

Lempke, Susan Dove, "Top 5 State Series", *Booklist*, October 15, 2006

From Sea to Shining Sea (Children's Press), Gr. 3-5

This series uses authors who currently live in the state they are writing about. There are chapters on the land, the history, the government and people and places. At the back of the book is an Almanac that gives the "State Facts", as well as a timeline and famous people from that state. The "For More Information" page includes websites, books and addresses.

Hello, U.S.A. (Lerner), Gr. 3-5

The smaller size of the books in this series and the fact that there are only one or two paragraphs of text per page makes them a good choice for younger students, or students who struggle with reading. The back of each book features a section with names and pictures of famous people from that state and a "Fact-at-a-Glance" section.

It's My State! (Benchmark), Gr. 3-5

Cover art of this series is unique in that it features elementary children rather than the scenery so common on the covers of other series. Information generally found in the back of most state books is located in the front of the books in this series along with a map of the state.

Land of Liberty (Capstone) Gr. 3-5

Chapters include land and climate, history, government and politics, economy and resources, and people and culture. The artwork includes several "primary source" photos. A unique feature is a pie chart in each book showing the state's various ethnic groups. At the end of the book is a recipe, information on the state flag and seal, an almanac of the state symbols, and a timeline. The "To Learn More" page includes books and an internet site. There is also a list of "Places to Write and Visit".

State Studies (Heinemann) Gr. 4-6

This series includes six volumes for each state. Nine states are covered thus far. The first five volumes deal with regions and resources, history, Native peoples, flora and fauna, people. The sixth volume covers things unique to that state.

State series recommended by **Children's Catalog** (Wilson, 2006) for school and public libraries:

America the Beautiful (Children's Press), Gr. 5+

The artwork in this series is outstanding. There is more text, so it may be more appropriate for older students. At the back of the book is a timeline, and "Fast Facts" pages, which along with the information generally found in most series, also includes sports teams, cultural institutions, and a list of annual events. The "To Find Out More" page includes nonfiction books, biographies, fiction books, websites and addresses.

Celebrate the States (Benchmark) Gr. 4-6

This is another series that may be more appropriate for older students. A unique feature of this series are colored information boxes throughout the book that give additional, or more specific information, about the topic being discussed in the chapter. At the back of the book is a section called "State Survey" which includes general facts, a timeline, a calendar of celebrations, "State Stars", places to visit, and "Fun Facts". The "Find Out More" page includes nonfiction books, biographies, fiction books, videos, music and an internet site.

It's My State! (Benchmark), Gr. 3-5 (see above)

World Almanac Library of the States, Gr. 4+

Each book begins with an Introduction and a map of the state. The "Almanac", which tends to be at the back of the book in most series, is in the front of the book in this one. There is a lot of text on each page. Section headings are clearly identified by red lettering. Similar to the *Celebrate the States* series there are colored sidebars throughout the book containing additional information. There are lots of charts and graphs. At the back of each book are "Notable People", a timeline, "State Events & Attractions", and a "More About..." page listing books and websites.

Relative to regions of the United States

Identify the impact of culture as it relates to the different regions of the United States.

Identify how time, continuity and change impact the regions of the United States.

Explain how people, places and environment influence the regions of the United States.

Give examples of how culture and society influence the regions of the United States.

Give examples of how relationships influence the regions of the United States.

Give examples of the influence of authority and governance on the regions of the United States.

Identify the impact of production, distribution and consumption on the regions of the United States.

Give examples of the impact of science and technology on regions of the United States.

Identify how global connections (historical, cultural, geographic, technological, ethical and societal issues) influence life in the regions of the US.

Give examples of civic ideals and practices related to living in the regions of the US.