



My State

The individual states in our nation are like the patches of a quilt with the state's individual rights on the square, and the constitution being the thread that holds them all together. What a beautiful picture of the various people and ideas that make our nation great.

Name _____

Do all of the following requirements (1-5)

- ____1. Get a state map from your state, AAA, or other source and do the following:
 - ____a. Mark the original state boundaries on the date it was admitted into the union if there have been any changes.
 - ____b. Mark the locations of the earliest settlements and/or missions in the territory of your state.
 - ____c. Mark the highest and lowest elevation points.
 - ____d. Identify the state capital and the five most populous cities.
 - ____e. Show, on the map, the major geographical areas of interest in your state.
- ____2. List the major Native American tribes who inhabited your state first. Show on the map where they lived, describe any major battles they fought, and tell where they ended up geographically in our nation.
- ____3. Explain where the major immigrant groups to your state were from and why they chose to settle in your state. Show on the map where the different groups settled.
- ____4. Explain the circumstances that led to the creation of your state.
- ____5. Describe the major ecosystems of your state and show on the map where they are located.

Do four of these optional requirements (6-21)

- ____6. Explain the modes of transportation used in your state and if one is more prevalent in the more populated areas. Show the locations of major transportation infrastructure on the map.
- ____7. Choose a current event in your state or local community and make your opinion known through a letter or phone call to your local or state representative.
- ____8. List the National Parks, National Historic Trails, National Scenic Trails, National Recreation Trails, State Scenic Trails, and State Historic Trails found in your state. Pick one and describe its history and its current use and purpose.

- _____9. Visit one of the State or National Parks in your state and describe what you learned on your visit.
- _____10. Hike on one of the trails identified in requirement 8 above.
- _____11. List all the endangered species of animals in your state. Choose one and give a description of it and its habitat to your Patrol or Troop. Show the location of its habitat on the map.
- _____12. Calculate the total square mileage in your state, the square mileage of inhabited areas, and the square mileage uninhabited areas.
- _____13. **Looking at state's rights and laws, find three laws in your state that do not apply in a neighboring state.**
- _____14. **Find an old law still on the books that is so farfetched you can't imagine it being enforced.** Explain why it was made a law and how it might infringe on our constitutional rights.
- _____15. Find a recently enacted law that appears to be unconstitutional. Explain when it was made a law and why.
- _____16. Make a list of ten or more things that you would recommend someone do while visiting your state.
- _____17. Describe the economy of your state and the industries that drive the economy. Show the areas of the major industries on the map.
- _____18. Visit a museum or monument that honors something native to your state.
- _____19. **Describe your state's affiliation during the Civil War, its involvement and notable events and people.**
- _____20. Take a tour of your state capital and legislative offices. Meet your state representatives if possible.
- _____21. Go to the Capitol in Washington D.C. and take the tour. Note all the State statues and document the one from your state. Meet a Representative if possible.

Trail Badge Mentor Signature

Date

Copyright © 2016 by Trail Life USA. All rights reserved. As an owner of The Trailman's Handbook AND a registered member of Trail Life USA you may only print portions of this Trail Badge for your own personal use in Trail Life USA. No part of this publication may otherwise be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise, without either the prior written permission of Trail Life USA or authorization through payment of an appropriate per-copy fee.