



FOURTH QUARTER

STATE/PROVINCE HISTORY

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

For this unit your best resource will be your local library. In the children's section, locate books on your state or province for the fourth grade reading level. An encyclopedia will give you a good overview, and will provide basic data and maps. Most libraries maintain a pamphlet file on historical sites, natives, and public services in your area.

Encourage your child to compare the information about your state with the information about other states. In Fourth Grade your child should memorize the fifty states and capitals, and be able to locate them on a map. During this quarter, give your child periodic quizzes to test his memorization of the states and capitals. Quizzes and resources about each of the states are available on the following web sites:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/>

Information on the history of your parish and diocese should be available on the local level, usually at a local church or seminary library. Another source for information is your Chamber of Commerce. They normally have packets of information which are available free of charge, for both state/provincial and local history.

At least one field trip should be made by the student and parent. Two field trips are recommended for this course, one from each of the following categories.

A. Religious

1. Cathedral
2. Shrine or historic church
3. Convent or seminary

B. Historical

1. State Capital
2. Courthouse or city hall
3. Natural resource (such as a state park)
4. Historic building or part of a town

After the field trip the student should write a report on what he has seen, describing the more interesting aspects of the field trip, and the importance of the place visited. This report should be sent to Seton at the end of the quarter.

WEEK TWENTY-EIGHT

The people of a state or province choose symbols to represent their land. Such symbols often include birds, flowers, mottoes, flags, and even songs.

Day 1

Learn about your state/provincial bird. Do the males and females look alike or are they different? If they are different, which is more colorful? Does the bird have coloring which helps it to hide, or is it easy to see? See if you can spot this bird around your home.

Day 2

Learn about your state/provincial flower. Does it grow on a bush, a plant, or a tree? What color is it? Is it still abundant in your area? Is there any place in or near your community where you can see it?

Day 3

Draw a picture of your state/provincial bird or flower. Be careful to color it as accurately as possible. Do *Maps Charts Graphs* Lesson 24.

Day 4

Take a nature walk through your neighborhood and try to spot your state flower or bird. When you see this bird or flower, it should remind you of your state or province. They should also remind us of how much God loves us. Jesus told his disciples that God takes care of the birds and makes sure that they have enough to eat (Matthew 6:25-34). God is always mindful of our needs because He loves us.

WEEK TWENTY-NINE

Day 1

Each state/province has its own special shape. Draw or trace a map of your state or province. Locate it on a map. Make a list of the bodies of water, or other states/provinces that border yours. Label these things on your map.

Day 2

Each state or province is divided into special sections known as counties (Louisiana uses “parishes,” and Canadian divisions may vary by province). In what county do you live? Add it to your map.

Do *Maps Charts Graphs* Lesson 25.

Day 3

There is another division in your state. The Catholic Church divides the country into dioceses which are led by a bishop. These are divided into parishes led by pastors. What is the name of your diocese? Who is your bishop? What are the geographical boundaries of your diocese? What is the name of your parish? Who is your pastor? What are the geographical boundaries of your parish?

Day 4

This would be a good time to take your field trip from Category A in the General Instructions.

WEEK THIRTY

Day 1

Each state has natural resources, which are special gifts from God to the people of your state/province. What natural resources are in your area? List ways in which water is used.

What are the major lakes in your state or province? How can you use water wisely?