

# GREAT STUFF ABOUT STATES

*Raps, Poems, and Songs, by Inspired Youth  
and their tutors from Wilmette Junior High*

*INSPIRED YOUTH WRITING*

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## CALIFORNIA

The state flag of California is called the Bear Flag.

The state animal is the grizzly bear.

The state tree is the redwood.

California has lots of people.

California has a nickname of The Golden State.

California is very warm.

California is by the Pacific Ocean.

California has a population of 33,871,648 people.

By Krystal (kindergarten) and her tutor

My favorite state

is California because

it's the Golden State.

By Jonathan E., 9<sup>th</sup> gr., and his tutor

California Rap

An explorer originally thought it was an island.

California is very brightened.

The state bird is the valley quail,

And the state marine mammal is the gray whale.

The state flag is called the Bear Flag.

All Californians play tag.

California is the 3<sup>rd</sup> biggest state.

Everyone who goes there thinks it is great.

By Sara G., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and her tutor

The Golden State shines, like a diamond in the rough. "Eureka," I say. California is a really famous state because many artists go there. It's a very hot state. It's also very big. California is really big, because it has 54 electoral votes.

By Jovanny S., 7<sup>th</sup> gr., and his tutor

## FLORIDA

Dolphins, dolphins, alligators,

I like Florida. It's so fun!

The state bird is a mockingbird.

The state mammal is a panther.

It's the 27<sup>th</sup> state!

The largest city is Jacksonville.

Number of counties is 67.  
Manatees live in the ocean.  
By Cherish, 2<sup>nd</sup> gr., and her tutor

The Sunshine State  
Citrus fruit is what they eat,  
Everywhere you go you'll meet  
Floridians in the Sunshine State,  
Floridians in the Sunshine State.  
Don't bother bringing your skateboard, because you'll end up being bored.  
You need a license just to ride.  
In the Sunshine State,  
In the Sunshine State.  
By Keydy G., 5<sup>th</sup> gr., and her tutor

I lived in Miami.  
I lived in Florida. It was a lot of beaches. It was so fun. I wanted to play every  
day. It was warm. I went to the water park, and it was so fun. The state bird is a  
mockingbird. Florida is great. Peace out!  
By Dayveana B., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and her tutor

Florida is the 27<sup>th</sup> state.  
"The Sunshine State," it's pretty great!  
Everyone know Florida for its oranges,  
Sorry, but nothing rhymes with oranges!  
The animals of Florida are pretty cool,  
Mockingbirds, panthers, and alligators!  
The state's motto is "In God we trust,"  
Visiting Florida is a must  
By Dioselyn, 5<sup>th</sup> gr., and her tutor

Florida Rocks  
Florida, it's the 22<sup>nd</sup> biggest state,  
the fourth most populous state.  
Florida, it's next to the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.  
It was admitted into the USA on March 3, 1845,  
yo.  
Florida, its state nickname is the Sunshine State.  
Its state flag was adopted in 1900,  
and it's great.  
That's it for our Florida Rocks rap,  
and it's great!  
By Dennis I., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and his tutor

## **Interesting Facts About Florida**

Did you know that Florida's state marine mammal is a manatee? If you didn't know that, there are plenty of facts for you to know! Florida's state flower is the orange blossom. Florida's state beverage is orange juice! Yummy! Did you know that a Florida panther is Florida's state mammal? The residents' name is Floridians. Did you know that Florida has 67 counties? Some of the major industries are tourism, agriculture (oranges, grapefruit, tomatoes) and electronics. The largest city in Florida is Jacksonville. The state capital of Florida is Tallahassee. Did you know that the highest point in Florida is a hill in Walton County, 345 feet (105 m) above sea level? These are some facts about Florida. There are more facts about Florida for you to know!

By Guadalupe E., 5<sup>th</sup> gr.

## HAWAII

Humuhumunukunuk u apua'a is the state fish.  
The islands of Hawaii are a common destination wish.  
President Obama was born in Honolulu.  
If you try Hawaii's bananas you'll say, "Woohoo!"

By Cornelio, 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and his tutor

Aloha  
HI – is the abbreviation,  
The widest state in our nation.  
Barack Obama was born here.  
There are humpback whales, but no deer.  
The state flower is the hibiscus.  
A big vacation spot,  
You'll be sure not to miss this.  
With its eight main islands,  
Hawaii's the closest US state to Thailand.  
Only American state with a tropical rainforest,  
The hibiscus helps many florists.  
Pearl Harbor attacks on Hawaii bombs then left  
And now, to those lost, we pay our respects.  
We'll leave you off  
With the last addition to the United States,  
"Goodbye, mates!"

By Melissa I., 2<sup>nd</sup> gr., and her tutor

Hawaii used to be ruled by a king, with the 8 islands separate. There are 8 stripes for the 8 islands. They're all surrounded by the Pacific. The state bird is a goose. By Karen E., k., and her tutor

The Aloha State: Hawaii is the Aloha State. There are eight main islands in Hawaii. The state fish is the humuh.... Barack Obama was born in the Aloha State. The Aloha State is warm. The body of water is the Pacific Ocean.

By Hana B., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and her tutor

## ILLINOIS

Illinois' state flower is the native purple violet. The state's capital is Springfield. The state song is "Illinois." The state's mammal is the white-tailed deer.

By Phyllis R., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and her tutor

The state bird is the cardinal.

The state nickname is the Prairie State.

The state flower is the Illinois Native (Purple) violet.

The largest city is Chicago.

The state abbreviation is IL.

The highest point in Illinois is Charles Mound.

The state insect is the monarch butterfly.

The state capital is Springfield.

The major industries in Illinois are agriculture, cattle, manufacturing, and mining.

The state mammal is the white-tailed deer.

By Marilu, 1<sup>st</sup> gr., and her tutor

## MICHIGAN

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of January, in 1837, Michigan became the 26<sup>th</sup> state. 96,810 square miles, and over 9 million people live there. People call them Michiganders, also Michiganians, and Michiganites. Robin, white-tailed deer, and painted turtles are some of the state animals. "Michigan, My Michigan" is this wolverine state's song.

By Reasha, 2<sup>nd</sup> gr., and her tutor

You know Michigan is cool.

It has painted turtles and white-tailed deer, too.

Michigan is a major state

Because it has all four Great Lakes.

I'll give you a fun fact: Michigan became a state on January 26, 1837.

Michiganders have lots of fun

Farming corn, soybeans, and wheat in the sun.

By Fernando, 7<sup>th</sup> gr., and his tutor

## MINNESOTA

Minnesota is known as the "Star of the North."

It borders Canada, Iowa, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. It also borders Canada.

It became a state on May 11, 1858. It has over 4 million residents. The state song is "Hail Minnesota."

By Frankie F. (5<sup>th</sup> gr.) and his tutor

Minnesota, the 32<sup>nd</sup> state

The state insect is the monarch butterfly.

The state fish is called the walleye.

There are more than 4 million people

The largest city is Minneapolis.

By Oscar E., 1<sup>st</sup> gr., and his tutor

## NEW YORK

Great New York

27<sup>th</sup> largest in the US

3<sup>rd</sup> most populated, it's the best!

The capital is Albany

FDR was born here.

My nickname is Empire State

My motto is "Ever upwards"

My shell is the bay scallop, my fish brook trout

In 1901 my official flag was made

I am New York and I am great.

By Renita R., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and her tutor

New York borders Canada,

and the state fish is the brook trout,

and without a doubt,

the state flower is the rose.

The state fruit is the apple.

That's something everyone knows.

By Diego L., 2<sup>nd</sup> gr., and his tutor

I'm called New York

Or "The Empire State."

I was founded in 1788.

FDR started small here

But there was no dinosaur fear.

My state song is "I Love New York" 'cause

I'm here.

I was first called "New Netherland"

But my name was changed

For the Duke of England.

By Alex T., 1<sup>st</sup> gr., and his tutor

I think it's pretty cool that they found a fossil in New York called Coelophysis.

Also, it's awesome how they have a song called, "I Love New York," which is cool

because whenever they want they can listen to their state song, and that's not

something that all states have. They are also called Yew Yorkers, so whenever

you visit New York you can ask a New Yorker for directions. What I would do if I

was in New York is visit the State of Liberty and get to the top to have a better

view of the whole state. I could do anything if I was in New York. One example is

visit the store where they sell this dessert called "dragon's breath," because it has

nitrogen liquid that whenever you eat it, a lot of smoke comes out of your mouth,

and it looks crazy.

By Roberto S., 7<sup>th</sup> gr.

New York, New York,  
It's the 27<sup>th</sup> largest state.  
It's bordered by a lake.  
The state flower is a rose.  
The population will always grow.  
The older Roosevelt was born there.  
Dinosaurs are really rare.  
New York is super great.  
It's called the Empire State.

By Jamyla J., 7<sup>th</sup> gr., and her tutor

## OHIO

Here are eight facts about Ohio to think about,  
even though there are too many in total to count:

- 1! It's the first to be electrically lighted.
- 2! There are two major lakes that can't be slighted.
- 3! It's the 34<sup>th</sup> biggest state.
- 4! Jesse Owens was born here. His four medals sure are great.
- 5! 50% of the U.S. populous lives within a 500 mile radius of Columbus.
- 6! The state motto is 6 words long: "With God, all things are possible." Ohio can't be wrong.
- 7! 7 presidents were born in this state.
- 8! 88 counties this state they do create.

By Alex H., 6<sup>th</sup> gr., and his tutor

## RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island is the best,  
But you might have to wear a vest.  
Smallest state,  
It's pretty great.  
Violet, maple, chickens, too,  
Rhode Island has a lot to do.  
5 counties, a lot of trees,  
Rhode Island, it's for me(s).

By Jordynn J., kindergarten, and her tutor

## TEXAS

Texas is a big state.  
Texas is 268,601 square miles. In this state more than 20,851,820 people live there. Texas comes from the word "tejas," which means friendship. People found so many fossils there, including T-rex. By Jah'lil C., kindergarten, and his tutor

Texas, our Texas  
Texas is a great state.  
Texas is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest state.

Texas was once part of Mexico.

Two presidents were born in the state of Texas

Austin is the state capital.

Friendship is the motto of this state.

Now let's sing a song that is called "Texas, Our Texas." By Carlos F., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and his tutor

The Texas animal symbol is a mockingbird, as the state bird. The Texas longhorn is the state big mammal, and the armadillo is the state small mammal. The state flying mammal in Texas is the free-tailed bat. The Texas insect is the monarch butterfly. The state reptile is the Texas horned lizard. The state fish is the Guadalupe bass. The state shell is the lightning whelk.

By Jaely E., 7<sup>th</sup> gr., and her tutor

Texas is the second biggest state in the U.S.A. The name for residents is Texans. The Rio Grande is a river. The state fruit is the grapefruit. By Kevin E., 3<sup>rd</sup> gr., and his tutor

Texas was the 28<sup>th</sup> state in the USA. It is the second biggest state in the USA. It is the second most populous state. Dwight David Eisenhower (the 34<sup>th</sup> US President) was born in Texas. By Berenice R., 1<sup>st</sup> gr., and her tutor

## WISCONSIN

"Forward" to Wisconsin state.

May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1848, was the date.

It's the 30<sup>th</sup> state in the USA.

Its flag adopted in 1913 on a day.

Its symbol of peace: the mourning dove.

Illinois it is above.

Nicknamed the Badger State.

By Josephine, 8<sup>th</sup> gr., and her tutor

The Badger State

Wisconsin is the Badger State,

It's the 30<sup>th</sup> state in the USA.

Famous for milk, butter, cheese, and beer,

Its wildlife animal is the white-tailed deer.

It's the 18<sup>th</sup> most populous state.

It's home to one of the great lakes.

By Layla S., 1<sup>st</sup> gr, and her tutor

On Wisconsin

The state animal of Wisconsin is the dog, "the American water spaniel." The state fish is "Muskellunge." Wisconsin's state motto is "Forward." The state song is "On, Wisconsin!" Wisconsin was the 30<sup>th</sup> state formed. Wisconsin's flag is very

unique. Chicago to Wisconsin only takes one day. I have been to Milwaukee.  
The state animal is the "badger." Their state insect is the honeybee.

By Nathan B., 6<sup>th</sup> gr., and his tutor.