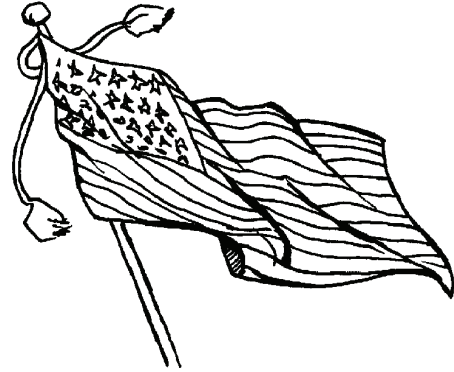


PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



On September 8, 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance first appeared in a magazine for young people called *Youth's Companion*. It was written by Francis Bellamy, an associate editor.

Bellamy wrote the pledge because President Benjamin Harrison wanted patriotic lessons in schools. This was to mark the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus in 1492.

President Harrison believed in showing respect for the American flag. It was Harrison who ordered the flag to fly over the White House and other government buildings.

People who read Bellamy's pledge thought it was so good that it was sent to schools throughout the country.

Each day, millions of American students pledge allegiance to the flag. With hands on their hearts, the students face the American flag and repeat these words:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Not only should Americans be able to say the pledge, but they should know what it means. The word *pledge* means "to promise to do something." The word *allegiance* means "to be loyal." So, when Americans say the Pledge of Allegiance, they are promising to be loyal to their country.

Name _____

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the box.

Harrison	promise	fair	liberty
magazine	students	schools	loyal
Pledge	hearts	flag	
Bellamy	patriotic	400th	

The _____ of Allegiance first appeared in a _____ on September 8, 1892. It was written by Francis _____. He wrote the Pledge because President _____ wanted _____ lessons in _____. This was to mark the _____ anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America.

The Pledge of Allegiance is a _____ to be _____ to the United States. It states that all its people have _____ and will receive _____ treatment according to the laws.

Today, millions of American _____ pledge their allegiance to the _____. With hands over their _____, they say the words of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Research: Find the word *anniversary* in a dictionary. Write its definition.

CALIFORNIA



On September 9, 1850, California became the 31st state to join the union.

Because of California's beautiful scenery and fine weather, it has more people than any other state.

California is number one in population. It is number three in size. Only the states of Alaska and Texas are larger.

California is a Pacific Coast state. It has the Pacific Ocean to the west, Oregon to the north, Nevada to the east, and Arizona to the southeast.

The capital of the state is Sacramento, which is about 85 miles northeast of San Francisco. It was near Sacramento that gold was discovered in 1849, on land that belonged to John Sutter.

Los Angeles is the largest city in California. It is the second largest

city in the United States, behind New York City.

San Francisco and San Diego are two other cities in California that are well known.

About 12 million people visit Disneyland in Anaheim, California, each year.

Another tourist attraction in California is Hollywood. It is the motion-picture capital of the world.

Two of the largest industries are fruit growing and fishing. Southern California is also an important aircraft assembly center in the United States. Due to the fine climate, aircraft testing is done year-round.

Beautiful scenery and fine weather have made California a great place to live. It is also a great place to visit.

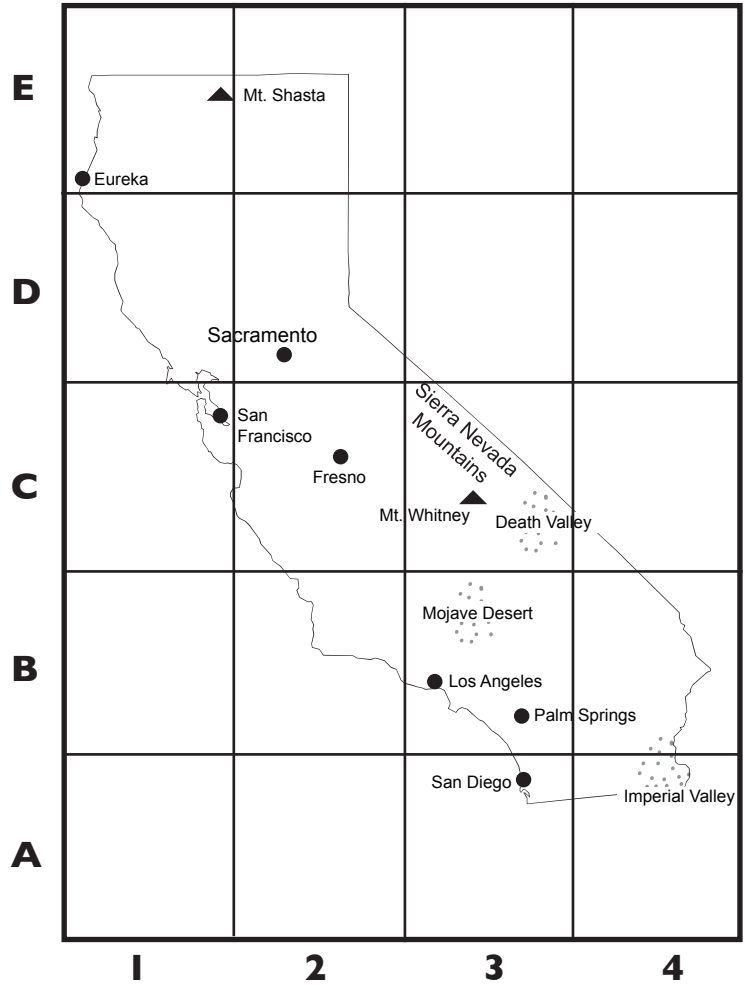
Name _____

CALIFORNIA

This map of California is drawn on a grid. Locate each place using the grid. Write the location on the line

Example: Fresno C2

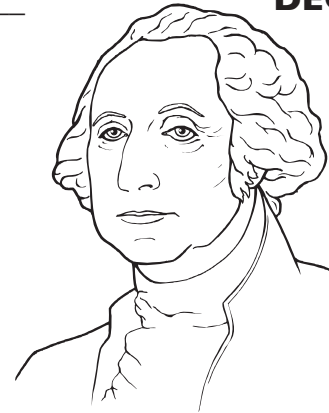
1. Imperial Valley _____
2. Death Valley _____
3. Mojave Desert _____
4. Mt. Shasta _____
5. Mt. Whitney _____
6. San Francisco _____
7. Los Angeles _____
8. Eureka _____
9. Sacramento _____
10. San Diego _____



1. When did California become a state? _____
2. Where in the U.S. is it located? _____
3. Name two things that attract tourists to California.

Research: Read more about *California* in an encyclopedia. What is its nickname?

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL



On December 4, 1783, General George Washington said farewell to his officers in a tavern in New York City, New York.

Washington felt that his job as general was complete. He had led the 13 colonies to victory over one of the most powerful countries in the world.

On November 25, 1783, Washington led his soldiers into New York City as the last of the British soldiers left for England. About a week later, the General said goodbye to his officers.

The meeting with his officers was a very emotional one. Washington asked that each officer "...come and take me by the hand." General Washington wept as he embraced his men.

At the meeting, the officers knew that they were saying goodbye to a man who had done a great deal for the newly founded country.

Washington had aged during the war for the independence of America. He was 51 years old. He was now wearing glasses. He told his officers, "I have grown gray in your service and now find myself growing blind."

Washington left New York and traveled to Philadelphia before arriving in Annapolis, Maryland. It was in Annapolis, where Congress was meeting, that Washington resigned as Commander in Chief.

After leaving Maryland, Washington arrived at his home in Mount Vernon, Virginia, in time for Christmas. He had hoped to retire to Mount Vernon. He wanted to enjoy the company of his wife, to look after his plantation, and to do the things he enjoyed most.

Washington's dreams were short-lived. Six years later, General Washington became President Washington, the first President of the United States of America.

Name _____

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL

Write the statements so that they are true.

1. Washington said his farewell in a Philadelphia tavern.

2. George Washington became the first President of the southern states.

3. Washington arrived home just in time for Thanksgiving.

4. He hoped to retire to his home in Mount Pleasant.

5. On November 25, 1783, Washington led his soldiers into Baltimore.

6. It was in Washington, D.C., where Congress was meeting, that the General resigned.

7. The General hoped to retire so that he could enjoy the company of his family.

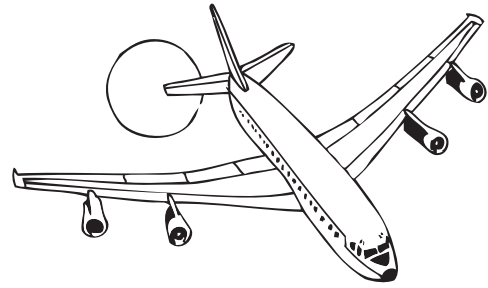
8. The meeting with his officers was a very happy one.

9. Washington was now wearing a hearing aid.

10. Washington, now 61 years old, resigned as Commander in Chief.

Research: Find *George Washington* in an encyclopedia. Where was he born?

THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE



On December 5, 1945, five U.S. Navy airplanes disappeared over the Atlantic Ocean. The area where the planes vanished is called the Bermuda Triangle. It is also called the Devil's Triangle. It is located in the Atlantic Ocean off the southeastern coast of Florida.

The missing planes were not the only objects to disappear in this area. Since 1854, more than 50 ships and planes have vanished in or near the Triangle.

On that December day, five Navy planes took off from Florida. The pilots of Flight 19 were on a regular training flight. As they flew into the Triangle, everything seemed fine. At about 3:15 p.m., a strange message was heard. "Calling tower. This is an emergency. We seem to be off course. We cannot see land. Repeat. We cannot see land."

The tower asked for Flight 19's position, and the pilot reported

that they seemed to be 200 miles northeast of Miami, Florida. That was the last message received from Flight 19.

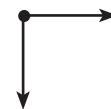
Immediately after the last message, the Navy sent out a rescue plane with 13 men aboard. The only message the rescue plane reported was that there were strong winds in the area. That was the last message received from the rescue plane. It also disappeared.

Now there were six planes lost in the Bermuda Triangle. After the rescue plane failed to return, the Navy sent out 250 planes and boats to search the area. They searched for 5 days, but found no clues to the disappearance of 27 men and 6 planes. It appeared as though the ocean had swallowed up any clues that might have helped to solve the mystery of the missing planes.

THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE

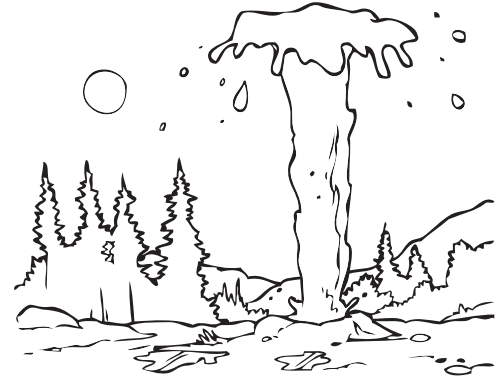
Fill in the blanks. Then find your answers in the word search.

1. The planes disappeared in the area called the _____.
2. The five navy planes disappeared in the month of _____.
3. The area is also called the _____ Triangle.
4. The Bermuda Triangle is located in the _____ Ocean.
5. The navy planes took off from the state of _____.
6. The pilot said they seemed to be 200 miles northeast of _____, Florida.
7. When the pilot called the tower, he said, "This is an _____."
8. Since 1854, more than 50 ships and planes have _____ in or near the Triangle.



Research: Find *Bermuda Triangle* in an encyclopedia or atlas. Draw a picture of it. Make sure to label the states or countries that form its borders.

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



National parks are large areas of scenic land owned by the United States government. The land is protected. This means that it cannot be used for anything except as a park which visitors can enjoy.

There are 53 national parks in the United States. On March 1, 1872, Yellowstone was established as the first U.S. National Park. It is the largest of all the parks. It is mainly in northwestern Wyoming and slightly overlaps into Montana and Idaho. It is about 62 miles long and 54 miles wide.

There are more geysers in Yellowstone than in all the rest of the world. Old Faithful is a famous geyser in the park. It got its name because it regularly shoots up hot water and steam about every 67 minutes.

There are pools of bubbling mud at Yellowstone. They are caused by

steam below the ground surface. The steam pushes up on the mud, causing it to boil or bubble. Minerals in the mud make the pools different shades of orange, brown, and yellow.

A large, deep canyon contains a waterfall that is 300 feet high. There are fossil forests with petrified tree trunks. Mountains, rivers, and lakes cover parts of the park.

Yellowstone is a great wild animal refuge. Protected herds of elk, moose, deer, antelope, and buffalo live there. Bears are there, as well as many kinds of birds.

Millions of people visit Yellowstone National Park every year to hike, camp, and enjoy the unusual sights. Because it is a national park, it will always remain a natural scenic wonderland.

Name _____

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

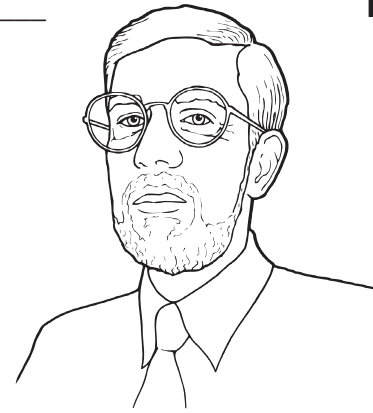
Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the story.

1. National parks are _____

_____ .
2. There are _____ national parks in the United States.
3. Yellowstone is mainly in northwestern _____ .
4. A famous geyser in Yellowstone is called _____ .
5. Bubbling pools of mud are caused by _____ .
6. _____ in the mud color the pools shades of orange, brown, and yellow.
7. A large, deep canyon in the park contains a _____ that is _____ high.
8. There are fossil forests with _____ .
9. Protected herds of _____ live in Yellowstone Park.
10. Two other kinds of animal that can be seen in Yellowstone Park are _____ .

Research: Find *petrify* in a dictionary. Write the meaning of the word as it applies to trees.

THE MAN BEHIND DR. SEUSS



Theodor Seuss Geisel spent most of his life dreaming up fanciful creatures with tongue-twisting names. These creatures became lovable characters in storybooks by “Dr. Seuss.”

Geisel was born on March 2, 1904, in Springfield, Massachusetts. As a child, he was always drawing pictures of strange-looking people and animals. He often went to the zoo with his father, who was a zookeeper, and drew the animals he saw there.

After graduating from college, Geisel worked many years doing artwork for advertising companies. In his spare time, he wrote and illustrated books for children.

At first, no one would publish Geisel’s books. Publishers thought

his books were silly and that no one would buy them. Finally, in 1937, a friend published *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*. It is a story about an unbelievable street parade. It is the first book on which Geisel used his pen name: Dr. Seuss. Both children and parents loved it.

Later came *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, *Horton Hatches the Egg*, and *Yertle the Turtle and Other Stories*. Altogether, 46 Dr. Seuss books were published. They have been translated into 15 different languages and sold worldwide.

Geisel never had children of his own, but he loved to write books for children. He received many honors and awards for his unusual drawings and writing style. He was 87 years old when he died in 1991.

Name _____

THE MAN BEHIND DR. SEUSS

Write your answers on the lines of the pattern.

1. Theodore Geisel was born on March _____, 1904.
2. abbreviation for *doctor*
3. *Green Eggs and* _____
4. Dr. Seuss is a pen _____.
5. Dr. Seuss' stories are written in an unusual _____.
6. _____ *the Turtle*
7. At first, no one wanted to _____ Dr. Seuss' books.
8. Dr. Seuss books were written for _____.
9. job held by Geisel's father
10. Dr. Seuss books have been _____ into different languages.

Research: Read more about *Dr. Seuss (Theodore Geisel)* in an encyclopedia. Write the titles of two other books he wrote.

SUPERMAN ARRIVES



On June 1, 1938, the first issue of *Action Comics* was published. It was all about Superman.

Superman was made up by Jerry Siegel. Jerry was born in 1914 in Cleveland, Ohio. In high school, his best friend was classmate Joe Shuster. Together, the boys dreamed of becoming famous comic strip creators. Jerry wrote the stories and Joe drew the pictures. For several years, they wrote and drew comic strips but had only fair success in getting them published.

Then in 1934, Jerry thought of creating a superhero. The story would begin with a child on a far-away planet called Krypton. Krypton is about to explode. To save the child, his father sends him to Earth in a rocket. He is found and raised by Martha and Jonathan Kent. They named the boy Clark.

Clark discovers that he has unusual powers. He is able to fly, has x-ray vision, and great strength.

The one thing he must watch out for is kryptonite, the shattered remains of the planet Krypton. It can destroy him.

As Clark Kent, he is a reporter for the *Daily Planet* in Metropolis. He falls in love with another reporter, Lois Lane. She, however, is in love with the brave, crime-fighting Superman. She does not know Clark Kent and Superman are the same person.

Several newspapers turned down the chance to buy this new comic strip. Then, in 1938, the owners of *Action Comics* said they would publish it in comic book form. Less than a year later, Superman became the favorite character in popular fiction.

Both Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster are gone now. But Superman continues his fight for “truth, justice, and the American way.”

Name _____

SUPERMAN ARRIVES

Write your answers on the lines of the pattern.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

1. The first Superman comic book was published on June ____, 1938.
2. Jerry Siegel was how old when he got the idea for Superman?
3. Superman is able to _____.
4. What is Clark's last name?
5. Superman fights for "_____, justice, and the American way."
6. The child was sent to Earth in a _____.
7. Name the planet from which the child came.
8. Clark is in love with _____.
9. Siegel's idea was to create a _____.
10. What substance can destroy Superman?

Research: Write the names of all the real planets in our solar system. Use a dictionary or encyclopedia for help.

CITIZENSHIP FOR AMERICAN INDIANS



On June 2, 1924, the U.S. Congress passed the Indian Citizenship Act. This Act said that all Indians born in the United States could become U.S. citizens. Up to this time, many American Indians were not citizens. They did not have the same civil rights as U.S. citizens. Non-citizen Indians were not even counted in the census. It was almost as if they did not exist.

This began way back in 1776 when the United States was formed. Indians were given no rights in the Constitution of the new nation. There was no plan in the beginning to include these “uncivilized” people as equal members of the new nation.

Over the years, new laws were made to give citizenship to Indians. Those who would agree to leave their tribes and live “civilized” lives could become citizens. Those who owned land or paid taxes to the

government could become citizens. Some states in which tribal reservations were located decided to make all members citizens. Many non-citizen Indians fought in World War I with the U.S. Army. They were given citizenship when the war ended.

It all became very confusing. It was hard to know who was a citizen and who was not. So, the Indian Citizenship Act was passed. All American Indians could become United States citizens.

Today, there are 280 Indian reservations in the United States. There are over 550 Indian tribes. Their populations total 1,900,000. Now these Native Americans may live, work, or go to school wherever they wish. About half choose to live on or near their home reservations.

Name _____

CITIZENSHIP FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

Write the letter of the definition next to the word.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. ___ citizen | a. those rights guaranteed to individuals, such as equal treatment and protection of laws |
| 2. ___ Congress | b. to be real |
| 3. ___ civil rights | c. money that people must pay in order to support the government |
| 4. ___ census | d. unclear; misleading; puzzling |
| 5. ___ exist | e. the group of people who make the laws of the nation |
| 6. ___ civilized | f. a group of people united because they have the same customs, language, and ancestors |
| 7. ___ taxes | g. an official count of the people living in a certain place |
| 8. ___ reservation | h. someone who is a recognized member of a country |
| 9. ___ tribe | i. an area set aside by the government for a certain purpose |
| 10. ___ confusing | j. showing acceptable behavior; not primitive; educated |

Answer the questions.

11. In what year was the United States formed? _____

12. Name two ways in which Indians could gain citizenship before 1924.

13. What is another name used to describe an American Indian?

14. Why do you think Indians were not given citizenship in 1776?

Research: Name the five largest American Indian tribes. Use an almanac for help.