon, Mississippi River, Birthplace of ..., etc. Explain location and details about them.
- M- State Motto- What is it and what does it mean? Why is it their motto? When?
- N- Natural Resources in that region (Resources are materials taken from the earth.)
- O- Origin of state (How did the state begin, and how did it get its name?)
- P- Population- look on census website for most recent population statistics. Show some of the growth or decline in population. What are some of the various ethnic groups that reside in the state? Create graphs for the different groups of data.
- Q- Quantity- how many counties does your state have? (**This is a Political Map**)
- R- Rivers and major lakes- Find some of the major lakes and rivers and how they impact the economy of the state.
- S- State flower and state song (with details on the flower, why it is the state flower, and details about the song; who wrote it, the words, etc. )
- T- State Tree and details.
- U- Unusual facts- really strange laws or things that you found out about your state
- V- Vacation spots- This is your Travel Brochure!!!! (Done during a Language Arts Unit. **SAVE IT!**)
- W- Weather and climate (Should indicate year round weather, extreme conditions? seasons, How does climate affect lifestyles, tourism, jobs, etc.?)
- X- eXciting or most interesting facts (tell the most exciting or interesting facts that you learned about your state. What did you find most interesting in this report? At least a paragraph about what you learned )
- Y- Year of statehood (the year and the details of how this occurred)
- Z- Time ZONE of the state. (A map of time zones with their state highlighted is acceptable.)

**Each letter is one page and each page must be numbered.**

The following websites have been used throughout the years as a tool for research. Although we have been on the sites, we cannot assume responsibility for their content, or whether or not they have been closed recently. Please check them out before using.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/>

<http://www.classbrain.com/artstate/publish/>

[http://www.classbrain.com/cb\\_sr/cb\\_sr\\_studyaids/cb\\_biblioformat.htm](http://www.classbrain.com/cb_sr/cb_sr_studyaids/cb_biblioformat.htm)

<http://www.kids.gov/>

<http://www.50states.com/>

<http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace/browse/usa1000/>

<http://www.teacheroz.com/states.htm>

<http://www.factmonster.com/states.html>

We may also suggest that you look into each states tourism department sites. These are great resources.

(Although this is a fun project for you to oversee with your child, we are asking that this be their research, their learning, their work. Thank you.)