Printable Sample from
GEOGRAPHY OF THE FIFTY STATES (Grades 3 – 12)

Kansas Pages
With Needed Appendix Maps

NOTE: This is a sample of the pages for one state. The book covers all 50 states in order of statehood and teaches your student US geographical regions and features. The book also includes overview sections where the student compares the growth pattern by statehood with the geographical regions he is also learning about progressively through the book to see how the geography of our country affected its growth. The states are covered in order of statehood in the book. Tests, Answer Keys, and Teacher Instructions are also included, so Geography of the Fifty States is completely self-contained.

We hope you will enjoy this sample.

You can buy Geography of the Fifty States at
www.statehistory.net

We also offer Fifty States Under God, a history-based study of all 50 states in order of statehood (grades 3-12), and Fifty States Under God for Young Learners (age 4 – grade 2), a color-cut-paste introduction to the 50 states. In addition, we offer a complete state history course for every state on two levels, covering age 4 through grade 12.
Lesson 46 - KANSAS

Find Kansas on the top Geographical Features Map on page 5. Notice that Kansas is in the Interior Plains. Keep in mind the characteristics and divisions of the Interior Plains as you read about land regions within Kansas. Kansas has three land regions. As you read about each region, find it on the map below and color it in, using a different colored highlighter for each region.

The Dissected Till Plains is a fertile region with high bluffs created by rivers.

The Southeastern Plains consists of gently rolling land with a few low hills. Much of this land is grass-covered and is used for grazing. The eastern section of this region is sometimes called the Osage Plains. The western section, often called the Flint Hills or the Bluestem Region, has limestone ridges and bluestem grasses.

The Great Plains region covers about half of the state. The land slopes upward from the eastern regions to the High Plains at the western border.
Find Kansas on the Order of Statehood Map on page 7. Since Kansas was the thirty-fourth state, write “34” on Kansas. Notice that Kansas is bordered by four states: Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

Kansas has one river that helps to form its boundary.

- A small section of Kansas’s northeastern boundary is formed by the Missouri River. The Missouri River is the only river in the state large enough for barges. The Missouri River empties into the Mississippi River, which flows to the Gulf of Mexico. Find the section of boundary formed by Missouri River on the adjacent map. Trace it with blue and label it.

Kansas has several other important geographical features. As you read about these features, refer to the adjacent map.

- The Kansas River and its tributaries drain the northern section of Kansas. The Kansas River is sometimes called the Kaw River. Find the river that flows into the Missouri River at the eastern border. Trace this river with blue and label it “Kansas River.” Notice that the Republican River, the Solomon River, and the Smoky Hill River are all tributaries of the Kansas River. (The Solomon River splits into two branches, the North Fork Solomon River and the South Fork Solomon River). Trace the Republican River, the Solomon River, and the Smoky Hill River with blue.

- The Arkansas River flows through southwestern and south-central Kansas. This river and its tributaries drain much of the southern section of the state. Trace the Arkansas River with blue and label it.

- Most of the state’s lakes are artificial. The largest lake in Kansas is Milford Lake on the Republican River. Color Milford Lake blue and label it.

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KANSAS

Major Cities

Topeka is the capital and fourth-largest city of the state of Kansas. Find Topeka on the map below. Then find Kansas on the States and Capitals Map on page 9. Make a dot to show the approximate location of Topeka. Label it “Topeka,” and label the state “KS.” Topeka is an important trade center. The area that is now Topeka was originally the home of the Kansas Indians. The first European in the area was Louis Papan, who opened a ferry boat service on the Kansas River in 1842 to transport settlers across the river to Oregon and California. A settlement was founded on the site by Cyrus Holiday, a Pennsylvania businessman who eventually helped make Topeka the headquarters of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad. Topeka became the capital in 1861.

Wichita is the state’s largest city and also the state’s largest manufacturing center. It also serves as a distribution center for the agricultural products of the farm region around it. Because Wichita is the world’s largest producer of general aviation aircraft, it is known as the Air Capital of the World. The city is named for the Wichita Indians, a tribe moved into the area by the federal government during the Civil War. By the 1870’s, Wichita had become an important shipping center for cattle driven from Texas along the Chisholm Trail. Because of its cowboys, dance halls, gambling, and saloons, Wichita became known as a wild, lawless city. One of the famous frontier lawmen who served as a peace officer in Wichita was Wyatt Earp. The discovery of oil and the establishment of an aircraft manufacturing company helped the city grow quickly. Wichita was one of few cities whose economy stayed strong during the Depression. The tallest building in Kansas, the Epic Center, is located in Wichita.

Overland Park, the second-largest city, was built on land that was not wanted by other communities. It’s founder planned it as a series of subdivisions along a military roadway. Some of the original buildings are open to tourists. Overland Park has repeatedly been named as one of the best U.S. cities to live in.

Kansas City is the third-largest city in Kansas and the major industrial center of eastern Kansas. Kansas City, Kansas, is part of the metropolitan area of Kansas City, Missouri. The area where the city is located was originally inhabited by the Kansas Indians. The site was a campsite chosen by Lewis and Clark on their famous expedition. In 1818, the U.S. government designated the area as a Delaware Indian reservation, but the Delaware sold it to the Wyandot, an Ohio tribe, in 1843. The Wyandots named the site Wyandot City and built a school, a church, a store, and a town council building. When so many white settlers moved in that the Indians were outnumbered, the community was renamed Wyandotte. The Constitution under which Kansas became a state was written at Wyandotte. Wyandotte was an important center of the anti-slavery movement. When a meat-packing plant was established, settlers moved in, and several communities sprang up. In 1886, three communities, namely Armourdale, Kansas City, and Wyandotte, combined to form Kansas City. Later, Argentine and Rosedale became part of the city as well. Today the government of Kansas City has been combined with the Wyandotte County government.

Olathe is the fifth-largest city in the state. The city’s name comes from a Shawnee word that means “beautiful.” Both the Santa Fe Trail and the Oregon-California Trail passed through Olathe. The Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm in Olathe is the only remaining stagecoach stop on the Santa Fe Trail that is open to the public. The city of Olathe is the “birthplace” of the cowboy boot!
Geographical Features Maps
New One- or Two-Year Plan for Homeschoolers!

Study your way through all fifty states in order of statehood, inserting a more detailed study of your own state when you come to it in chronological order!

- Teach all your students together, age 3 through grade 12
- We provide a schedule (see below)

Grades 3-12: Your study begins with our two fifty-states books, which you use simultaneously. Both books are completely self-contained—no additional books, resources, or teacher materials needed.

**Fifty States Under God**
- teaches your student what our country was like during its growing period!
- Includes a timeline and a progressive map study so your student can watch the map change!
- Provides four pages for each state:
  - A page of interesting facts
  - Two work-pages of important state data
    - Includes reference section and symbol pictures
  - GREAT STORIES from a Christian or historical perspective
- Contains five tests on the progressive map study and the current US map (student learns states, capitals, state nicknames, 2-letter postal abbreviations)

**Geography of the Fifty States**
- teaches the geographical regions and major geographical features of the U.S.
- Compares the growth pattern by state with the geographical regions, showing how geography correlates with history
- Provides four workpages of interesting geographical information about each state with maps the student will color in with highlighters and label
- Teaches geographical terms and definitions
- Contains five tests over US geography and geographical terms

When you come to your own state chronologically, you will insert a study of your own state using our **State History from a Christian Perspective** 30-lesson course:

- All 50 states available
- All students make a project notebook about their state using text material, maps, and state symbol pictures we provide in the **Student Booklet**
- Students add pictures and info from free tourist literature (we tell you where to get it)
- Simple and complete instructions in our **Master Lesson Plan Book** tell you what to do each day and allow you to individualize the difficulty level and depth of the course if desired
- The project notebook can be made in A Beka’s **My State Notebook** or in a 3-ring binder
- Course includes 6 quizzes and 2 tests and an optional State Constitution Study Guide

Age 3 through Grade 2 will learn with the older students using color-cut-paste books!

**Fifty States Under God for Young Learners** introduces the fifty states in the order of statehood
- Includes four pages per state
- Includes all state symbol pictures and cutouts

**My State History Funbook** provides a color-cut-paste introduction to the student’s own state
- Includes a pre-formatted spiral-bound scrapbook
- **Activity Pages for your state** provide state symbol pictures and informational cutouts for your student to cut and paste into the scrapbook
- Student adds color pictures from free tourist literature (we tell you where to get it!) or from places you visit together as a family

www.Statehistory.net