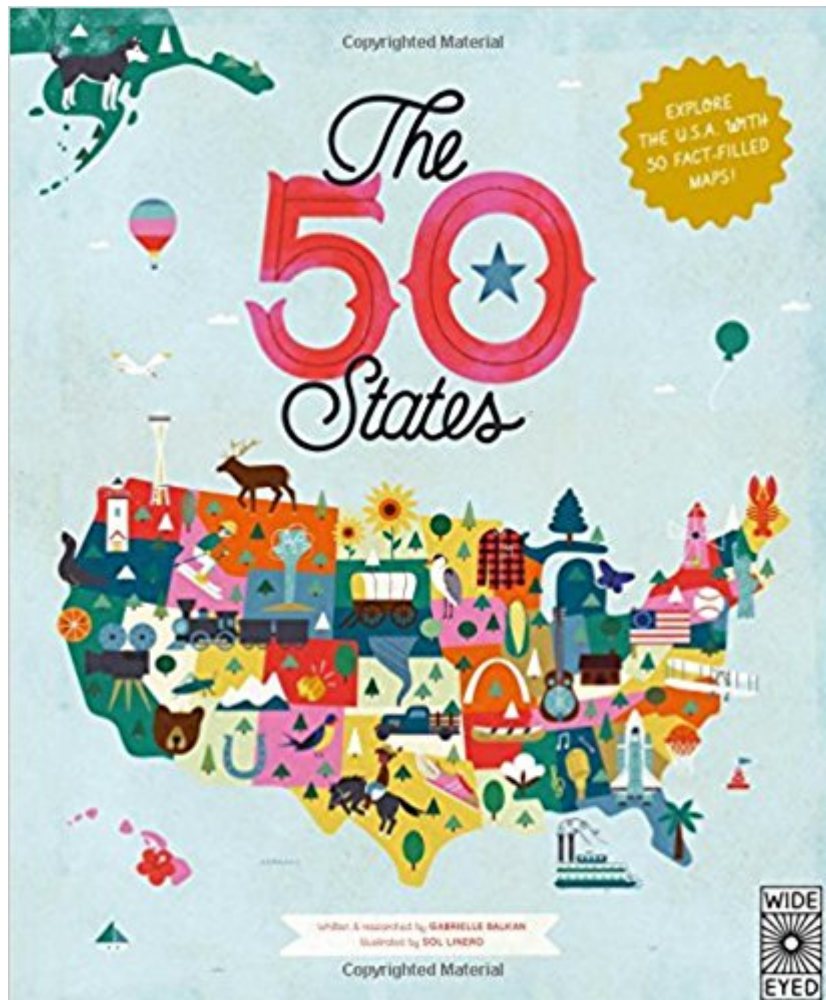




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The 50 States: Explore The U.S.A. With 50 Fact-filled Maps!



Synopsis

Be inspired by the inventiveness, beauty and diversity of the United States in this curious collection of fact-filled maps. Explore thousand of wondrous locations and be awed by the achievements of hundreds of people who helped make America what it is today. Celebrate, explore, enjoy!

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Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

[View larger](#) Welcome to the Empire State! New York was America's capital before it was a nation and still a British colony. After the Americans won their independence, George Washington--the first president--was sworn in on the steps of New York City's Federal Hall.

Moments to Remember January 3, 1983: The volcano Kilauea begins a long-lasting eruption, which continues over 30 years, destroying more than 200 buildings. [View larger](#)

Key Facts Alaska, Named For: the Aleut word of ALYESKA, meaning 'great land'.

Welcome to the Lone Star State The Lone Star State is steeped in cowboy lore, proud of its riding-and-roping heritage. But it's not all broncs and buckaroos: from the bright lights of its big cities to its mountain ranges, white sandy beaches and pine forests, Texas is extremely diverse.

Gr 2-5 A colorful introduction to the 50 states. Each spread details a different state and includes an oversize map and some information. Similar in format to Lynne Cheney's *Our 50 States: A Family Adventure Across America* (S. & S., 2006), Balkan's book is more neatly rendered (states are in alphabetical order). Facts are laid out on the map and in a separate column. This volume offers the usual content, such as statehood date and order, state flower, and state bird, as well as fun trivia (Pennsylvania is the home of the first banana split). In addition, Balkan provides interesting historical and geographical tidbits not usually found elsewhere and spotlights famous people from each state. Especially nice is the way the author features prominent women and minorities. For instance, the spread on Georgia highlights Yamacraw Indian chief Tomochichi, author Flannery O'Connor, and singer Little Richard. The illustrations are colorful and childlike. Though bright and appealing, the portraits lack detail. Other works, such as Mark H. Brockenhauer's *Our Fifty States* (National Geographic, 2004), examine the subject in more depth. Still, this is an above-average title on a popular topic, and state trivia enthusiasts will find it entertaining and useful. VERDICT The up-to-date material and the demand for offerings on the subject make this work a recommended purchase for public and school libraries. Margaret Nunes, Gwinnett County Public Library, GA

"Author Gabrielle Balkan's research and writing draws readers in with a fun mash-up of history, geography and pop culture, while Sol Linero's illustrations make every spread a delight - BookPage" A great read to share with your young one. Bright and colorful, you'll enjoy it as much as they will - Design Sponge" For Those Who Pride Themselves on Knowing Their State's Flower/Bird/Motto. A large-format atlas of the U.S., *The 50 States* is chock-full of interesting facts, trivia and history - Family Circle" When I first laid eyes on *The 50 States*, written and researched by Gabrielle Balkan and illustrated by Sol Linero, I absolutely had to have it because I think it's easily the most delightful book on the topic that I've ever seen - Inhabitots" There are Tlingit nation canoes in Alaska, Walden Pond in Massachusetts, Harpers Ferry in West Virginia (but also the first pepperoni roll and first red-brick street; not all icons are serious business) - Kirkus Reviews" Readers will enjoy browsing this oversized and colorful atlas of the United States....will offer hours of browsing pleasure - Literacy Daily (International Literacy Association)" A big, beautiful educational

journey across the U.S - Pretty Prudent"A stylish atlas that evokes the character and diversity of the country, equally suitable for coffee tables or family vacations - Publishers Weekly"Open the large formatted book and explore the United States. Each state (and the District of Columbia) is presented handsome, colorful, and highly informative maps to create a memorable journey - Reading Rockets"The engaging, colorful pages, high interest facts, and intriguing material make this a volume that has appeal for a wide audience - School Library Connection, Highly Recommended"A colorful introduction to the 50 states....an above-average title on a popular topic, and state trivia enthusiasts will find it entertaining and useful." - School Library Journal"Surprises abound in The 50 States, a splendid reference, coffee-table book and conversation starter for anyone, anywhere - Shelf Awareness"When I first laid eyes on The 50 States, written and researched by Gabrielle Balkan and illustrated by Sol Linero, I absolutely had to have it because I think it's easily the most delightful book on the topic that I've ever seen." - Inhabitots"The engaging, colorful pages, high interest facts, and intriguing material make this a volume that has appeal for a wide audience." - School Library Connection, Highly Recommended"For Those Who Pride Themselves on Knowing Their State's Flower/Bird/Motto. A large-format atlas of the U.S., The 50 States is chock-full of interesting facts, trivia and history." - Family Circle"A great read to share with your young one. Bright and colorful, you'll enjoy it as much as they will!" - Design Sponge"A big, beautiful educational journey across the U.S." - Pretty Prudent

This is a delightful book which provides interesting facts, history and trivia about all fifty states. I read first about my home state and states I have lived in, next about my relatives' states, and then other states I have never visited or know little about. Wonderful illustrations help make the book engaging and enchanting.

This HUGE book is a favorite in my home with 4 kids (ages 14-7). They love the fun facts and colorful illustrations on each page. I'm impressed with the all the new information I learned about each state, as well. This would be a helpful book on a cross-country road trip!

The content of the book is awesome. Love the facts, colors, and illustrations. My son enjoys the book very much. The issue is the book is falling apart. I purchased it end of March and I am reviewing it beginning of June. The binding has separated from the pages and the book looks generally worn. don't get me wrong. It has been well used but I don't think it should have come apart so easily.5 stars for content, 1 star for durability and construction.

What a fun book! It makes learning about different states very appealing! My sons (7 and 9) like the pictures and fun facts. Other parents have also asked about where they can find this, it's just a great book to have in your classroom/home library.

Gorgeous book and is helping my 2nd grader learn about her country. FYI - I had to return the first copy I received because it looked very stained/dirty. The replacement copy had the stylish "weathered" look.

Great book with lots of fun facts. This book has colorful fun pictures and great facts about each state. We really enjoy looking at this book and have used this book as we traveled through some of the states.

I love this book. So beautiful colorful and captivating. Lots of unique facts and your basic need to knows. I am enjoying teaching my daughter about the us and learning new things along side her.

This is the most readable book I've seen on the 50 states. It is smartly written, gorgeously illustrated, and designed to a tee. It's the sort of book that you can dip into and out of for years... flip to an unknown state with your kid and learn something new, anytime! You can read it as random bits of interesting trivia, or study up on a particular state before a visit... the information is so stunningly curated and the little icons make it all very easy to find. I don't think anything here will expire -- the facts are timeless, making the book worth at least three times the price. Well done! I wish I'd published it.

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