



# Arizona

## State History

~ In a Nutshell ~

Written & designed by  
Cyndi Kinney & Judy Trout



NS\_SAZ

Arizona State History In a Nutshell  
by Cyndi Kinney & Judy Trout  
Copyright © 2012 Knowledge Box Central  
[www.KnowledgeBoxCentral.com](http://www.KnowledgeBoxCentral.com)

ISBN

Ebook: 978-1-61625-

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

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher, except as provided by USA copyright law.

This electronic product is intended to be used ONLY by the purchaser. It is not to be transferred, sold, or duplicated.

This state history information can also be found in the Lapbook and Lapbook Journal for this specific state, as published by Knowledge Box Central. Please see publisher's website for information on these other products.

All information and graphics within this product are originals or have been used with permission from its owners, and credit has been given when appropriate. These include, but are not limited to the following: [www.iclipart.com](http://www.iclipart.com), and Art Explosion Clipart. Additional credits are given at the end of this ebook.

### **What is the "In a Nutshell" series?**

This is a series of concise, easy to understand information on many popular topics. You will find that many of products in this series can also be found as part of larger publications and/or curriculum on the publisher's website. At the end of each book, you will find a list of questions that may be used to help you review the material.

# Arizona State History Lapbook Journal Study Guide



The Great Seal of Arizona

The wealth of Arizona can be found in the startling natural wonders of the state, in vast mineral reserves, in the healthful climate and in the rich cultural heritage of the "Pueblos".

One of the "Seven Natural Wonders of the World", the Grand Canyon attracts nearly five million visitors each year and Monument Valley's sandstone monoliths have served as the breathtaking backdrop for many classic western films.

The name Arizona is derived from a combination of two words from the Papago Indian dialect of the Pima language; "Aleh" and "Zon" together as "Aleh-zon" meaning "little spring." The "little spring", located in Mexican territory, is near a large silver discovery made in Arizona Creek.

It's said that a mining speculator named Charles D. Poston first suggested the name Arizona in a petition to the United States Congress to make Arizona a legal territory.

People who live in or come from Arizona are referred to as Arizonans.



Map of Arizona – Capital, Major Cities and Rivers

## STATEHOOD

On February 14, 1912, Arizona became the 48<sup>th</sup> state to be admitted into the Union.

## STATE CONSTITUTION

The Arizona State Constitution is the governing document for the state of Arizona. The current constitution is the first and only constitution adopted by the state of Arizona. (Adopted by Constitutional Convention December 9, 1910, ratified by vote of the People December 11, 1911, became effective upon Admission February 14, 1912)

**PREAMBLE:** *We the people of the State of Arizona, grateful to Almighty God for our liberties, do ordain this Constitution.*

## STATE GOVERNMENT

Arizona's state constitution provides for an elected governor and bicameral legislature. The State of Arizona government is made up of three separate branches: Executive, Legislative and Judicial.

Arizona's Executive Branch is headed by a governor, who is elected to a four-year term. The governor may serve any number of terms, though no more than two in a row. Arizona is one of the few states that does not maintain a governor's mansion. During office the governors reside within their private residence, and all executive offices are housed in the executive tower at the state capitol. The executive branch is responsible for carrying out the law and performing the day-to-day business of State government.

Other elected in the executive branch include the Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Mine Inspector and a five member Corporation Commission. All elected officials hold a term of four years, and are limited to two consecutive terms (except the office of the state mine inspector, which is exempt from term limits).

Arizona is one of seven states that does not have a specified lieutenant governor. The secretary of state is the first in line to succeed the governor in the event of death, disability, resignation, or removal from office. The line of succession also includes the attorney general, state treasurer and superintendent of public instruction. Since 1977, four secretaries of state and one attorney general have risen to Arizona's governorship through these means.

The Legislative Branch is comprised of the State's two principal law making bodies, the Arizona Senate and the Arizona House of Representatives, as well as the Office of the Auditor General, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, and Legislative Council. The legislature consists of a thirty-member Senate and a sixty-member House of Representatives. Each of the thirty legislative districts has one senator and two representatives. Legislators are elected for two-year terms and are limited to four consecutive terms in a chamber (senate or house) and there is no

limit on the total number of terms. When a lawmaker is term-limited from office, it is not uncommon for him or her to run for election in the other chamber.

The first session following the general election is known as the first regular session, and the session convening in the second year is known as the second regular session. Each regular session begins on the second Monday in January and adjourns *sine die* (terminates for the year) no later than Saturday of the week in which the 100th day from the beginning of the regular session falls. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, by rule, may extend the session up to seven additional days. Thereafter, the session can only be extended by a majority vote of members present of each house.

The Judicial Branch is comprised of the Arizona Supreme Court, the Arizona Court of Appeals and the Superior Court augmented by the counties' Justice of the Peace Courts and the municipalities' Municipal Courts. Courts resolve legal disputes, manage trials and interpret the law.

The Arizona Supreme Court is the highest court in Arizona. Justices are appointed by the governor from a list recommended by a bi-partisan commission, and are re-elected after the initial two years following their appointment. Subsequent re-elections occur every six years. The Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in death penalty cases, but almost all other appellate cases go through the Arizona Court of Appeals. The court meets in the Arizona Supreme Court Building at the capitol complex (at the southern end of Wesley Bolin Plaza).

The Arizona Court of Appeals is divided into two divisions. Division One is based in Phoenix and has jurisdiction in the Western and Northern regions of the state, along with the greater Phoenix area. Division Two is based in Tucson and has jurisdiction over the Southern regions of the state, including the Tucson area. Judges are selected in a method similar to the one used for selection of state Supreme Court justices.

Each county of Arizona has a superior court. The size and organization of the county's superior court is dependent on the size of that particular county.

## **TRIBAL GOVERNMENT**

Tribal Government operates separately from Arizona State Government. For more information, visit: <http://www.doi.gov/governments/tribalgovernments.cfm>

## **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 Arizona elect two people, like every other state, to represent them in the Senate and six people, based on Arizona's current population in the most recent federal census, to represent them in the House of Representatives.

## STATE SEAL

The official seal of Arizona displays the state's main enterprises and attractions. Arizona's state seal is in black and white and features a background mountain range with the sun rising behind the peaks, a storage reservoir (lake) and a dam, irrigated fields and orchards, grazing cattle, and a quartz mill with a miner holding a pick and shovel.

Above the drawing is the Arizona state motto, *Ditat Deus*, (Latin for "God Enriches"). The words Great Seal of the State of Arizona and the year of admission to the United States (1912) is written around the seal.



## STATE CAPITAL (Phoenix)



Phoenix is the capital city of Arizona and the home of the Arizona State Capitol. The state Capitol building formerly housed the Territorial and State Legislatures, as well as various executive offices. These have relocated to adjacent buildings, and the Capitol is now maintained as the Arizona Capitol Museum.

Exhibits at the Arizona Capitol Museum emphasize the history and culture of Arizona from early times to the present. Topics include Arizona state

symbols, historical figures, natural history, the role of government and the story of Arizona's statehood, and photographs from Edward S. Curtis. It also has the gravesite of Arizona Governor Wesley Bolin.

#### State Capitol History:

The capitol building in Phoenix was created as part of an effort to demonstrate that the Arizona Territory was ready for statehood. A design contest was won by James Riely Gordon, whose original plan called for the Capitol to be much larger, with a more prominent rotunda and large wings for both houses of the legislature on each side of the current building. Funding deficits meant the project had to be reduced, so the legislative wings were discarded from the plan and a small lead-alloy top substituted for Gordon's decorative dome.

The grand mosaic of the state seal suffered from a blunder by the private contractor who forgot to include two of Arizona's "five C's": to this day, "cattle" and "citrus" are notoriously missing from the depiction of the seal on the main floor.

Construction of the Capitol began in 1898, and it began operation in 1901. In 1918 and 1938, expansions were added on the west side of the building, which had the same architecture and increased the total square footage from the original 40,000 to a final 123,000. It was home to the Legislature until 1960, when the current house and senate buildings were constructed, and the Governor's Office until 1974, when the executive tower was built. The state at that time had a plan of converting the original Capitol into a museum dedicated to Arizona's history. After a restoration, the building was re-opened as a museum in 1981. In the 1990s, more than \$3 million was spent to renovate the Capitol and rooms were restored to their original design. Again, due to budget deficits construction was stopped on a few rooms on the third floor and they remain incomplete. The Capitol is on the National Register of Historic Places.

On January 14, 2010, the Arizona State Department of Administration reported that it had sold the surrounding state buildings to private investors: the tower, the two flanking legislative buildings, and other state structures. The old capitol was not part of this transaction.

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona\\_State\\_Capitol#History](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona_State_Capitol#History)

## STATE MOTTO

"God Enriches" (Ditat Deus)

Arizona's state motto is *Ditat Deus* in Latin, translating as "God Enriches."

## STATE FLAG

The state flag of Arizona "represents the copper star of Arizona rising from a blue field in the face of a setting sun" (quote from legislation).

In 1911 a rifle team from the Arizona Territory was scheduled for a competition match in Ohio and needed a flag to represent their team. Charles Harris (the Adjutant General of the territory) quickly designed what was to become the Arizona state flag (Arizona was admitted to the Union in 1912 - this flag became the official flag of Arizona in 1917).



The 13 gold and red "beams" or "rays" on Arizona's flag represent the sun setting over the western desert and the original 13 colonies (red and gold colors were also carried by Coronado's Spanish expedition in search of the Seven Cities of Cibola in 1540).

The center star signifies copper production (Arizona produces more copper than any other state in the country). The field of blue is the same "liberty blue" as the United States flag. Blue and "old gold" are also Arizona's official state colors. The license plate below features these colors and also Arizona's state nickname (Grand Canyon State).

## STATE NICKNAMES

### *The Grand Canyon State*

This popular nickname for Arizona references the incomparable Grand Canyon in the northern part of the state, one of the world's natural wonders.

### *The Copper State*

Producing more copper than any other state in the union, the Copper State is an apt nickname for Arizona. This nickname is reinforced by the copper star that is at the center of the Arizona State Flag.

### *The Apache State*

Arizona was referred to as the Apache State because of the great numbers of Apache that lived in the territory. The Apache people fought bravely to keep newcomers from the state for many years in the 19th century.

### *The Aztec State*

This nickname was probably in reference to the Aztec place names found in the Gila and Salt River valleys. Some of the ruins along these rivers may have been built by the Aztecs.



### *The Baby State*

For a period of time, Arizona was the "baby" of the republic. It was the last of the contiguous 48 states to be admitted to the union in 1912. It was another 47 years later that Alaska and Hawaii gained statehood.

### *The Valentine State*

Happy Valentines Day! Yes, Arizona has been referred to as the Valentine State because it was admitted to the union on February 14th!

### *Italy of America*

The Italy of America nickname compares the beautiful and scenic mountain regions of the state of Arizona with the mountains of Italy.

### *The Sand Hill State*

This nickname is a reference to the desert-like appearance of many areas throughout the state.

### *The Sunset State*

This nickname most certainly stemmed from the beautiful sunsets throughout the state and particularly at the Grand Canyon. Arizona does provide a magnificent foreground for dramatic sunsets. "Sunset Land," a variation of the Sunset State, has also been recorded. Patrick Hamilton, in his book, *The Resources of Colorado*, published in 1884, stated "...there is no region on the globe, not even excepting the Italian peninsula, that can show such grand effects of light and shade, such gorgeousness of coloring, or such magnificent sun-bathed landscapes. When the banks of clouds around the western horizon look like masses of burnished gold set in a sea of silver, then is presented a picture to which neither pen nor pencil can do justice."

## **STATE BIRD**



The Cactus Wren (*Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi*) was designated as the state bird of Arizona in 1931.

The largest North American wren (7-9 inches), Cactus Wrens are native to the arid south- western United States extending to central Mexico.

Cactus Wrens primarily eat insects (including ants, beetles, grasshoppers, and wasps) and occasional seeds and fruits. Almost all water is obtained from its food (a true bird of the desert, the Cactus Wren rarely drinks free standing water, even when available).

**Below, you will find 15 general questions to help review what you have learned. Use the following page(s) for documenting your answers. Older students may choose to write a State Report as well.**

**Review Questions:**

1. List the states and/or bodies of water that border this state.
2. What was the date of statehood?
3. What is the state capital?
4. What is the state motto?
5. Name at least one state nickname.
6. Describe the state flag.
7. What is the state bird?
8. What is the state flower?
9. List at least 5 other state symbols.
10. Describe this state's government.
11. Name the major imports and exports for this state.
12. Describe the weather and climate in this state.
13. List at least 5 famous people from this state.
14. Describe at least 5 significant events in this state's history.
15. What other interesting information have you learned about this state?

## **Answers to Review Questions:**

