



# United States 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Social Studies Project

Each student has been given a different state to research. Your child has been given the state of \_\_\_\_\_. This at home project will be worth **three History test grades** (report, project, and oral presentation), a **handwriting grade**, and a **Language grade**. Your project will be graded for neatness, accuracy of information, inclusion of details, and completion of project according to directions. Parents are encouraged to help and contribute to the project, however the majority of the work and responsibility is up to the student!

Date due: **Monday, May 15, 2017 (points will be deducted for each day that projects are late and a late project will receive no higher than a B grade). No exceptions!**

## Directions for State Research

### REPORT

When **writing** your report, it must include at least 3 sentences and a picture on each of the following topics. Pictures may be printed or drawn and colored. To **present** your report, you will read it to the class and answer any logical questions they may have.

To ensure that you receive all 50 points for your research, be sure to include three sentences, on **each** of the following things in your presentation or report:

1. Write three sentences about the State flower and include a picture
2. Write three sentences about the State tree and include a picture
3. Write three sentences about the State bird and include a picture
4. Write three sentences about the State flag and include a picture
5. Write three sentences about any other interesting state information of your choice and include a picture

Correct grammar, punctuation, neatness, complete sentences, etc. will be used to incorporate your Language and Handwriting grades.

## PROJECT

For your state research project, you will choose **one** of the following projects below to go with your report.

### **\*\*SALT DOUGH MAP\*\***

If you choose to make a clay map of your state, it must be painted (or you can use food coloring in the dough), and labeled. You must include three sentences explaining your map. You will present it to the class.

### **\*\*STATE FLOAT\*\***

If you choose to make a state float, you must follow the directions and write three sentences describing your float. It will be presented to the class.

### **\*\*POINTS\*\***

Written research test grade (sentences about different state symbols) = 35 points

Oral presentation test grade (reading and presenting the project) = 50 points

Visual project test grade (salt dough map or float w/sentences) = 50 points

Handwriting grade = 100 points

Language grade (follow the rubric guidelines given) = 100 points

**The grading rubrics for these tests as well as a copy of these entire directions will be on our web sites.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

### Written Research Rubric

<b>Topic Graded</b>	<b>Points awarded</b>
State flower - 3 sentences and a picture (6 points)	
State tree - 3 sentences and a picture (6 points)	
State flag - 3 sentences and a picture (6 points)	
State bird - 3 sentences and a picture (6 points)	
Other state information - 3 sentences and a picture (6 points)	
Turned in on time (5 points)	
<b>Total points for history research test grade</b>	

History research test grade \_\_\_\_\_

### Oral Presentation Rubric

<b>Topic graded</b>	<b>Points awarded</b>
Appropriate behavior during presentations (10 points)	
Project presentation includes all components of sentences/pictures and project (10 points)	
Voice was loud and clear (10 points)	
Knowledge of state (10 points)	
Eye contact was made with the class (4 points)	
Presentation was 2-3 minutes long (3 points)	
Project turned in on time (3 points)	
<b>Total points for history oral presentation test grade</b>	

History oral presentation test grade \_\_\_\_\_

## Handwriting test grade rubric

Topic graded	Points awarded
<b>Total points for neat handwriting graded out of 100</b>	

Handwriting grade \_\_\_\_\_

## Language grade rubric

Topic graded	Points awarded
End punctuation for sentences (15 points)	
Complete sentences are used (15 points)	
Are adjectives used in the report? (15 points)	
Is spelling correct? (15 points)	
Is the final draft appealing to the reader? Is it a presentable product? (15 points)	
Does each sentence begin with a capital letter? (15 points)	
First and last names on the report (10 points)	
<b>Total points</b>	

Language grade \_\_\_\_\_

## Salt Dough map or Float

Salt Dough map OR Float (25 points)	
Paragraph on map or float (25 points)	

Project test grade \_\_\_\_\_

# Salt Dough Map Social Studies Project

**Materials:** Large piece of cardboard, or heavy poster board  
1 cup of salt  
2 cups of flour  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cups of water  
Food coloring

**NOTE: This project will take up to a week for drying time, so start it early if you plan to do this one.**

## **Directions:**

1. On large cardboard or poster board, draw an outline of your state.
2. Mix salt and flour using 2 parts salt to 1 part flour.
3. Stir in enough water to make a smooth heavy paste.
4. Place dough onto the outline to form map of your state.
5. Label and show the states or water that border your state.
6. Include a color-coded map key.
7. **Include 3 or more sentences** telling about the design and details of the salt map.

## **Details (optional but will improve your grade):**

- Paint and label some rivers and lakes in your state. Paint and label any other important features of your state (you can use flags for the labels).
- Paint and label the surrounding states.
- Paint and label the Oceans

## **Hints and or ideas:**

- For a more attractive map, don't put your map directly on bare cardboard. Paint the cardboard or cover it with foil first.
- Print out labels using a computer. Cut them out and glue them down neatly or use them to make flags. (If you don't have a printer you can write them neatly).

## **Grading:**

Your Salt Dough map will be graded for neatness, accuracy of information, inclusion of details, and completion of project according to the directions.

Parents are encouraged to help and contribute to the project, however the majority of the work and responsibility is up to the student.

# State Float Social Studies Project

## A State Float

In celebration of the rich heritage and emblems of their state, students will design a model state float for a presentation project. You should decide what the float will communicate to observers, and make a model of the float. Each model should be put on display and **include three or more sentences** that explains the design and details of the float. For instance, a float of Florida might feature pictures or paper models of oranges, palm trees, alligators and some state emblems. Likewise Louisiana would feature a jazz and Mardi Gras theme and New York the Statue of Liberty.

## Research

To help plan the float, you need to research basic information on your state.

State Flag

State nickname (such as The Sunshine State or The Golden State)

Famous landmarks, attractions or events

Other symbols such as state tree, flower, emblems, etc

Decide on a theme or design

## Construction

Start with a box (cereal or shoe boxes work well)

Cover the box with attractive colored paper

Add symbols, diorama figures (sturdy like tag board or cardboard)

Use your imagination in making it as attractive as possible

Students do **NOT** have to spend lots of money on materials nor buy figurines.

HAVE FUN!