

Fourth Grade State Lapbook Instructions

Due: Friday, May 17, 2013

This project is designed to teach students about our United States. Each student will read and learn about a chosen state and attractively display required information in a fun way that will teach other students about his state. The students will gather all the pictures and research information at home & and bring them to school to arrange it in a Lapbook. It is imperative that your child meet each due date to earn full credit and successfully display an attractive project. One section will be worked on in class each week. Check the schedule to be prepared with each section's materials.

Each week students will be responsible to bring in index cards that already have several hand-written facts on them. Index cards are provided in class. Later in the week we will use the cards to write captions in complete sentences.

Parents may help with gathering and organizing information, and proofreading, however, the actual work (drawing, coloring, writing/typing of titles, wording and writing/typing of captions, etc.) **will** be done by the student. This project is meant to be an indication of abilities at the fourth grade level. Each child is expected to put forth effort resulting in an attractive project that shows the best of his/her abilities. Displaying titles, pictures, and captions neatly is determined by each student's creativity. A sample of a finished Lapbook will be on display in the classroom.

Schedule		
Week	Section	*Due Date
1	Map	4/12
2	Cities	4/19
3	Symbols	4/26
4	Industries	5/3
5	Fun Facts	5/10
6	Cover (designs/decorations)	5/17

*On the due date, each section's pictures and notecards (information for captions) need to be brought to school. **Students will lose 3 points if the due date is not met.**

I. Project Instructions

A. Materials

1. Students will be given a Lapbook in class to display their work. All pictures and researched information need to be brought to school to complete the project.
2. 2 clue sticks
3. Index cards for home AND school (colored or white)

B. Sections:

1. **Map of state** – no title required

- a) Students will be given an outline of their state ready to label and color with the following information brought from home.
- b) Bring in a **MAP(s)** of:
 1. Labeled borders (natural boundaries, states, countries)
 2. Major lakes, important rivers, and mountain ranges (if any)
 3. Location of the capital, and three cities. (These are the same three cities chosen in the “Cities” section.)

2. Cities

- a) Bring in:
 1. A picture of the **capital** of your state and **3** other major cities
 2. Handwritten information on notecards about each city to be used to write a caption
 3. Title
- b) These **need** to be the same three cities located on the map.

3. Symbols

- a) Bring in:
 1. 3 pictures of the main industries of your state
 2. Handwritten information on notecards about each industry to be used to write a caption
 3. Title
- b) Examples of common industries: Mining, Fishing, Tourism, Lumbering, Manufacturing, Livestock, Agriculture

4. Fun Facts – (What makes your state unique?)

- a) Bring in:
 1. **2** pictures of something fun or interesting your state is known for
 2. **1** picture of the governor of your state
 3. Handwritten information on notecards about each fun fact and governor to be used to write a caption
 4. Title
- b) Suggested topics: Wildlife, National parks or monuments, plant life, sports, interesting people, climate, amusement parks, etc.

II. General Guidelines

- A. Because this is a major project, neatness is of major importance. Smudges, careless penmanship, messy erasures, or crooked captions/titles will result in point reduction.
- B. Be sure to carefully proofread and correct all errors. Points will be deducted for misspelling and grammar/punctuation errors.
- C. The lapbook will remain at school. An envelope or bag will be provided to bring items to and from school.

III. Specific guidelines

A. Titles

1. Main title (cover)
 - a) This title will include the name of the state.

- b) The name of the state should be in letters larger than any other lettering in the lapbook.
- c) Lettering may be made of foam lettering, typed, stickers, or stencils.
2. Section titles (Cities, Industries, Symbols, and Fun Facts)
 - a) Each section of the project must have a title (except the map section).
 - b) Section titles should be smaller than the main title but larger than the captions.
 - c) These titles should be typed in **40 pt.** using a *readable* font.
 - d) Titles will be done at home and then sent to school ready to be attached to the project.

B. Pictures

1. Size: Small pictures (approx. 3" x 3") are preferred. Pictures should be no larger than 4" x 6" (photograph/postcard size). We have limited space to fit everything in the folders.
2. Acceptable pictures:
 - a) Hand-drawn (tracing is acceptable) and **COLORED.**
 - b) Cut from a magazine (color or black & white).
 - c) Photocopied or computer generated pictures printed in color or light enough to hand color. NOTE: Do not try to color dark photocopies. It is better to trace the dark photocopy and then color the traced copy.
 - d) Photographs or postcards (color or black & white).
3. All pictures must have a caption. Captions will be written in class.

C. Captions

1. Optional: Captions may be typed (**12 or 14 font**) at home after sentences have been written in class.
2. All captions **will be in sentence form** and **in the student's own words**.
3. Captions should take up space no wider than an index card.
4. Captions must be 2-5 sentences.
5. Captions must identify the picture and tell something interesting the student has learned about the subject.
 - a) ***Example Caption:*** *The cactus wren is the Arizona state bird. It lives in the cactus plant where it is protected by the thorns.*
6. White lined index cards will be provided in class to use for captions.
7. Time will be given in class to write captions from the researched information the **student brought from home on index cards. Time is given to research during class.**

IV. Grading

- A. This project counts for 2 History Tests and 1 English Test grade.
- B. +5 points if done early
- C. Points will be lost for incomplete or late work

Name _____

State Lapbook Progress		
Section	Points Lost (Incomplete or Late Work)	Section Complete
Map		
Cities		
Symbols		
Industries		
Fun Facts		
Cover		

This project is picture oriented, so now is the time to begin collecting magazines, postcards, computer pictures, etc. about your state.

Fill in the bottom form to choose first, second, and third choices for the state you want to do the project on. The student with family in a certain state will have priority on that state. Otherwise, the first forms handed in will have priority. The choices for Arizona will all be accepted.

	<h1>STATE PROJECT REQUEST</h1>	
My child, _____, would like to do his/her state project on		
Child's Name		
_____	_____	_____
name of state – first choice	name of state – second choice	name of state – first choice

Parent's Signature		