



State History Fill-in-the-Blank

WORD BANK

Choose from these options to fill in the blanks below.

Eureka	Sacramento	Golden State
Mount Whitney	California Gray Whale	Artichoke
California Desert Tortoise	Almond	I love you, California
Avocado	September 9, 1850	Dog-face Butterfly
California Redwood	Death Valley	Native Gold
California Grizzly Bear	Golden Poppy	California Golden Trout
	California Valley Quail	

Fill in the following blanks based on what you learn on your California State History program.

State Song: _____

State Motto: _____

State Nickname: _____

State Tree: _____

State Mineral: _____

State Bird: _____

State Flower: _____

State Fish: _____

State Reptile: _____

State Animal: _____

State Insect: _____

State Marine Mammal: _____

Date State Entered the Union: _____

State Capital: _____

Highest Point (14,494 ft.): _____

Lowest Point (-282 ft.): _____

State Fruit: _____

State Vegetable: _____

State Nut: _____



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California Government

Statehood: California became the thirty-first state on September 9, 1850.

- Between 1849 and 1854, San Jose, Vallejo, and Benicia served as capital cities.
- In 1854, the capital city moved permanently to Sacramento.
- The first state constitution was written in Monterey, but the first legislature and the first elected governor, Peter Burnett, met for the first time in San Jose.
- The present state capitol was built between 1860 and 1874.
- All three branches of government moved into this building in 1869, even though it was not yet completed.
- The capitol has been remodeled three times to accommodate growth and earthquakes. It was finally restored to its original look between 1975 and 1982.
- This was the largest restoration project in the western United States; it brought back the original elegance of the capitol and established it as a working museum.
- Today the capitol houses the legislative branch (Senate and Assembly) and the offices of the governor and lieutenant governor.
- San Francisco was used as an interim meeting place when flooding occurred in Sacramento but was never an official capital.



**Draw a picture of
the California
state flag:**



Questions to Think About



1. What was the first capital city of the state of California?

2. Who was California's first elected governor as part of the Union?

3. On what date did California become a state?

4. California was the _____ state to join the Union.



“Capitals” or “Capitols”

Capital = the city where government meets

Capitol = the building where laws are made

Hint: Capitol has a dome.

The capital of California moved FIVE times in its first four years as a state.



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California Counties



1. Add a star to the map for Sacramento, the state capital.

2. Identify and mark your county.

3. Which county is the largest?

4. Which county is the smallest?

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Alameda | 15. Kern | | 47. Siskiyou |
| 2. Alpine | 16. Kings | | 48. Sonoma |
| 3. Amador | 17. Lake | | 49. Solano |
| 4. Butte | 18. Lassen | | 50. Stanislaus |
| 5. Calaveras | 19. Los Angeles | 29. Nevada | 51. Sutter |
| 6. Colusa | 20. Madera | 30. Orange | 52. Tehama |
| 7. Contra Costa | 21. Marin | 31. Placer | 53. Tulare |
| 8. Del Norte | 22. Mariposa | 32. Plumas | 54. Tuolumne |
| 9. El Dorado | 23. Mendocino | 33. Riverside | 55. Trinity |
| 10. Fresno | 24. Merced | 34. Sacramento | 56. Ventura |
| 11. Glenn | 25. Modoc | 35. San Benito | 57. Yolo |
| 12. Humboldt | 26. Mono | 36. San Bernardino | 58. Yuba |
| 13. Imperial | 27. Monterey | 37. San Diego | |
| 14. Inyo | 28. Napa | 38. San Francisco | |