

Introduction

Exploring the United States: Timelines, Critical Thinking, and Map Work Volume 5 explores the states of Montana, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Alaska, and Hawaii. It's ideal for 9th-12th grade. A short introduction to each state is provided along with 20 facts that the students must arrange in a timeline. Five critical thinking questions are also included for each state, challenging the students to do independent research and form their own conclusions regarding important issues and events in the state's past as well as current events.

Each state's map work includes an outline of the state on which students can draw the location of major cities, bodies of water, mountains, and bordering states or bodies of water. The location of these places does not need to be exact; the exercise is meant to help students become familiar with the approximate location of the places and their relation to each other.

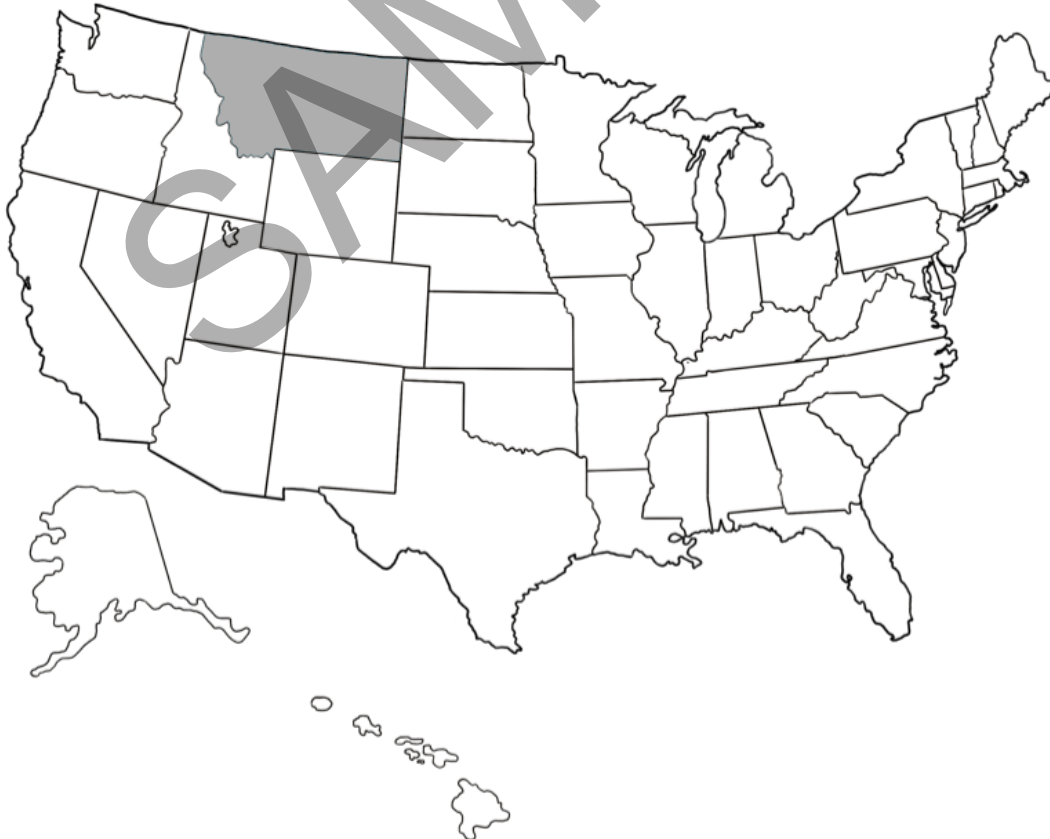
Each book concludes with 10 additional state chronology projects that combines timeline information for all 10 states covered in the unit.

Get ready for a deeper look at the history of ten of our United States!

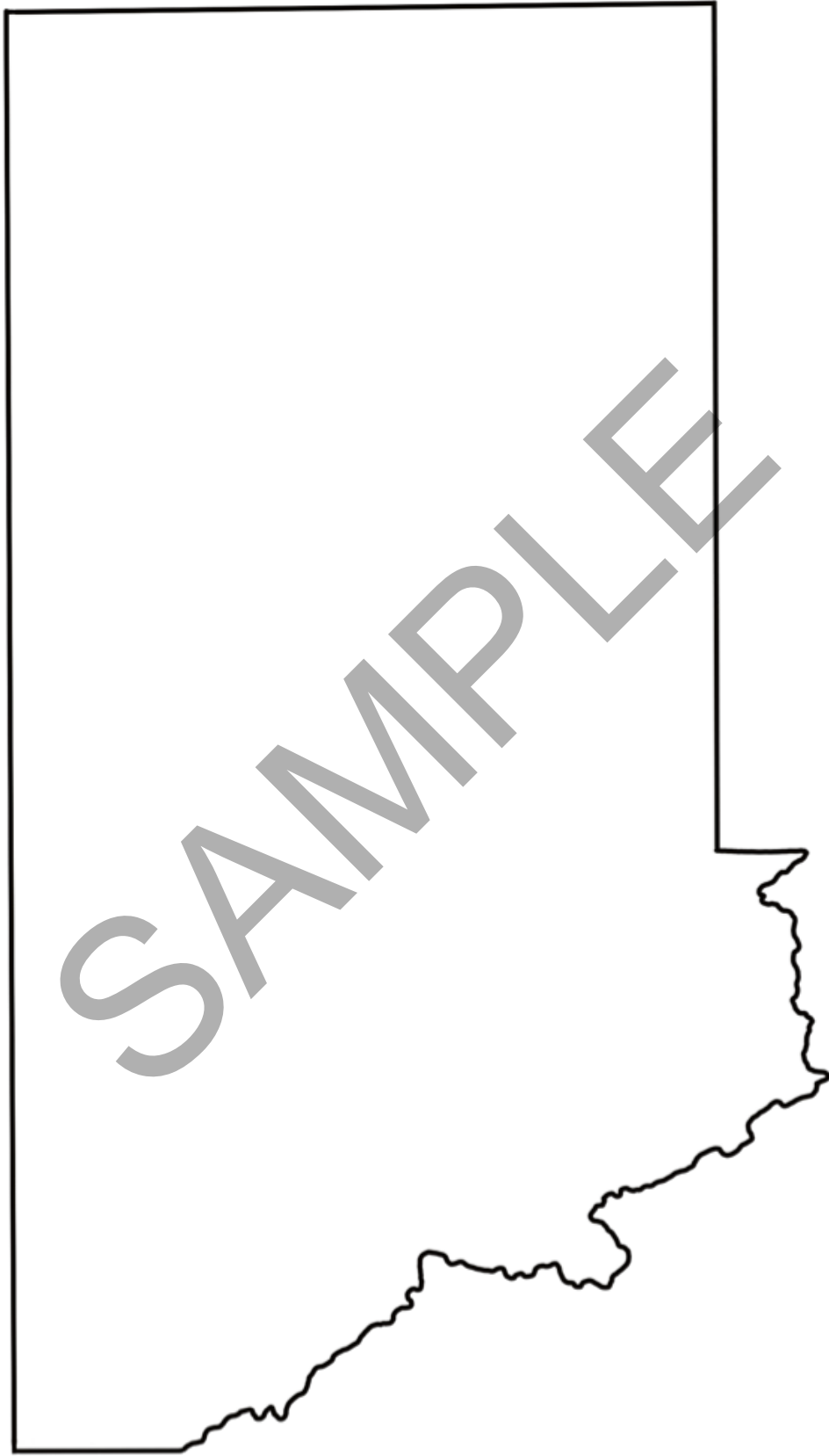
November 8, 1889 Montana Becomes a State

Montana is the fourth-largest state in the Union. The Continental Divide, the point that separates rivers that flow to the east from those that flow to the west, goes through Montana. At times throughout its history, parts of Montana were in the Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and finally the Montana territories. Montana has been known by many nicknames. Today it is often referred to as "The Big Sky Country." In the past, it has been known as the "Land of Shining Mountains" because of the sun shining off the mountains covered in snow, and as the "Treasure State," because of the gold and silver that were found in the mountains. Some claim it is common still today to find gold dust in the dirt in some areas when a basement is dug for new construction. Some famous people from Montana include Coby Karl, Jeannette Rankin, John Gibbons, Tommy Moe, Gary Cooper, Ed Bearss, and Chet Huntley.

Look at the map of Montana on the next page. Add the capital of Montana to the map. Locate the cities of Billings, Missoula, Great Falls, Bozeman, Butte, and Kalispell, and add them to the map. Next, add the Rocky Mountains, Bears Paw Mountains, Big Snowy Mountains, Granite Peak, Mount Wood, Castle Rock Mountain, Mount Peal, and Glacier Peak. Also, locate the Missouri River, St. Mary's River, Waterton River, Jefferson River, Gallatin River, Earthquake Lake, Flathead Lake, Fort Peck Lake, and Canyon Ferry Lake, and add them. Lastly, label the states, provinces, or bodies of water that border Montana.



Montana



Timeline of Montana History

Use the facts on the following page to complete the timeline.

1805

1847

1862

1864

1866

1876

1883

1884

1889

1894

1903

1910

1911

1933

1951

1954

1955

1959

1967

2000

1. The cattle industry gets a boost when one thousand longhorn cattle are driven from Texas to Montana
2. Oil wells in the new Montana oil fields begin pumping
3. A vein of molybdenite, a rare mineral used to harden steel, is found near Dillon
4. Montana is admitted as the forty-first state in the Union
5. Work begins on the Libby Dam hydroelectric project on the Kootenai River
6. The American Fur Company builds Fort Benton on the Missouri River
7. Aviator Cromwell Dixon crosses the main range of the Rocky Mountains for the first time in history in a Curtiss biplane
8. Montana becomes a territory
9. Montana first asks to be considered for statehood
10. The first female governor in Montana is elected
11. Prospectors find gold in southwestern Montana
12. The United States Congress creates Glacier National Park
13. The Anaconda Aluminum Company opens a plant in northwestern Montana
14. The battle known as "Custer's Last Stand" is fought in southeastern Montana
15. Former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt speaks at the Helena Civic Center concerning her hope for world peace and the importance of the United Nations
16. Lewis and Clark and their expedition cross the area that is present-day Montana on their way to the Pacific Coast
17. The Santa Rita oil pipeline begins carrying the majority of the oil from the Cut Bank oil field to the train rails near Cut Bank
18. The first African American newspaper in Montana is published
19. An earthquake in southwest Montana causes a landslide that forms what is known as Earthquake Lake when it blocks the Madison River
20. The Northern Pacific Railroad drives the last spike of the line at Independence Creek

