

# Our 50 States Answer Key and Literature Guide

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### Lesson 1: Maine

1. What are some of the items the Wabanaki people made using trees?  
*tools, houses, birch bark canoes (page 2)*
2. Companies have built many mills in Maine that produce what? *paper (page 3)*
3. During part of the year, people on Cadillac Mountain are the first to see what? *sunrise (page 4)*
4. Cadillac Mountain is part of *Acadia National Park. (page 4)*
5. Where does the statue *Lady of Wisdom* stand in Maine? *On top of the State House (page 5)*

### Lesson 3: New Hampshire

1. God put an abundant supply of *granite* in the White Mountains. (10)
2. What is the name of the rock formation that is featured on the New Hampshire quarter? *Old Man of the Mountain (11)*
3. The Lost River disappears into a *gorge* that is partially filled with boulders. (12)
4. What was Concord once famous for making? *stagecoaches (12)*
5. Mount Washington is the tallest mountain in what region? *New England (13)*

### Lesson 5: Vermont

1. What maple product does Vermont produce more of than any other state?  
*maple syrup (20)*
2. Cabot Creamery won an award for the world's best *cheddar* cheese. (20)
3. When a fire broke out in the second state house in Montpelier in 1857, what did people throw onto the fire to try to put it out? *chunks of frozen snow (21)*
4. Workers cut *marble* out of the Danby Quarry. (22)
5. What is one type of fossil people have found in Vermont? *coral reef, mammoth, or beluga whale (22)*

### Lesson 7: Massachusetts

1. Mount Graylock is in the Berkshire Hills, which is part of what mountains?  
*Appalachian Mountains (28)*
2. *Boston* is the largest city in New England. (29)
3. Plimoth Plantation shows visitors what life was like for the *Pilgrims* who landed there in 1620. (30)
4. Some of the Wampanoag people live in the town of Aquinnah on what island?  
*Martha's Vineyard (30)*
5. Stellwagen Bank is one of the best places in the world to see what type of sea creature? *whales (31)*

### Lesson 9: Rhode Island

1. Roger Williams wanted Rhode Island to be a place for people of all *religions*. (38)
2. An *ecosystem* is a system in a particular area where certain plants, animals, weather, and landscapes work together. (39)
3. Roger Williams named the capital of Rhode Island Providence because he was thankful for what? *God's merciful providence to him (40)*
4. An *estuary* is an area where rivers and streams meet the ocean. (40)
5. The Breakers is a large *house (or home, mansion, or cottage)* in Newport. (41)

### Lesson 11: Connecticut

1. What body of water separates Connecticut and New York? *Long Island Sound (46)*
2. The hundreds of islands near New Haven are the *Thimble Islands*. (47)
3. Connecticut has a large land formation that looks like a sleeping what? *giant (47)*
4. What did a construction worker find in Connecticut in 1966? *dinosaur footprint (48)*
5. The Bible teaches us to *pray* for our government leaders. (49)

## New England Test

1. b. paper (3)
2. a. granite (10)
3. c. maple syrup (20)
4. b. Boston (29)
5. a. estuary (40)
6. c. Islands (47)
7. b. Texas
8. a. Rhode Island

## Lesson 13: New York

1. What is the largest city in America? *New York City* (56)
2. The *Hudson* River flows from the Adirondack Mountains to New York City. (57)
3. What did Lake Placid host in 1932 and again in 1980? *Olympic Winter Games* (58)
4. The St. Lawrence *Seaway* allows ships to travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes and then back again. (58)
5. Niagara Falls is on the border between the United States and what other country? *Canada* (59)

## Lesson 15: Pennsylvania

1. Pittsburgh has 446 *bridges*, more than any other city in the world. (65)
2. The town of Hershey is famous for making *chocolate*. (66)
3. Many *Amish* families live in Lancaster County and drive buggies pulled by horses. (67)
4. In what building in Philadelphia did men sign the Declaration of Independence? *Independence Hall* (67)
5. How long was Philadelphia the capital of the United States while workers built Washington, D.C.? *ten years* (67)

## Lesson 17: New Jersey

1. Geologists believe an extinct *volcano* lies under Ratan Hill. (74)
2. What forms the border between New Jersey and Delaware? *Delaware River* (75)
3. Millions of migrating *birds* come to Delaware Bay every spring to feast on the eggs of horseshoe crabs. (75)
4. The trees in a *maritime* forest withstand strong winds, flooding, and the salty spray of the ocean. (76)
5. What game has many places on its board that are named after places in Atlantic City? *Monopoly* (77)

## Lesson 19: Delaware

1. Some call the menhaden the most important *fish* in the sea. (82)
2. Fort Delaware is on an island in the Delaware River named after what garden vegetable? *peas* (83)
3. E. I. du Pont built a mill near Wilmington, Delaware, that produced what? *gunpowder* (84)
4. In 2015 the governor of Delaware issued an official *pardon* for Samuel Burris, the man who was sold on the steps of the Old State House in 1847. (85)
5. According to Ephesians 4:32, we should be *kind* to one another. (85)

## Lesson 21: Maryland

1. Wild *horses* live on Assateague Island. (92)
2. What is the largest estuary in the United States? *Chesapeake Bay* (93)
3. Many families on Smith Island earn their living catching *crabs*. (94)
4. What holds the dome of the Maryland State House together instead of nails? *wooden pegs* (94)
5. What river marks the border between Maryland and Virginia? *Potomac River* (95)

### Lesson 23: Washington, D.C.

1. Our nation's capital city is named after which president? *George Washington (100)*
2. The president lives in the *White House* in Washington, D.C. *(101)*
3. The National *Mall* has several monuments and memorials. It stretches from the Potomac River to the U.S. Capitol. *(101-103)*
4. A tiny version of the Lincoln Memorial is on the back of what coin? *penny (102)*
5. How many flags are around the bottom of the Washington Monument? *fifty (102)*

### Mid-Atlantic Test

1. c. New York City *(56)*
2. b. Pittsburgh *(65)*
3. a. Delaware Bay *(75)*
4. a. menhaden *(82)*
5. c. estuary *(93)*
6. b. National Mall *(101-103)*
7. b. Delaware River *(75)*
8. a. Arizona

### Lesson 25: Virginia

1. The men and boys who settled Jamestown traveled from what country? *England (110)*
2. Native people taught the settlers of Smithfield how to gather *salt* from the ocean water and use it to preserve meat. *(111)*
3. Who designed the state capitol of Virginia? *Thomas Jefferson (111)*
4. The largest instrument in the world is a giant *organ* in Luray Caverns. *(112)*
5. The Appalachian *Trail* passes through Virginia and is 2,000 miles long. *(113)*

### Lesson 27: West Virginia

1. West Virginia was once part of the state of *Virginia. (118)*
2. The northern portion of West Virginia is called the *panhandle. (118)*
3. Where in West Virginia did the Army train U.S. soldiers in rock climbing? *Seneca Rocks (119)*
4. What kind of mining is an important part of the culture and economy of West Virginia? *coal mining (120)*
5. The New River Gorge *Bridge* stretches over 3,000 feet and is featured on the back of the West Virginia state quarter. *(121)*

### Lesson 29: Kentucky

1. Lexington is the *Horse Capital of the World. (128)*
2. What is the most famous horse race in the United States? *Kentucky Derby (128)*
3. What river cuts off Kentucky Bend from the rest of the state? *Mississippi River (129)*
4. What is the largest known cave system in the world? *Mammoth Cave (130)*
5. Cumberland Falls is the only place on our side of the world where *moonbows* appear regularly. *(131)*

### Lesson 31: Tennessee

1. What mountains lie on the border between Tennessee and North Carolina? *Great Smoky Mountains (136)*
2. Bristol, Tennessee, is the birthplace of what kind of music? *country music (137)*
3. The largest underground *lake* is in Craighead Caverns. *(137)*
4. The nickname of Nashville, the capital of Tennessee, is *Music City. (137)*
5. What famous rock 'n' roll star lived in Memphis? *Elvis Presley (139)*

### Lesson 33: North Carolina

1. Companies that make rugs, tablecloths, curtains, and clothes are part of what industry? *textile industry* (146)
2. What precious gem is found in North Carolina and nowhere else in the country? *hiddenite* (147)
3. What vegetable do farmers grow more of in North Carolina than in any other state? *sweet potatoes* (148)
4. The Outer Banks are a string of *barrier* islands. (149)
5. Sir Walter Raleigh brought settlers to *Roanoke* Island in the Outer Banks. (149)

### Lesson 35: South Carolina

1. The *palmetto* tree is featured on the flag of South Carolina. (154)
2. What does the Michelin company make at several factories in South Carolina? *tires* (154)
3. What popular beach is named for a type of tree that grows along its shore? *Myrtle Beach* (156)
4. What plant do people grow on Wadmalaw Island near Charleston? *tea* (156)
5. Weaving sweetgrass baskets is part of the *Gullah/Geechee/Gullah Geechee* culture. (157)

### South (Part 1) Test

1. c. England (110)
2. a. coal (120)
3. b. Kentucky (128)
4. c. music (139)
5. a. textile (146)
6. b. Gullah (157)
7. a. Arizona
8. c. Appalachian (128, 136)

### Lesson 37: Georgia

1. What covers the live oak trees in Savannah, the oldest city in Georgia? *Spanish moss* (164)
2. Okefenokee is a large what in southern Georgia that was once home to Oscar the Alligator? *swamp* (165)
3. Sweet-tasting Vidalia *onions* only grow in Georgia. (165)
4. New Echota, Georgia, was once the capital of the *Cherokee* nation. (166)
5. Dalton, Georgia, became famous for bedspreads. Now it is most famous for what? *carpet* (167)

### Lesson 39: Alabama

1. Alabama is the Heart of *Dixie*. (172)
2. What did people build along the Tennessee River that helped make boat travel easier? *dams* (173)
3. In the 1950s, scientists in Huntsville developed *rockets* that launched our country's first satellite into outer space. (173)
4. What does the Mueller company make in Albertville, Alabama? *fire hydrants* (174)
5. What creature hides in sand dunes on the Alabama coast and leaves footprints in the sand? *beach mice* (175)

### Lesson 41: Mississippi

1. The *magnolia* is the state tree of Mississippi. (182)
2. What river forms the western border of the state of Mississippi? *Mississippi River* (183)
3. What is the most valuable crop farmers raise in the Mississippi Delta? *cotton* (183)
4. What type of fish do Mississippi farmers raise in ponds in the Mississippi Delta? *catfish* (183)
5. During World War II, soldiers trained dogs on *Cat* Island off the coast of Mississippi. (185)

### Lesson 43: Arkansas

1. What store did Sam Walton open in Rogers, Arkansas, in 1962? *Wal-mart (191)*
2. Arkansas grows more *rice* than any other state. (191)
3. Stuttgart, Arkansas, hosts the World's Champion *Duck Calling Contest*. (191)
4. What animal is a pest for farmers and also the mascot for the University of Arkansas? *razorbacks (191-192)*
5. People have found over 30,000 what in the ground at a state park in Arkansas? *diamonds (193)*

### Lesson 45: Louisiana

1. A swampy area in a river or lake where the water is still is called a *bayou*. (200)
2. What is another name for alligator snapping turtles? *dinosaur turtles (200)*
3. What animal does the city of Rayne celebrate with a festival each year? *frog (201)*
4. New Orleans is the birthplace of what kind of music? *jazz (202)*
5. People rebuilt a *lighthouse* beside Lake Pontchartrain after Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita nearly destroyed it in 2005. (203)

### Lesson 47: Florida

1. What animal lives in every county in Florida and has grown to over 14 feet long? *alligator (208)*
2. Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine is built of coquina. What is coquina made of? *shells (208)*
3. *Rockets* have been launching from Cape Canaveral since 1950. (210)
4. "River of grass" is another name for what area in southern Florida? *the Everglades (211)*
5. The Florida *Keys* are a string of islands off the southern tip of Florida. (211)

### The South (Part 2) Test

1. a. swamp (165)
2. c. Alabama (172)
3. a. cotton (183)
4. b. razorbacks (191-192)
5. b. bayou (200)
6. a. Everglades (211)
7. a. Louisiana
8. b. Maine

### Lesson 49: Michigan

1. In what part of Michigan do Yoopers live? *Upper Peninsula (218)*
2. An archipelago is a group of *islands*. (219)
3. What did workers build on the St. Mary's River to help ships get around the rapids? *Soo Locks (or locks) (219)*
4. People are not allowed to have what on Mackinac Island? *a car (220)*
5. Because of all the automobile factories there, Detroit became *Motor City*. (221)

### Lesson 51: Ohio

1. Marblehead Lighthouse stands on the shore of what Great Lake? *Lake Erie (226)*
2. Ashtabula County has nineteen *covered* bridges. (227)
3. What pools fill with water during the rainy season and dry up during other parts of the year? *vernal pools (228)*
4. The city of Cincinnati lies beside the *Ohio* River. (229)
5. Ohio is the Birthplace of *Aviation*. (229)

### Lesson 53: Indiana

1. What community in Indiana is named after one of the oldest snacks in the world? *Popcorn (236)*
2. Racing fans watch the Indy 500 race at the Indianapolis Motor *Speedway*. (237)

3. What type of stone from Indiana did workers use to build the Empire State Building in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.? (*Indiana limestone* (238))
4. What type of fruit do the people of Mitchell, Indiana, celebrate each September? (*persimmons* (238))
5. In the 1800s, it was popular to drink and bathe in *mineral* water in West Baden Springs and French Lick, Indiana. (239)

#### Lesson 55: Illinois

1. What carries grain from Illinois to the Gulf of Mexico on the Mississippi River? (*barges* (244))
2. What is the name of the site where native people built large earth mounds in southern Illinois? (*Cahokia Mounds* (245))
3. The town of Olney is famous for its *white* (*albino*) squirrels. (245)
4. *Chicago* is the largest city in Illinois. (246)
5. What president once lived in Springfield? (*Abraham Lincoln* (247))

#### Lesson 57: Wisconsin

1. The main village of the *Ojibwe* people was once on Madeline Island. (254)
2. The Wisconsin State Capitol is the only state capitol built on an *isthmus*. (255)
3. What sport do the Green Bay Packers play? (*football* (256))
4. The land and climate of the Door Peninsula are perfect for growing what type of fruit? (*cherries* (256))
5. Wisconsin produces over three billion pounds of *cheese* every year, more than any other state. (257)

#### Lesson 59: Minnesota

1. What are the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis called since they are so close together? (*Twin Cities* (263))
2. What nickname did Monticello earn after a local woman began feeding large birds there? (*Swan City* (264))
3. Split Rock Lighthouse began shining on Lake *Superior* in 1910. (264)
4. The Northwest *Angle* is a small part of Minnesota that is not connected to the rest of the state. (264)
5. What plant do the Chippewa still harvest by hand from canoes on the White Earth Reservation? (*wild rice* (265))

#### The Midwest (Part 1) Test

1. a. islands (219)
2. c. Aviation (229)
3. a. Indianapolis (237)
4. b. barges (244)
5. c. cheese (257)
6. b. Swan City (264)
7. c. Lake Pontchartrain (203)
8. a. Minnesota

#### Lesson 61: Iowa

1. Iowa farms produce more *pigs* and their *chickens* lay more eggs than any other state. (272)
2. The word *rural* has to do with life in the country and away from big cities. (272)
3. Edward Blashfield's mural in the Iowa State Capitol features pioneers traveling in what? (*covered wagon* (273))
4. Immigrants from *Germany* settled in the Amana colonies in 1855. (274)
5. What is the name of Grant Wood's painting that features a woman standing beside a man holding a pitchfork? (*American Gothic* (275))

### Lesson 63: Missouri

1. Chillicothe, Missouri, is the Home of *Sliced Bread*. (280)
2. The Gateway Arch stands in the city of *St. Louis*. (281)
3. What do people call the part of Missouri that juts out of the state's southern border? (*Missouri*) *Bootheel* (281)
4. The *Ozark* Mountains cover much of southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. (282)
5. Many *statues* stand in the Hall of Famous Missourians in the Missouri State Capitol. (283)

### Lesson 65: Kansas

1. Kansas is the *Sunflower* State. (290)
2. What type of prairie that once covered around 170 million acres of North America is preserved at a national preserve in the Flint Hills of Kansas? *tallgrass prairie* (291)
3. One of the largest deposits of rock *salt* lies under the ground in Hutchinson. (292)
4. The Monument Rocks (Chalk Pyramids) are filled with *fossils*. (292)
5. How does the surrounding land look at the highest point in Kansas? *flat or like a giant pancake* (293)

### Lesson 67: Nebraska

1. What is one of the animals carved among the petroglyphs at Indian Cave State Park? *horse or bison* (298)
2. What is the name of the statue that stands on top of the Nebraska State Capitol? *The Sower* (299)
3. Sandhill *cranes* are a large bird that migrate through the Sandhills of Nebraska and rest on the Platte River. (299)
4. Bailey Yard in North Platte is the busiest *train* yard in the world. (300)

5. What Nebraska landmark did pioneers who headed west in the 1800s write about the most? *Chimney Rock* (300)

### Lesson 69: South Dakota

1. What strong and durable pinkish rock lies in the ground around Sioux Falls? *Sioux quartzite* (308)
2. What is the name of the lake in Pierre that is fed by an artesian well and never completely freezes in winter? *Capitol Lake* (309)
3. Mount *Rushmore* is a monument in the Black Hills that honors four of our nation's presidents. (310)
4. Before 1875 the Black Hills belonged to the *Lakota-Sioux* people. (310)
5. In 1974 George Hanson discovered a seven-foot *mammoth* tusk in the ground in Hot Springs. (311)

### Lesson 71: North Dakota

1. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, what type of large farms brought sudden wealth for farm owners in North Dakota? *bonanza farms* (317)
2. Around 1,500 *wind* turbines generate electricity in North Dakota. (318)
3. 8,962 people set a world record for making *snow angels* on the grounds of the state capitol in Bismarck. (318)
4. The Mandan, Arikara, and Hidatsa people once lived in *earthlodge* villages along the Knife and Missouri Rivers. (318)
5. The International Peace Garden is in the United States and what other country? *Canada* (319)

## The Midwest (Part 2) Test

1. a. rural (272)
2. c. bootheel (281)
3. a. Kansas (290)
4. c. Chimney Rock (300)
5. c. Mount Rushmore (310)
6. b. Canada (319)
7. b. Sandhills (299)
8. a. Maine

## Lesson 73: Montana

1. What is one kind of berry that people and bears love to eat in Montana? *huckleberries* (326)
2. Where three rivers meet in Montana, the *Missouri* River begins. (327)
3. Millions of *grasshoppers* are frozen in a glacier in Montana's Beartooth Mountains. (327)
4. Because of all the mining that happened there, people once called *Butte*, Montana, the Richest Hill on Earth. (328)
5. What is one animal that lives in Glacier National Park? *mountain goats, bighorn sheep, mountain lions, or elk* (329)

## Lesson 75: Idaho

1. More *potatoes* grow in Idaho than in any other state. (334)
2. In 1969 a group of *astronauts* traveled to Craters of the Moon in Idaho to study and explore. (335)
3. At Bruneau *Dunes* State Park, people hike barefoot, fly kites, and go sandboarding. (336)
4. Boise, Idaho, is the City of *Trees*. (337)
5. Idaho Panhandle National Forest is an excellent place to see what beautiful sight in the nighttime sky? *northern lights (or aurora borealis)* (337)

## Lesson 77: Wyoming

1. Wyoming mines more *coal* than any other state. (345)
2. A statue of what imaginary creature stands in Douglas, Wyoming? *jackalope* (345)
3. The city of *Cheyenne* hosts the largest outdoor rodeo and western celebration in the world. (346)
4. How many tribes share the Wind River Reservation? *two* (346)
5. The National *Elk* Refuge is in Jackson Hole. (347)

## Lesson 79: Colorado

1. A conservation center near Carr, Colorado, cares for what endangered animal? *black-footed ferret* (353)
2. What does the United States Mint at Denver produce? *coins* (353)
3. Three fur traders build an adobe *fort* in southwestern Colorado in 1833. (354)
4. What did Spanish explorers name the area where Ancestral Puebloans built villages of stone in alcoves in the canyon walls? *Mesa Verde* (354)
5. A monument stands in the southwest corner of Colorado where how many states come together? *four* (355)

## Lesson 81: Utah

1. A national monument in Utah displays around 1,500 bones from what type of animal? *dinosaur* (362)
2. What lake in Utah is one of the largest in the country? *Great Salt Lake* (363)
3. Workers completed the first transcontinental *railroad* at Promontory Summit, Utah. (364)
4. The irregular columns of rock in Bryce Canyon are called *hoodoos*. (365)
5. Monument Valley is part of the *Navajo* Reservation in southern Utah. (365)

### Lesson 83: Nevada

1. Scientists believe that *bristlecone* pine trees are the oldest living trees in the world. (371)
2. A wildlife refuge in northern Nevada provides a home for what animal that was once in danger of becoming extinct? *American pronghorn* (371)
3. Lake *Tahoe* in Nevada is the largest alpine lake in the United States. (372)
4. Carson City is named after what famous hunter, trapper, and guide? *Kit Carson* (372)
5. *Hoover* Dam stands on the Colorado River on the border between Nevada and Arizona. (373)

### Rocky Mountain Test

1. b. grasshoppers (327)
2. c. northern lights (337)
3. c. coal (345)
4. a. Mesa Verde (354)
5. c. Great Salt Lake (363)
6. a. Hoover Dam (373)
7. b. Texas
8. b. bayou

### Lesson 85: Oklahoma

1. The population of Oklahoma includes native people from how many different nations? 39 (380)
2. The Oklahoma capitol is the only state capitol that has working *oil* wells around it. (381)
3. What can you still see in Red Rock Canyon, left there by pioneer wagons in the 1800s? *wagon wheel ruts* (382)
4. The famous Route 66 passes through Oklahoma. (383)
5. People look for selenite crystals in the Great *Salt* Plains. (383)

### Lesson 87: Texas

1. According to a saying, everything is *bigger* in Texas. (388)
2. What river forms the border between Texas and Mexico? *Rio Grande* (389)
3. A famous battle of the Texas Revolution happened at a fort in San Antonio called what? *The Alamo* (390)
4. The city of Fort Worth earned the nickname of *Cowtown*. (390)
5. Astronauts train at the Johnson *Space* Center in Houston. (391)

### Lesson 89: New Mexico

1. Hundreds of thousands of Brazillian free-tailed *bats* live in Carlsbad Caverns. (401)
2. What does the military test in White Sands National Park? *missiles* (401)
3. Hatch, New Mexico, is the *Chile* Capital of the World. (401)
4. The climate and wind patterns in Albuquerque, New Mexico, make it a perfect place to ride in what? *hot air balloons* (402)
5. The *Spanish* established Santa Fe in 1607. (402)

### Lesson 91: Arizona

1. What kind of monsters live in Arizona? (They are really lizards.) *gila monsters* (408)
2. What did an astronomer at Lowell Observatory in Arizona discover in 1930? *Pluto* (409)
3. Old military planes sit at a *boneyard* in Tucson. (409)
4. Yuma, Arizona, is the *sunniest* city in the world. (410)
5. What famous bridge stands in Lake Havasu City? *London Bridge* (411)

## Southwest Test

1. c. 39 (380)
2. b. Route 66 (383)
3. a. bigger (388)
4. b. Mexico (389)
5. a. missiles (401)
6. b. hot air balloon (402)
7. c. Arizona (410)
8. b. London Bridge (411)

## Lesson 93: California

1. What area in California is one of the hottest and driest places in the world? *Death Valley* (418)
2. What is the name of the largest known tree in the world? *General Sherman* (419)
3. Farmers in California's *Central Valley* raise more than 250 different crops. (419)
4. *Silicon Valley* is home to many of the world's largest technology companies. (420)
5. What trees grow along the Avenue of the Giants? *redwoods* (421)

## Lesson 95: Oregon

1. The *beaver* is on the back of the Oregon state flag. (426)
2. Oregon grows more *Christmas* trees than any other state. (426)
3. What is the deepest lake in the United States? *Crater Lake* (427)
4. The name for Oregon's capital of Salem comes from a Hebrew word that means what? *peace* (428)
5. During the 1800s, thousands of settlers came to Oregon in covered wagons by traveling on what? *Oregon Trail* (429)

## Lesson 97: Washington

1. Washington grows so many *apples* each year that a line of them could circle the earth 29 times. (436)
2. Salish children learn the traditional method of using what to cook food? *hot lava rocks* (436)
3. What volcano in Washington erupted in 1980? *Mount Saint Helens* (437)
4. The *Space Needle* is a tall tower in Seattle. (438)
5. The Hoh Rain Forest is on the *Olympic Peninsula*. (439)

## Lesson 99: Alaska

1. The record carrot at the Alaska State Fair in 2017 was almost 6 feet long. (444)
2. A collection of *totem* poles stands at a heritage center in Ketchikan. (445)
3. The United States bought the land of Alaska from what country in 1867? *Russia* (445)
4. Bears in Alaska love to catch *salmon* as the fish jump up waterfalls. (446)
5. What is the highest point in all of North America? *Denali* (446)

## Lesson 101: Hawaii

1. What is the Hawaiian word for a garland or wreath? *lei* (454)
2. Each Hawaiian island is made up of one or more *volcanoes*. (455)
3. The last king and queen of Hawaii lived in a palace in what city? *Honolulu* (456)
4. What place in Hawaii did the Japanese attack during World War II? *Pearl Harbor* (456)
5. Long ago the Hawaiian people built stone terraces to grow *taro*. (457)

### Lesson 103: U.S. Territories

1. Visitors to the U.S. Virgin Islands can hike to the ruins of a *sugar* plantation. (462)
2. What is the name for the two-piece stone pillars islanders on the Mariana Islands? *lattes* (463)
3. The United States has an Air Force base and a Naval base on what U.S. territory? *Guam* (464)
4. American Samoa is the only part of the United States that is south of what? *equator* (465)
5. At one time, about half of the *tuna* Americans ate came from canning factories in American Samoa. (465)

### Pacific and U.S. Territories Test

1. c. Death Valley (418)
2. b. Christmas trees (426)
3. c. Mount Saint Helens (437)
4. a. totem poles (445)
5. c. Pearl Harbor (456)
6. c. sugar (462)
7. b. Guam (464)
8. a. equator (465)



# Literature Guide



# Rabbit Hill

## by Robert Lawson (1944)

Little Georgie the rabbit can't wait to tell everyone: New Folks coming! New Folks coming into the Big House! All of the animals of Rabbit Hill, each with its own unique whimsical personality, react in different ways to the new neighbors. With humor and compassion, Lawson skillfully tells how the animals' fear and distrust grows into respect and gratefulness. The story is set in the Connecticut countryside.

Here are a few things that you as a parent might want to know are in this book (page numbers correspond to the edition published by Puffin Books in 2007):

- pp. 27-28: References to shotguns, rifles, traps, poisons, etc.
  - pp. 48, 72: References to smoking
  - This book frequently uses the words “dingblasted,” “gumdinged,” and “shucks.” Reading the book aloud to your children is a great way for them to enjoy the fun story without encountering these words themselves.
  - p. 102: The animals hear the distressed Lady “saying things no Lady should ever say” (though the book does not give any specifics).
  - Uncle Analdas is a rough character who doesn't always do and say the right things. On p. 106 he talks about something he used to do as a young rabbit “just for cussedness.”
- p. 122: The Folks put up statue of St. Francis of Assisi and one of the animals refers to the saint as “him that's loved us and protected us Little Animals.”

# The Cabin Faced West

## by Jean Fritz (1958)

Based on the real-life experiences of her great-great-grandmother, Jean Fritz shares the trials, loneliness, and hardships of frontier life in western Pennsylvania through the eyes of ten-year-old Ann Hamilton. Ann realizes a new appreciation for frontier life after a special visitor stops by their cabin for dinner one night.

Twice when Ann is away from her house alone, she talks to and gets on a horse with a stranger. You might want to discuss with your child how that would not be a safe thing to do today.

# Soft Rain: A Story of the Cherokee Trail of Tears

## by Cornelia Cornelissen (1998)

Soft Rain is nine years old when her life changes forever. She and her family are abruptly forced to leave their Cherokee home in North Carolina for relocation in the unknown West. The sorrowful details of this long and dangerous journey, seen from a child's perspective, are based on the experiences of the author's great-grandfather.

This story contains descriptions of heart-wrenching scenes from this tragic event in our nation's history. The soldiers are cruel and there are several references to people dying. There are also references to Soft Rain vomiting while in the stockade. We feel it is valuable for children to learn about this reality in our nation's story to help them grow in their knowledge and their compassion for others. You as the parent are the best one to judge whether or not your child is ready for the hard scenes described in the story. In the midst of the heartache, there are times of joy, acts of kindness, and feelings of hope.

Here are a few other things that you as a parent might want to know are in this book (page numbers correspond to the edition published by Yearling in 1999):

- p. 10: Grandmother tells a story about the Little People, mythical beings who are kind to lost children. They are referenced at other points in the story and some of the characters say they believe the Little People are real.
- p. 13: Soft Rain is secretly teaching her cousin to read, even though her aunt and uncle would be angry if they found out.
- p. 15: A character comments concerning the West that "the souls of the dead go there and are always miserable because they can never return home."
- pp. 52, 57, 71, 76: Soft Rain is afraid of the *uktena*, which, according to Cherokee legend, is a huge snake that hides in the water.

# The Life of George Washington Carver

## by Eva Moore (1971)

Born into slavery in Missouri, George Washington Carver eventually became a student, a teacher, a botanist, and an example of a life of faith and service. His curiosity and research led him to develop new techniques to grow better crops. He found his greatest happiness and honor in being helpful to the world.

In the book, some people speak to George Washington Carver unkindly and treat him unfairly because of the color of his skin. However, the story makes it plain that this kind of treatment was wrong.

# The Trumpet of the Swan

## by E. B. White (1970)

Louis (pronounced LOU-ee) is a trumpeter swan who is born without a voice. Sam is a young boy who is fascinated by the wild things of nature. Because of their friendship, Louis learns how to read, write, play the trumpet, and win the heart of the beautiful swan Serena; and Sam discovers what he wants to be when he grows up.

This delightful book does contain a few things that you as a parent might want to know about (page numbers correspond to the edition published by HarperCollins in 2001):

- pp. 43, 49, 50, 67, 83, 113: The author uses the words “dumb,” “defect,” and “defective” in describing Louis’ condition of not being able to speak.
- p. 71: “great Caesar’s ghost”
- p. 85: “a darned good teacher”
- pp. 86-88, 182-185, 193-195, 197: These pages contain references to Louis’ falling in love with the swan Serena (“his mind was filled with thoughts of love and desire,” “I will be irresistible,” etc.).
- pp. 86, 89, 91, 115, 198, 251: The author uses the words “gay” and “queer” according to their traditional definitions of “happy” and “unusual.”
- p. 115: The boys at camp strip off their pajamas and swim without their swim trunks.
- p. 178: Louis takes a job at a nightclub where people were “eating too much and drinking too much.” He does not like the job at all, but the author says that a musician “must work when their employer wants them to.”
- p. 249: “stupid”

# Philip of Texas

## by James Otis (1913)

Philip is twelve years old when his parents decide to leave Mississippi and move to the Republic of Texas. As he learns to handle one new adventure and danger after another, Philip continues to dream of how his own herd of twelve sheep might multiply on this vast new land.

We at Notgrass History brought this book back into print in 2020. In preparing the text for republication, we omitted certain passages related to animals that contain gory detail. We also omitted a few passages that we felt would be tedious for today's young readers. Most of the story in the edition published by Notgrass History, however, remains in its original form.

At the time this story takes place, many people of European descent treated native and enslaved people unjustly through their words and actions. The original version of *Philip of Texas* contains some offensive comments about these people. In the Notgrass History edition we have altered or omitted those comments. The story still has enslaved characters and speaks of conflict between “Indians” and people of European descent.

Learning about these aspects of American history is important, but learning about them is not the same as condoning them. They were a part of real life for many people in our country. We must learn about our nation's past—both good and bad—so that we are better equipped to make America a better place today.

# The Adventures of Paddy the Beaver by Thornton Burgess (1917)

This delightful tale describes the diligent work of a good-natured beaver who shows by his actions that the greatest pleasure is doing things for other people. The story not only entertains readers, but offers valuable lessons about friendship and trust. It also teaches about the ways of real animals and encourages respect for the environment.

Here are some things that you as a parent might want to know are in this book (page numbers correspond to the edition published by Dover Publications in 2000):

- pp. 33, 60: “stupid”
- p. 60: additional name-calling

