

## INTRODUCTION:

**W**elcome to the wonderful world of geography! Utilizing geography in the study of history is a key element in helping history make sense. There is an old adage: "We fear what we don't understand." The traditional way of memorizing names, dates, and places, didn't help ease that fear, either! Instead, we memorized for tests, usually promptly forgetting the information, and rarely becoming interested in the topics because we had no time to delve into them and understand them on a personal level. There are two key initial elements that help gain an understanding of history in a way that lays a foundation to explore it further. This way, the child develops not just an interest, but hopefully a passion to know more.

### UNDERSTANDING HISTORY (AND LIKING IT!)

History is made of stories and legacies from a different time and place. Each story taught is like a puzzle piece—it has its own shape, size, and image, but may pose a challenge when trying to connect it to other stories, making it a random happening or isolated event. In order to make sense, these "happenings" need to go from random to concrete, and that's where these two important elements come in. *Timelines* are used to plot the "when" in history; a crucial piece of information to determine how the story will make sense to its surroundings before and after. *Mapping*, in turn, plots the "where." This is necessary for placing the story at its location. Like a sailor measuring latitude and longitude to determine a distinct destination, timelines and mapping define a context that allows us to navigate history through both time and place. Now a child (or an adult!) has a concrete framework to build his knowledge upon, and those puzzle pieces of "random happenings" can be joined together to build a bigger, more meaningful picture.

### OUR MAPS

Our Olde World Style United States Maps of each state come in three formats: with labels, without labels, and in outline form. The labeled version details bordering states, water ways, and the state capital. The version without labels provides physical features, and the outline is just that! No physical features, just the border of the state and political lines of surrounding states. Outline maps allow your student to not only add in their own mountain ranges and water ways, but also to plot other statistics, such as population, native reservations, crop locations, weather patterns, topography, or a myriad of other ideas! The variety of maps allows your students to use the map that best fits their needs.

### USING THE MAPS

Our maps can be printed in several ways, adding more variety to your choices. Of course there is the standard way of printing a map on white paper, but once you change the color, you change the feel of it altogether! Print our Olde World maps on ivory or parchment paper and suddenly you have a map that appears like it was from years gone by! The map on the cover of this CD case was created by printing the map on a speckled stock, and coloring it in with watercolor pencils. Although you can use markers or crayons to color the maps, colored pencils work best to maintain readability, while allowing a range of color and attention to detail.

Include your maps in your 3-ring binders with your other study materials on a topic, or add them to projects such as Lap Books™! If you are unfamiliar with a Lap Book™, it is a file folder containing paper projects on individual lessons, culminating into one "portfolio" on a topic. (*Visit our website to view photos of various Lap Books™ there! [www.homeschoolinthewoods.com](http://www.homeschoolinthewoods.com)*) Maps are always a welcome addition to a Lap Book™ and can be attached as a panel or reduced on a copier or in your printer commands to fit the size

## INTRODUCTION: CONTINUED...

### USING THE MAPS (CONT.)

you need. You can even use maps as game boards! Use stickers to create a path traveling around the map. Then create questions regarding your studies that have to be answered correctly before each player can advance his marker!

In addition to the state maps there are a handful of maps pertinent to America's history. Included are locations of *Native Americans*, *Colonial North America*, the *Mitchell Map*, *Slave and Free States during 1860*, as well as *Union and Confederate States*. There are also maps of *The Growth of the United States* at 6 stages, from the era of a fledgling country through to 1959, when our last states were added. Also provided is a map of the *United States* with both *political* state borders and with just *physical* features. Finally, backing out one more time takes us to a map of *North America*, showing the United States in relation to Canada and Mexico.

### USING THE NOTEBOOKING PAGES

As a bonus to you, we have included *State Fact Sheets* for each state! Each sheet contains state symbols and information, as well as a space for the student to add additional facts or history. Flags are provided to print in color and cut out to adhere to the notebook page.



ALABAMA



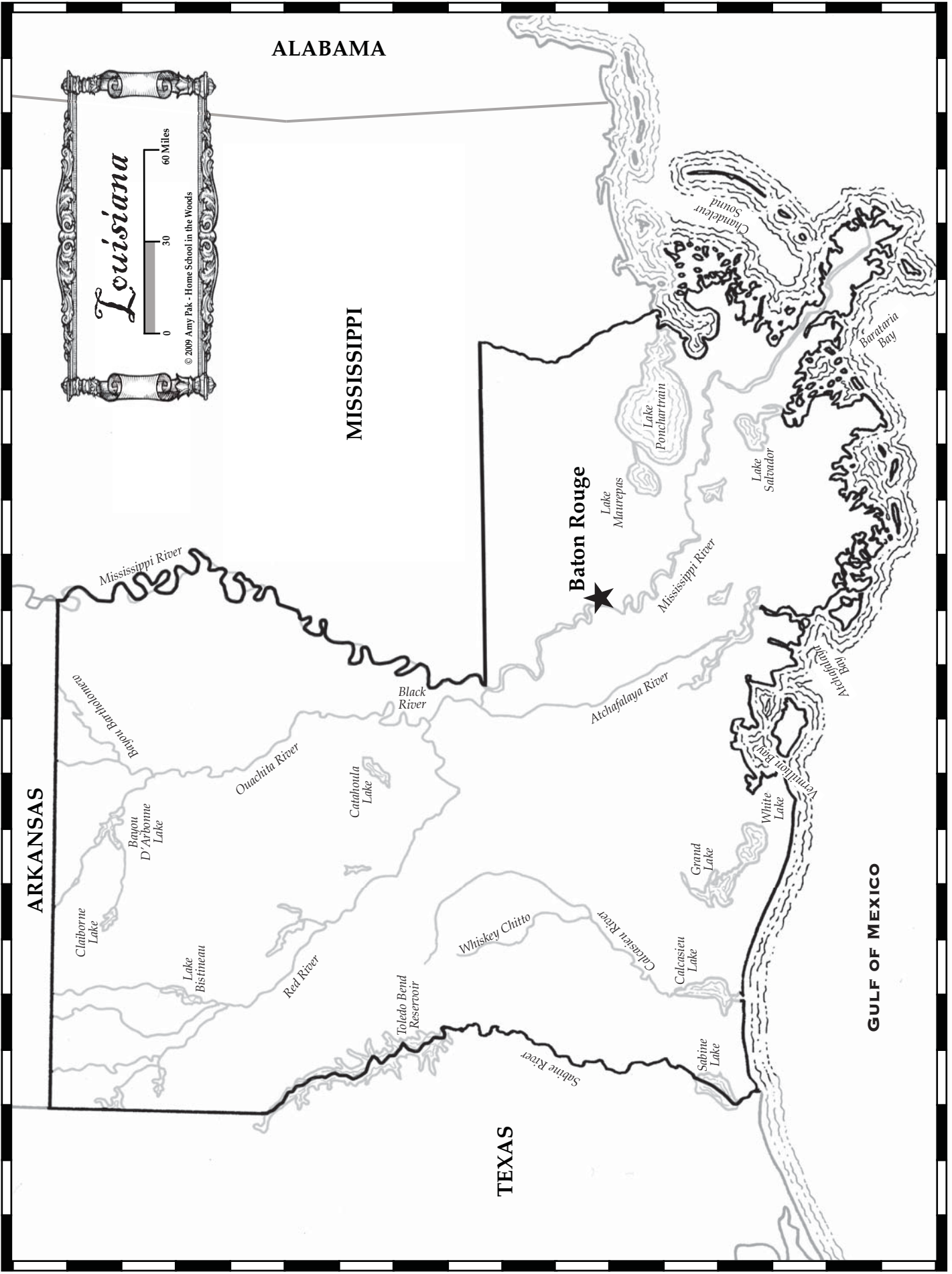
MISSISSIPPI

Baton Rouge

ARKANSAS

TEXAS

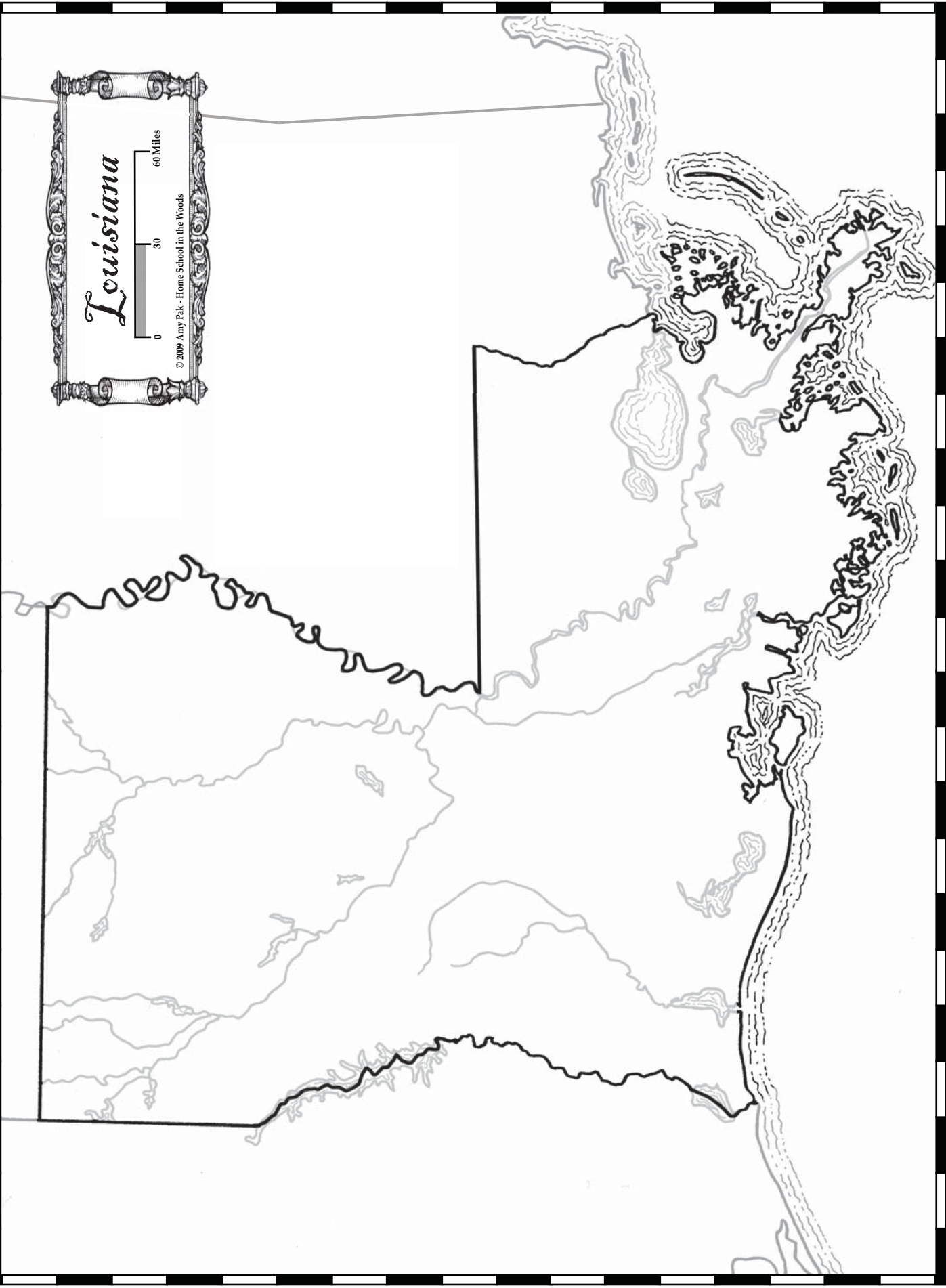
GULF OF MEXICO



# Louisiana



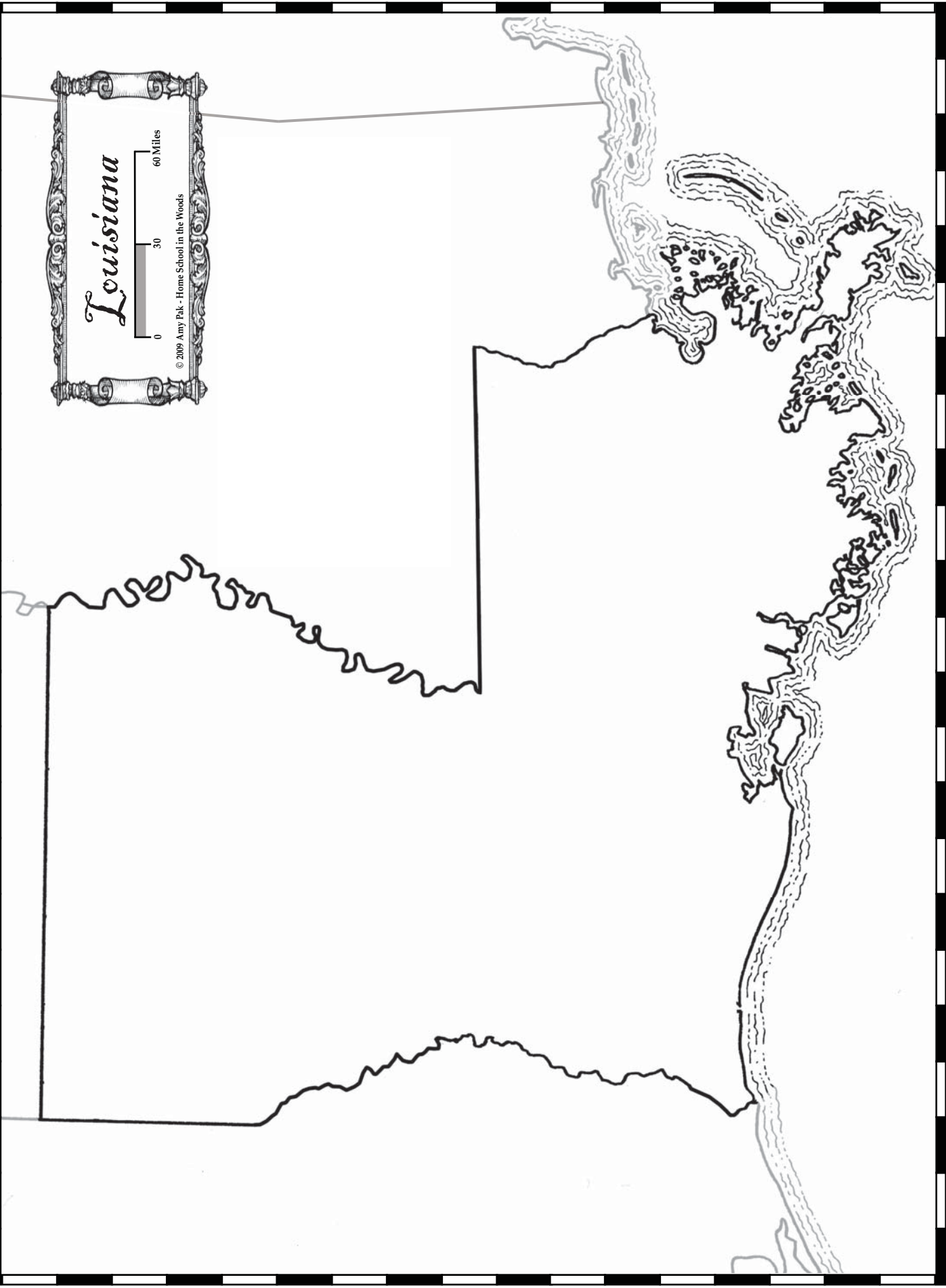
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# Louisiana



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# LOUISIANA

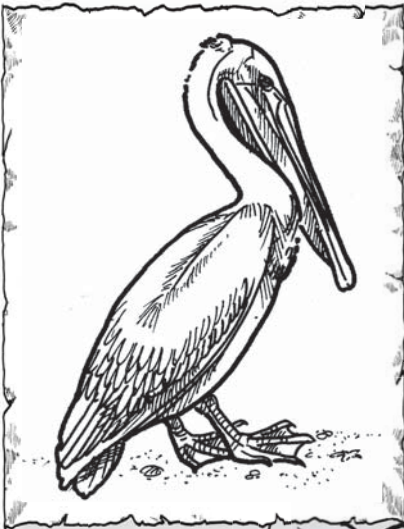


Capital City: \_\_\_\_\_

Bordered by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ state to enter the Union, on:

Abbreviation: \_\_\_\_\_



State Bird: \_\_\_\_\_

State Tree: \_\_\_\_\_

State Flower: \_\_\_\_\_

State Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

State Reptile: \_\_\_\_\_

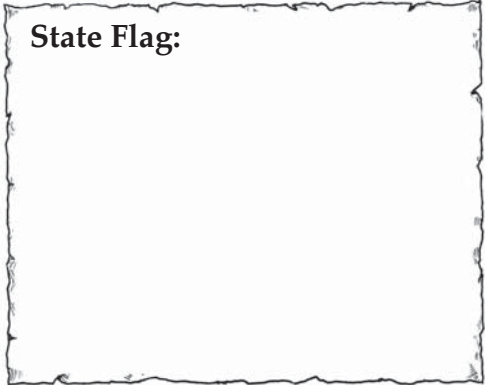
State Gem: \_\_\_\_\_

State Motto: \_\_\_\_\_



Other Facts & History:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# LOUISIANA

Capital City: Baton Rouge

Bordered by: Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas

18th state to enter the Union, on:

April 30, 1812

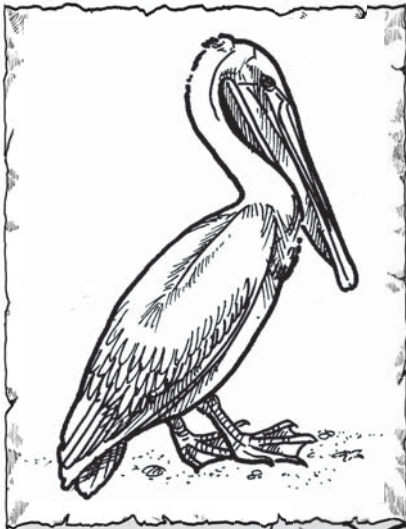


Abbreviation: LA

State Bird: Eastern Brown Pelican

State Tree: Bald Cypress

State Flower: Magnolia Blossom



State Animal:  
Louisiana Black Bear

State Reptile:  
Alligator

State Gem:  
Agate

State Motto:  
"Union, Justice, and Confidence"

Other Facts  
& History:

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