

California State History Lapbook



Designed for K-8th
grades, but could
be adjusted for
older grade
levels, if needed

Written & designed by
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of Knowledge Box Central



California State History Lapbook
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ISBN #

Ebook: 978-1-61625-460-5
CD: 978-1-61625-458-2
Printed: 978-1-61625-459-9
Assembled: 978-1-61625-461-2

Publisher: Knowledge Box Central
<http://www.knowledgeboxcentral.com>

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California State History Lapbook

Thanks for purchasing this product. Please check out our Lapbooks for other states as well. The Lapbooks are designed for K-8th grades but could be adjusted for use with older students.

Please also check out our Lapbook Journals for each state. The Lapbook Journals are designed for 6th-12th grades, but again could be adjusted for other age groups..

We are designing these products, Lapbook Journals and Lapbooks, so that they follow the same Study Guide. This will allow for a family to study State History TOGETHER, with each age group using the product (Lapbook Journal or Lapbook) that best suits that group. The parent may teach from ONE Study Guide and allow each student to document what he is learning in his own way.

It would be helpful to have pamphlets and brochures from the state that you are studying. You may get these at no charge from your Chamber of Commerce, travel agencies, and several other places. Your student may read the information, use some of the picture for cutting and pasting, or even use some of them to decorate the front of the lapbook.

How do I get started?

First, you will want to gather your supplies. Depending on which format you purchased from us, you will need different supplies. So, take what applies, and skip over the rest.

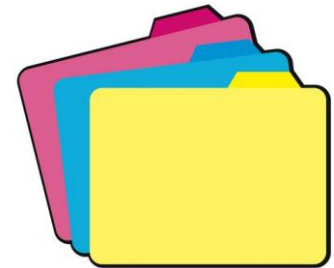
*** Printing:

*Print instructions and study guide on white copy paper.

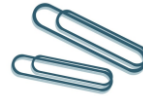


*Print the booklet templates on 24# colored paper or 110# cardstock.

For some booklets, we have suggested specific colors or cardstock. You may choose to use those suggested colors, or you may choose to print on any color that you like.



*** Assembly:



***Folders:** We use colored file folders, which can be found at Walmart, Sam's, Office Depot, Costco, etc. You will need between 2 and 4 file folders, depending on which product you have purchased. You may use manilla folders if you prefer, but we have found that children respond better with the brightly colored folders. Don't worry about the tabs...they aren't important. If you prefer, you can purchase the assembled lapbook bases from our website.



***Glue:** For the folder assembly, we use hot glue. For booklet assembly, we use glue sticks and sometimes hot glue, depending on the specific booklet. We have found that bottle glue stays wet for too long, so it's not a great choice for lapbooking.



***Other Supplies:** Of course, you will need scissors. Many booklets require additional supplies. Some of these include metal brad fasteners, paper clips, ribbon, yarn, staples, hole puncher, etc. You may want to add decorations of your own, including stickers, buttons, coloring pages, cut-out clipart, etc. The most important thing is to use your imagination! Make it your own!!



Ok. I've gathered the supplies. Now how do I use this product?

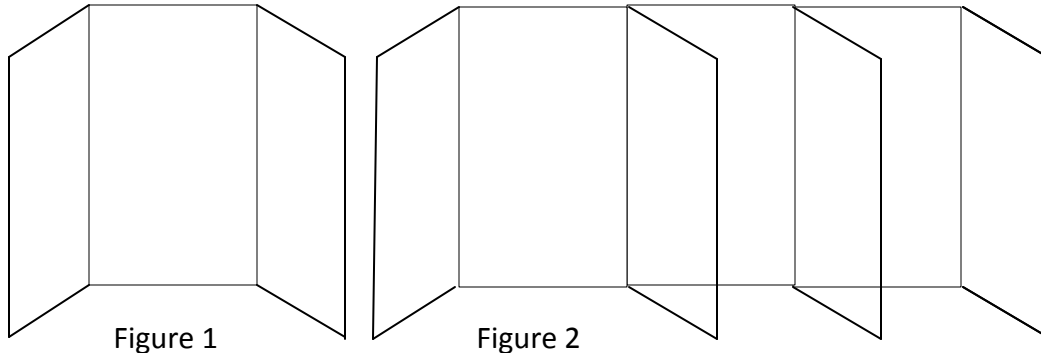
Inside, you will find several sections. They are as follows:

- 1. Lapbook Base Assembly & Layout Guide:** This section gives instructions and diagrams and will tell the student exactly how to assemble the lapbook base and where to glue each booklet into the base. Depending on the student's age, he or she may need assistance with this process, especially if you choose to allow the student to use hot glue.
- 2. Student Instruction Guide:** This section is written directly to the student, in language that he or she can understand. However, depending on the age of the child, there may be some parent/teacher assistance needed. This section will also tell the student exactly what should be written inside each booklet as he or she comes to it during the study, as well as telling the student which folder each booklet will be glued into.
- 4. Booklet Templates:** This section includes ALL of the templates for the booklets.
- 5. Study Guide:** This section is a great resource for the parent/teacher. It includes an overview of this state's history. At the end of the Study Guide, there are several links that you may use for additional study.

California State History Lapbook

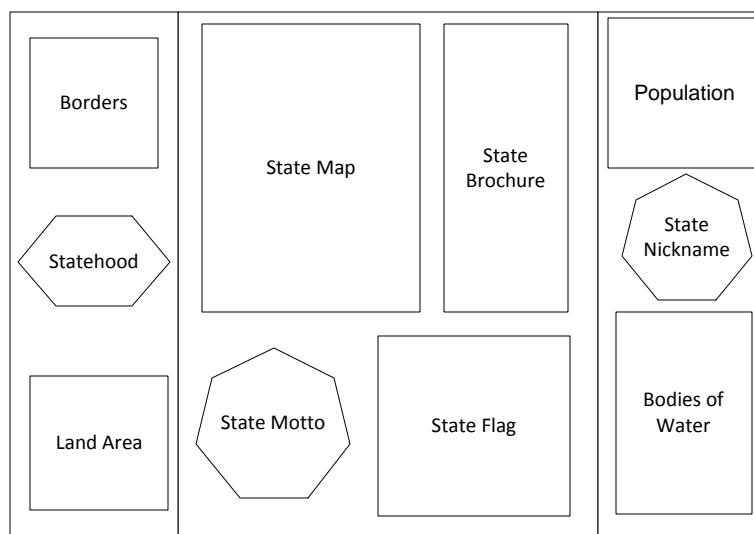
Base Assembly & Layout Guide

You will need 3 folders of any color. Take each one and fold both sides toward the original middle fold and make firm creases on these folds (Figure 1). Then glue (and staple if needed) the backs of the small flaps together (Figure 2).

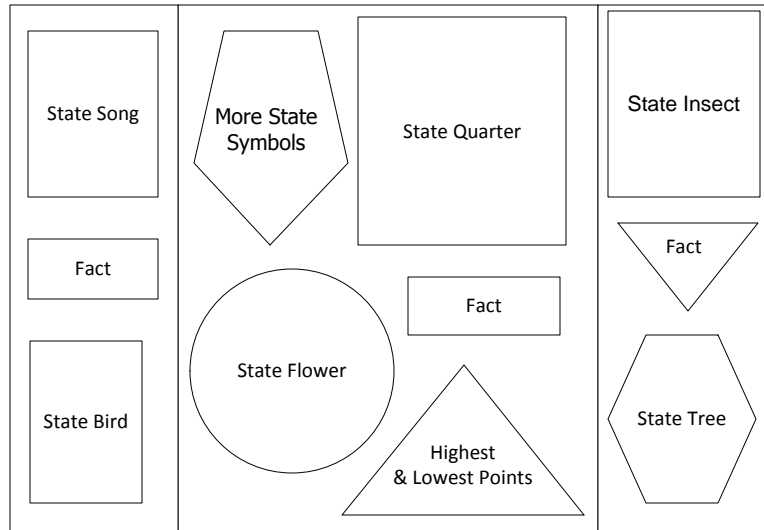


This is the "Layout" for your lapbook. The shapes are not exact on the layout, but you will get the idea of where each booklet should go inside your lapbook.

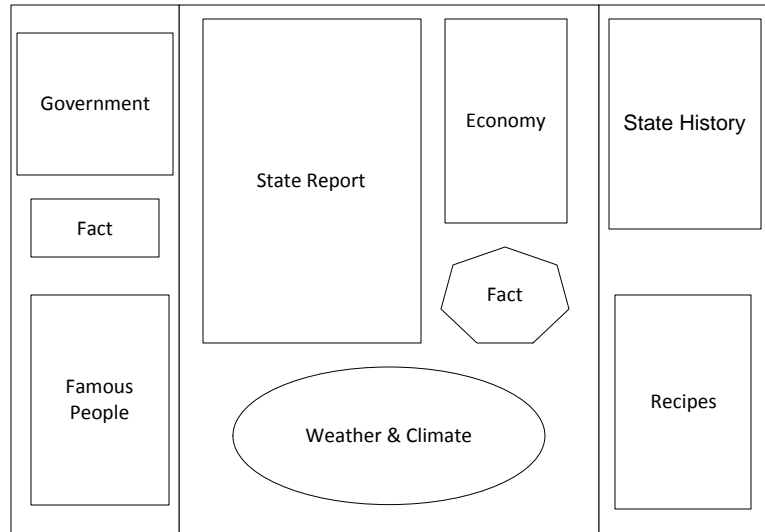
Inside of 1st Folder:



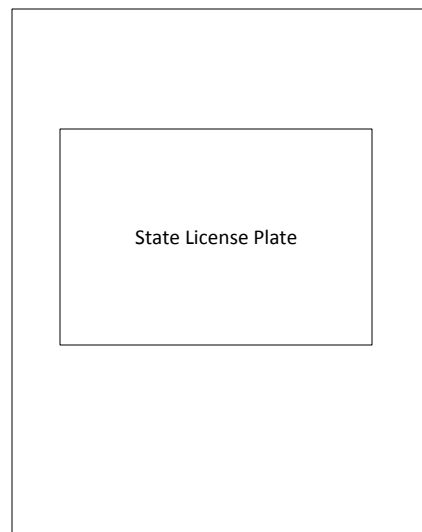
Inside of 2nd Folder:



Inside of 3rd Folder:



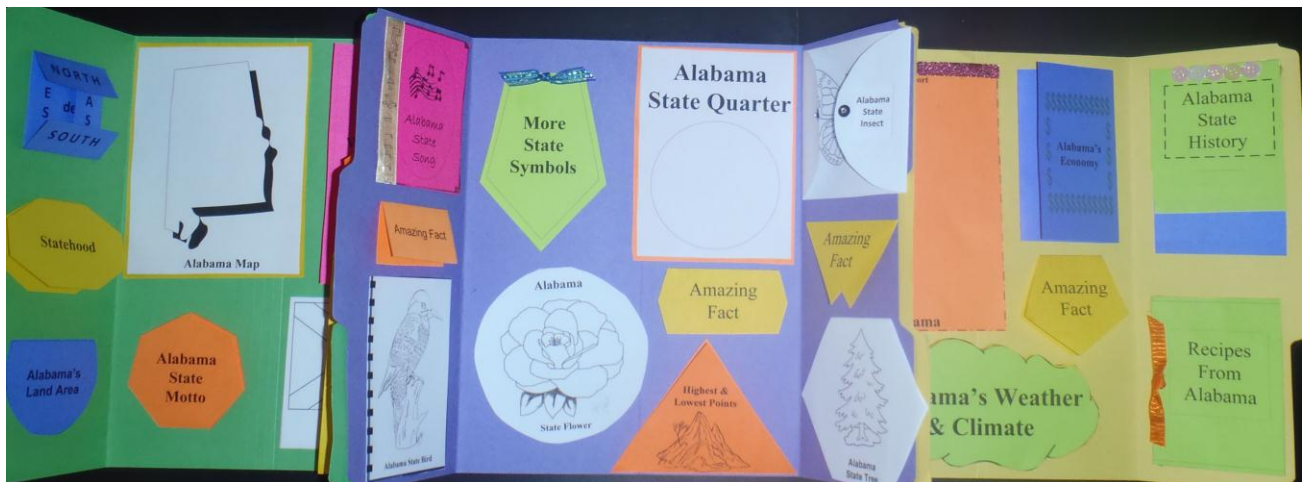
Back of 3rd Folder:



Below you will find pictures of a completed Alabama State History Lapbook. **YOUR state will be laid out in the SAME way.**

This should help in figuring out how to assemble the booklets and then how to put it all together!

Also, there is a page of close-up pictures of some of the booklets that may be a little more confusing to assemble. These pictures should help.



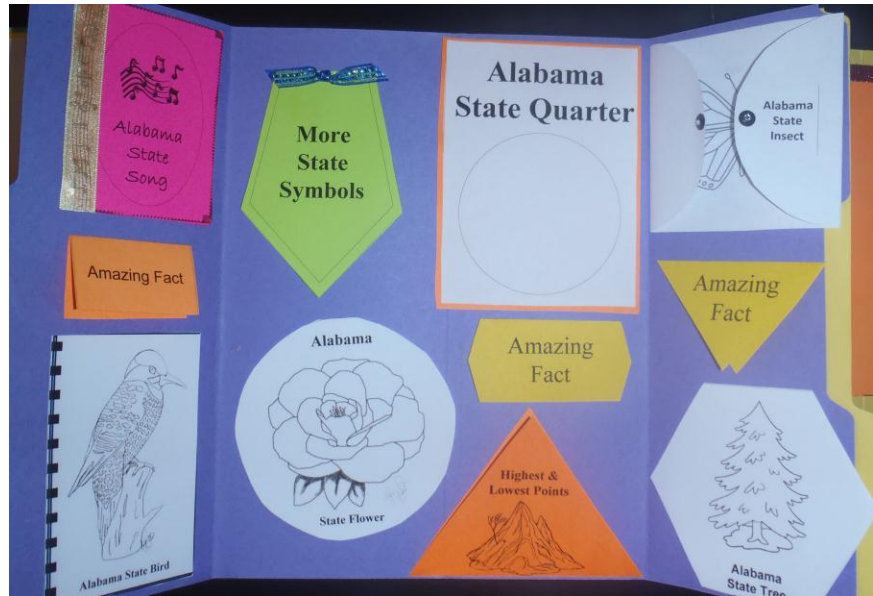
Folder #1

Example is Alabama, but YOUR state will be laid out in the SAME way.

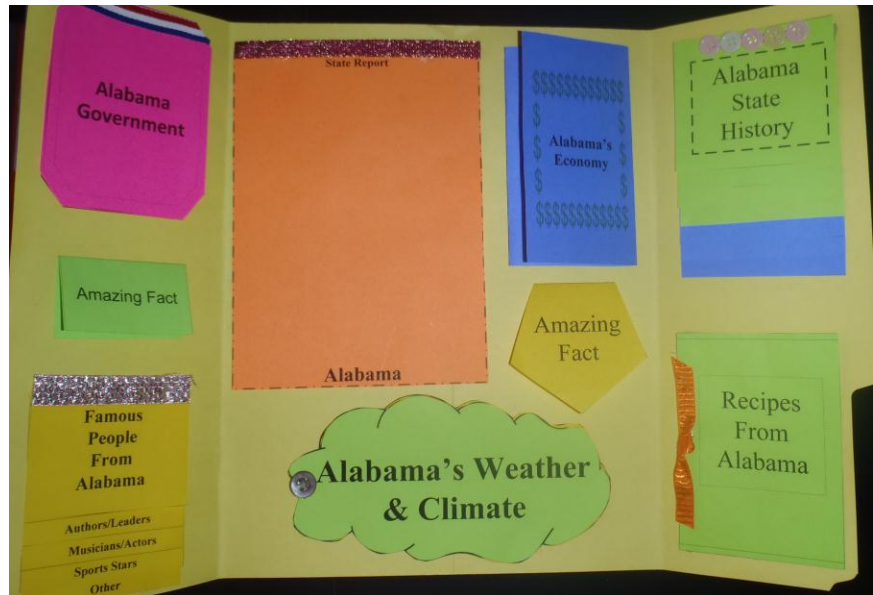


Folder #2

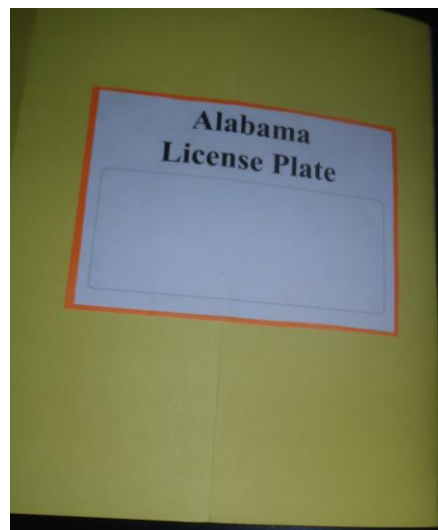
**Example is
Alabama, but
YOUR state will be
laid out in the
SAME way.**



Folder #3



Back of Folder #3



California State History Lapbook

Student Instruction Guide

**These booklets may be taught/completed in any order.
We are presenting them here in the general order in
which they appear in the Lapbook.**

Booklet #1

***Booklet Title:** State Map

***Student Instructions:** On the state map provided, mark and label the capital, other cities, lakes, rivers, and any landmarks that you feel are important.

***Completed booklet will be glued into Folder #1** (See Layout)

****Assembly Instructions:** Cut out along the outer black line edges of this one-page book. Glue to another piece of paper of a different color, Cut around the edges again, creating a small border.

Booklet #2

***Booklet Title:** Borders

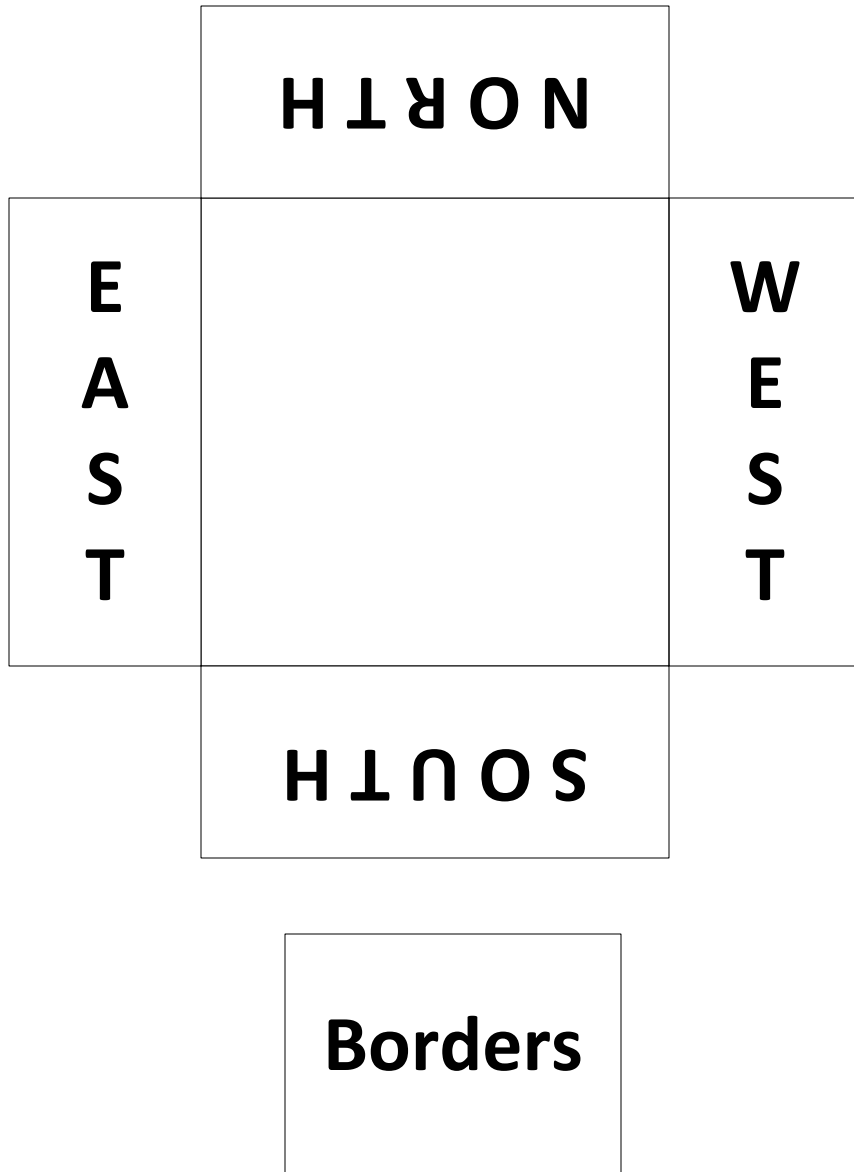
***Student Instructions:** In this booklet, you will write down what is found on the borders of the state that you are studying. It may be another state, several states, or it may be a body of water. Write the names on the inside of each “flap.”

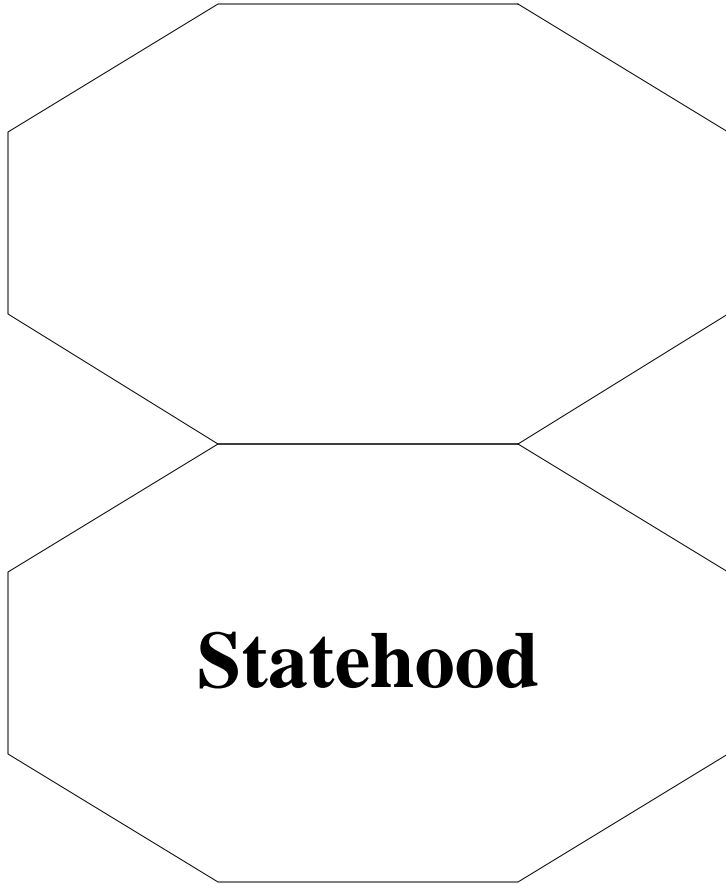
***Completed booklet will be glued into Folder #1** (See Layout)

****Assembly Instructions:** Cut out the booklet along the outer black line edges of the booklet and the title label. Fold each side in along the lines so that the words are on the outside. Glue the label that says “Borders” inside, in the center.



California Map





California State History Lapbook Journal Study Guide



The Great Seal of California

The name *California* originates from the Spanish conquistadors, taken from "Las Serges de Esplandian," a Spanish romance written about 1510 which describes an imaginary island; an earthly paradise. *Baja California* (lower California - now in Mexico) was first visited by the Spanish in 1533. Present-day California was called *Alta California* (upper California).

People who live in California or who come from California are called Californians.



Map of California – Capital, Major Lakes and Rivers

STATEHOOD

With the gold rush came a huge increase in population in California and a pressing need for civil government. After a heated debate in the U.S. Congress, arising out of the slavery issue, California entered the Union as a free, non-slavery state and was admitted to the Union as the 31st state on September 9, 1850.

STATE CONSTITUTION

The California Constitution is the document that establishes and describes the duties, powers, structure and function of the government of California. The state's first constitution was adopted in November 1849 in advance of California attaining U.S. statehood. California was admitted to the Union on September 9, 1850. The constitution of 1849 was superseded by the current constitution, which was ratified on May 7, 1879.

California's constitution can be amended through statewide votes of the electorate on legislatively-referred constitutional amendments and initiated constitutional amendments. It can also be amended through a process beginning with a constitutional convention.

PREAMBLE: We, the People of the State of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure and perpetuate its blessings, do establish this Constitution.

STATE GOVERNMENT

California's state government is organized into three branches of government: executive branch, consisting of the Governor of California and other elected constitutional officers; legislative branch, consisting of the California State Legislature which includes the Assembly and the Senate; and the judicial branch constituting of the Supreme Court of California and lower courts. Government is exercised through state agencies and commissions as well as local governments consisting of counties, cities and special districts including school districts.

The Governor of California is the chief executive officer of the state and is elected by citizens for a four-year term and may serve for two consecutive terms. The governor's responsibilities include making annual State of the State addresses to the California State Legislature, submitting the budget, and ensuring that state laws are enforced. The position was created in 1849, before California became a state.

The California State Legislature is a bicameral body consisting of the lower house, the California State Assembly, with 80 members, and the upper house, the California State Senate, with 40 members. New legislators convene each new two-year session, to organize, in the Assembly and Senate Chambers, respectively, at noon on the first Monday in December following the election. After the organizational meeting, both houses are in recess until the first Monday in January, except when the first Monday is January 1st or January 1st is a Sunday, in which case they meet the following Wednesday.

Members of the Assembly are elected from eighty districts, serve two year terms, and since 1990 are limited to being elected three times. Members of the Senate serve four year terms and are

limited to being elected twice. There are forty Senate districts, with half of the seats up for election on alternate (two year) election cycles.

The judicial system of California is the largest in the United States that is fully staffed by professional law-trained judges; a person must be admitted to practice law before they can become a judge in California. Today, California's system is divided into three levels, with the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal serving as appellate courts reviewing the decisions of the Superior Courts.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

The legislative branch of the United States government makes laws for our nation and raises and distributes money to run the United States government. The most evident part of the legislative branch is the United States Congress. Congress is divided into two parts, called houses. The two parts are the Senate and the House of Representatives. Congress is referred to as a bicameral body because it is made up of two houses. The Latin roots of the word bicameral, "bi" and "cameral," mean two chambers or rooms.

Members of the Senate are called Senators and members of the House of Representatives are called Representatives. Senators and representatives serving in these two bodies are sometimes referred to as congressmen, or women, and sometimes as legislators because their business is to legislate or make laws. The role of the legislative branch is defined in the United States Constitution.

Each state elects people to represent them in the United States Congress in Washington, DC. The citizens of each state elect two senators to represent them in the Senate. They also elect representatives to represent them in the House of Representatives. The number of representatives each state sends to the House of Representatives is not a specific number like the Senate, but is based on the population of the state. The people, that are elected to represent the state's citizens in the United States Congress, are referred to as the congressional delegation.

There are 100 senators in the U.S. Senate. Each is elected to a term, in the Senate, of six years. There are 435 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives. Each is elected to a term, in the "House," of two years.

The citizens of California elect two people, like every other state, to represent them in the Senate and 52 people, based on California's current population, to represent them in the House of Representatives.

STATE SEAL



The Great Seal of California

Eureka!

Under the gaze of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom, a miner works near the Sacramento River. A grizzly bear rests at her feet and ships ply the river. The Sierra Nevada Mountains rise in the background. Wildlife, agriculture, natural beauty, commerce, and opportunity are all represented on California's Great Seal.

The state motto, *Eureka*, sits over the mountains. A Greek word that means "I have found it," *Eureka* refers to the discovery of gold in California. The miner, working with a pick, is another reference to the gold that was found in California. A pan and a rocker are also depicted on the seal near the miner. The pan was used to separate the gold from the dirt; just add water. The rocker is a larger and more sophisticated "pan." It allowed miners to process more dirt and sand faster. At the time the seal was designed, people were coming from all over the world looking to "strike it rich" in the gold fields.

Virtually all of the products coming in and out of California were carried over water routes at the time the seal was designed. Mining supplies, letters from home, luxuries, household items, and gold were all carried on ships. From the eastern United States, ships sailed south around Cape Horn and north to California. The ships, on a representation of the Sacramento River, symbolize the commercial greatness of California.

A sheaf of grain in the foreground represents California's agricultural wealth. In fact, many who came looking for gold found farming to be more profitable. Today, California is an agricultural giant among the states.

At the feet of Minerva, stands the California grizzly bear. A symbol of strength and independence, the grizzly bear is the Official State Animal and is the prominent feature on the California State Flag. Grizzly bears were, at one time, common in the state but the mass movement of people into California during the gold rush strained their habitat and caused their numbers to decline sharply. Today there are no wild grizzly bears left in California.

The seal was designed by Major R. S. Garnett of the U.S. Army, and adopted at the Constitutional Convention of 1849 before California became a state in June 1850. At the time of the seal's adoption, thirty states comprised the United States. Near the upper edge of the seal are 31 stars, anticipating California's admission. The original 1849 design is depicted to the right.



In 1937 minor changes were made to the seal.