

Sample Pages from the

# America the Beautiful Student Workbook

Part of the *America the Beautiful* Curriculum

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# America the Beautiful Student Workbook by Mary Evelyn McCurdy

The activities in this book review information learned in the daily lessons of *America the Beautiful*. After your child reads a lesson in *America the Beautiful*, he should complete the activity in this book that corresponds to that lesson.

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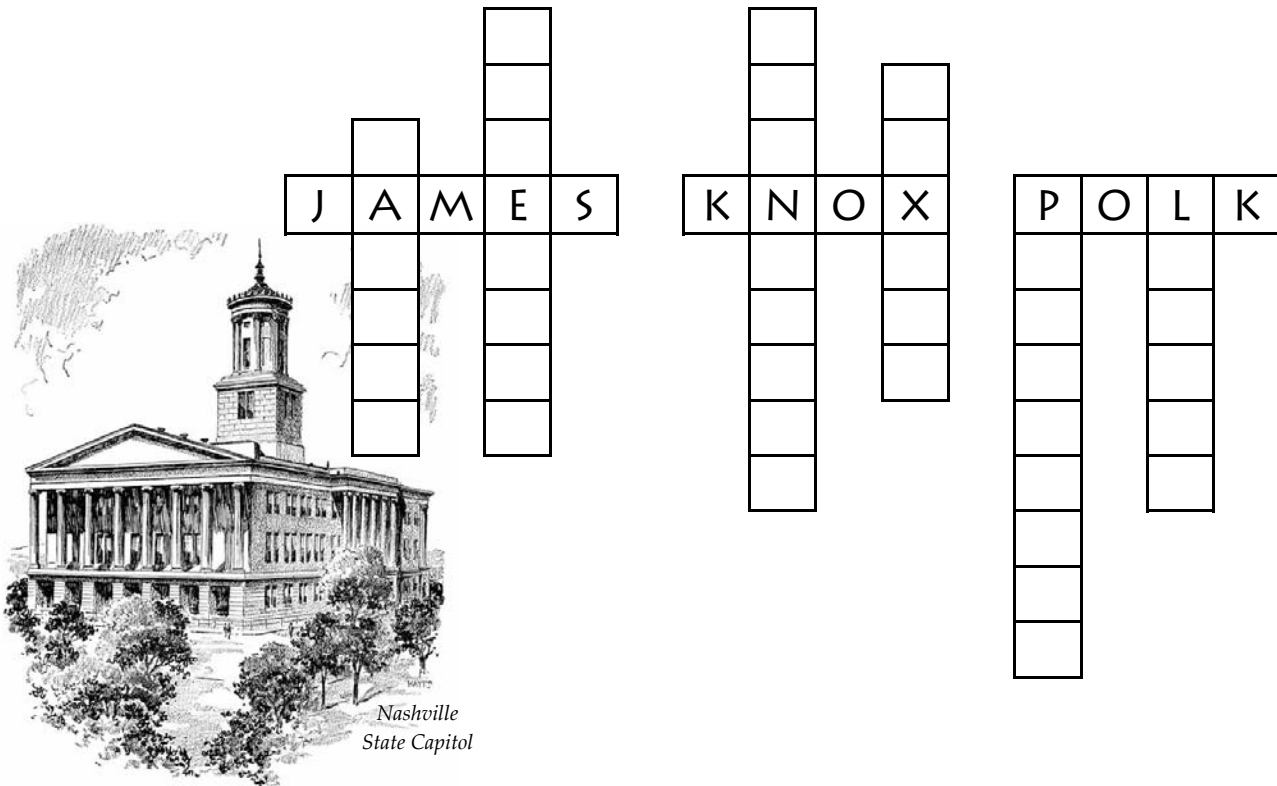
Units 12 & 25

# James K. Polk and the Mexican War

Read each of the following sentences. Fit the **BOLD** words into the puzzle. Write each of the underlined letters in order in the blanks at the bottom of the page to complete the Bible verse.

James Knox Polk was born in North Carolina. His family moved to **Tennessee** when he was ten years old. When he was grown, Polk became a **lawyer**. He was elected to the state legislature when he was 27 years old and to the U.S. House of Representatives two years later. Polk was a man of integrity. He was elected **Governor** of Tennessee before serving as **President** of the United States of America.

While Polk was President, the border between the western United States and **Canada** was established. Also during his presidency, the United States fought a war with **Mexico** and won; construction began on the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.; and Texas, Iowa, and Wisconsin became a part of the Union.



I also do my \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain always a

\_\_\_\_\_

both before \_\_\_\_\_ and before \_\_\_\_\_ .

Acts 24:16

# Moving West on the Oregon Trail

Draw a line from each sentence beginning on the left to its ending on the right.

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. People began their Oregon Trail journey by going to a            | • steamboat.        |
| 2. Many travelers began their trip by riding on a                   | • the animals in.   |
| 3. The wagon covers were made of cotton and treated with            | • jumping off town. |
| 4. For the journey, a family of four needed to take 1,000 pounds of | • bread and bacon.  |
| 5. Later travelers could follow the Oregon Trail by staying in the  | • fifteen miles.    |
| 6. At night travelers made a circle with their wagons to keep       | • linseed oil.      |
| 7. If there wasn't enough wood to start a fire, pioneers used       | • food.             |
| 8. In one day, a wagon could travel about                           | • wagon ruts.       |
| 9. Often the only thing the pioneers had to eat was                 | • oxen and mules.   |
| 10. The best animals to pull the wagons were                        | • buffalo dung.     |



## Lesson 58

# The Smithsonian Institution

Fill in the blanks using the words in the word bank at the bottom of the page. When you are finished, read through the paragraphs again.

\_\_\_\_\_ Smithson was a British \_\_\_\_\_. In his will, he left his estate to his \_\_\_\_\_ and declared that if his nephew died without any heirs, the estate would go to the \_\_\_\_\_ to found an \_\_\_\_\_ that would “increase and diffuse \_\_\_\_\_ among men.” The nephew died leaving no heirs, so the estate went to the United States.

People debated about whether or not the United States should accept the gift. President \_\_\_\_\_ asked \_\_\_\_\_ to pass a \_\_\_\_\_ allowing him to accept it, which they did. People had varying ideas of what the institution should be like. Finally in 1846, President \_\_\_\_\_ signed into law “An Act to Establish the Smithsonian Institution.” It said that the Institution would have an \_\_\_\_\_ gallery, a lecture hall, a library, a \_\_\_\_\_ laboratory, a natural history laboratory, and a science museum.

Today the Smithsonian Institution is the world’s largest museum system with \_\_\_\_\_ museums. It is funded by money from the James Smithson Trust, from U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ money appropriated by Congress, and from \_\_\_\_\_ made by foundations, corporations, and individuals.

contributions	tax	James	knowledge	nephew
law	United States	sixteen	scientist	Polk
Jackson	chemical	Congress	art	institution

# God Created Niagara Falls

Unscramble each of the scrambled words below to complete the sentences about crossing the Niagara River and Niagara Falls.

1. Theodore Wright said that travelers could safely cross the Niagara on a \_\_\_\_\_ .  
F R E R Y

2. The first bridge across the Niagara River was made of \_\_\_\_\_ planks.  
O K A

3. The Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge, which was completed in 1855, had two decks.

\_\_\_\_\_ crossed on the upper deck while  
T A R N I S  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ crossed on the lower one.  
P D E E T R S A N I S C R A R A G I E S

4. In 1859 and 1860, Charles Blodin crossed Niagara Falls on a \_\_\_\_\_ .  
T I H G T O R P E

5. In 1901, a Michigan schoolteacher went over Niagara Falls in a \_\_\_\_\_ .  
W I H R P L O O L

6. Beginning in 1916, tourists could ride the \_\_\_\_\_ Aero Car over Niagara.

7. The \_\_\_\_\_ bridge collapsed in an ice storm in 1938.  
H O E N Y O M O N



8. The world's longest hingeless \_\_\_\_\_ arch bridge goes across the Niagara River.  
S E T E L

## Lesson 60

# John James Audubon, Artist and Naturalist

Unscramble each of the scrambled words below. When you are finished, read through the paragraphs.

John James \_\_\_\_\_ was born in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1785. After his  
mother died, Audubon moved to \_\_\_\_\_ where he grew up with his father and  
stepmother. When he was a boy, Audubon enjoyed gathering birds' \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ them.

Audubon came to \_\_\_\_\_ when he was \_\_\_\_\_ and  
continued his interest in \_\_\_\_\_ and art. In 1820 Audubon set out with his  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ materials, and an \_\_\_\_\_ and began painting the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of America. He painted \_\_\_\_\_ portraits for people along  
the way to earn \_\_\_\_\_ during his venture. Audubon was unable to find a

publisher who was interested in his project. He traveled to

\_\_\_\_\_ where he found an  
engraver in \_\_\_\_\_ who agreed to reproduce  
his work. Audubon became wealthy and famous. With the  
help of his two \_\_\_\_\_ he also completed a book of  
paintings of North American \_\_\_\_\_.





# A World War II General Becomes President

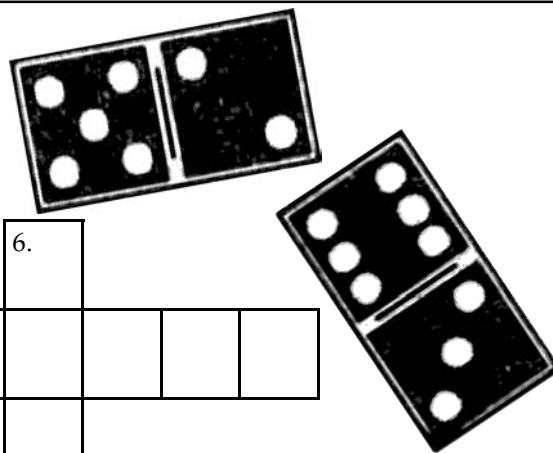
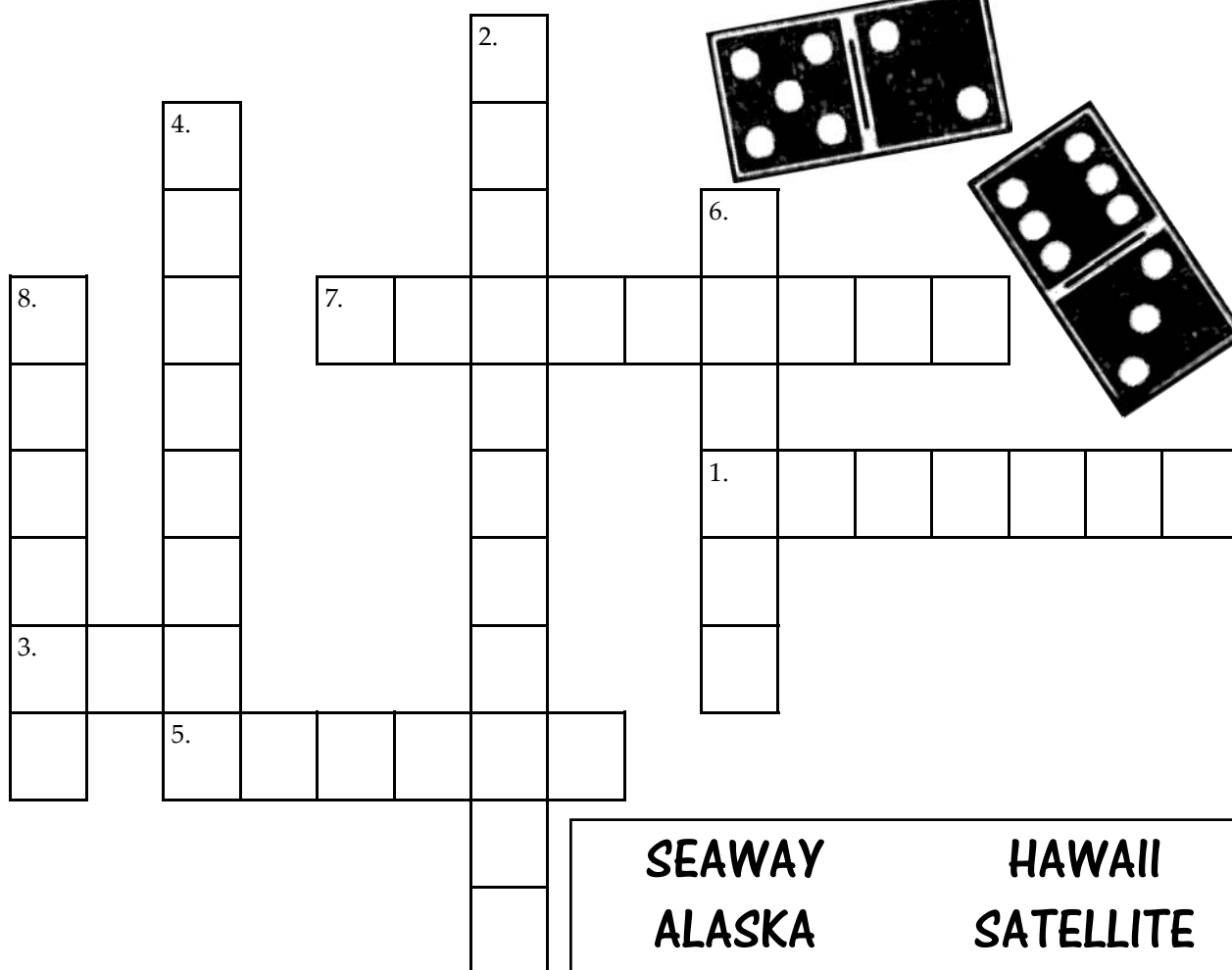
Use the words in the word bank to complete the crossword puzzle.

## Across

1. Eisenhower was \_\_\_\_\_ Commander of the Allied forces during World War II.
3. A popular Eisenhower campaign slogan was "I Like \_\_\_\_\_."
5. The St. Lawrence \_\_\_\_\_ opened in 1959 during Eisenhower's second term.
7. Soviets launched a \_\_\_\_\_ in 1957.

## Down

2. Eisenhower met with Khrushchev, leader of the Soviet Union, in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Eisenhower feared that if Vietnam became Communist, other countries would soon fall like \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ became the forty-ninth state in 1959.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ became the fiftieth state in 1959.



SEAWAY	HAWAII
ALASKA	SATELLITE
SWITZERLAND	IKE
SUPREME	DOMINOES

# Drive-Ins, Bobby Socks, and Poodle Skirts

Use the word bank to fill in each of the blanks below. Then find each word from the word bank in the puzzle.

1. Teachers in the 1950s often said a \_\_\_\_\_ at school.
2. Children in the 1950s got excited when they heard an ice cream \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. It was popular in the 1950s to join the Boy or Girl \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. The Mr. Potato Head toys of the 1950s used a real \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. Teenage girls enjoyed wearing the popular \_\_\_\_\_ skirts.
6. A vaccine for \_\_\_\_\_ came out in the 1950s.
7. Ed Sullivan hosted a \_\_\_\_\_ show featuring a variety of entertainment.
8. Eisenhower signed a law making "In God We \_\_\_\_\_" the official motto of the United States.

TRUCK  
POODLE  
TRUST  
VARIETY  
POTATO  
POLIO  
SCOUTS  
PRAYER



P	O	T	A	T	S	A	K	L	O	F	G
O	V	A	R	I	E	T	Y	T	S	T	S
L	O	O	D	L	E	O	S	R	C	R	C
S	C	H	O	U	C	T	T	S	O	S	T
C	P	R	A	Y	E	R	T	T	U	T	S
U	O	D	T	E	R	U	A	S	T	P	T
O	T	F	A	Y	T	S	S	C	S	L	R
R	A	V	O	A	R	T	C	T	R	I	U
A	T	Y	T	R	S	H	G	S	A	O	C
P	O	L	I	O	T	S	C	T	S	R	K
V	A	R	T	E	P	O	O	D	L	E	A

# Little Rock Central High School

Read the following paragraphs. Each time you come to a place where there are two words in **BOLD** print, circle the one that is correct.

In the 1950s, many school children across the country attended schools that were only for white children or only for black children. In **1954** / **1964** the **Supreme** / **County** Court decided that having these segregated schools was unconstitutional. Schools across the country began to **close** / **integrate**.

Officials in Little Rock, **Arkansas** / **California** , decided to integrate gradually, beginning with the **high** / **elementary** school. **Five** / **Nine** African American students were chosen to be the first to attend classes at Little Rock Central High. The **mayor** / **Governor** of Arkansas did not like the idea of blacks and whites attending the same schools, however, so he called out the **National Guard** / **city gangs** to keep the students from attending the school. President **Eisenhower** / **Nixon** knew he had to make sure the Constitution was upheld, so he sent members of the 101st **Airborne** / **Marine** Division to Little Rock to see that the Little Rock Nine were allowed to go to Central High. Many people in Little Rock agreed with the Governor and didn't want the school to be integrated. They began to **riot** / **move away** , but the military personnel worked to maintain order.

Finally classes resumed and the school year progressed. Some of the white students continued to be violent and hateful toward the Little Rock Nine. Some students were suspended or expelled for their behavior. Ernest Green, the only **senior** / **boy** among the Little Rock Nine, became the first African American to graduate from Central that spring.

Little Rock Central High School is now on the **Arkansas** / **National** Register of Historic Places. It became a National Historic Site in **1958** / **1998**. In 1999 each of the Little Rock Nine received the Congressional **Gold** / **Silver** Medal.



## Norman Rockwell, Painter of American Life

Use the word bank at the bottom of the page to fill in the blanks in the following sentences.

# Norman Rockwell

... was born in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1894.

... decided he wanted to be a \_\_\_\_\_  
and began his own training program when he was ten.

... gave up that goal and decided to pursue  
his talent of \_\_\_\_\_.

... joined the \_\_\_\_\_ during World War I.

... created many covers for the annual calendar  
of the \_\_\_\_\_.

... created many illustrations for the  
\_\_\_\_\_ *Evening Post*.

... used his \_\_\_\_\_ and his own children  
for many of his models.

... created a series of illustrations called  
“The Four \_\_\_\_\_” that helped raise money  
through the sale of war bonds during World War II.

neighbors

Boy Scouts

weight lifter

New York City

Saturday

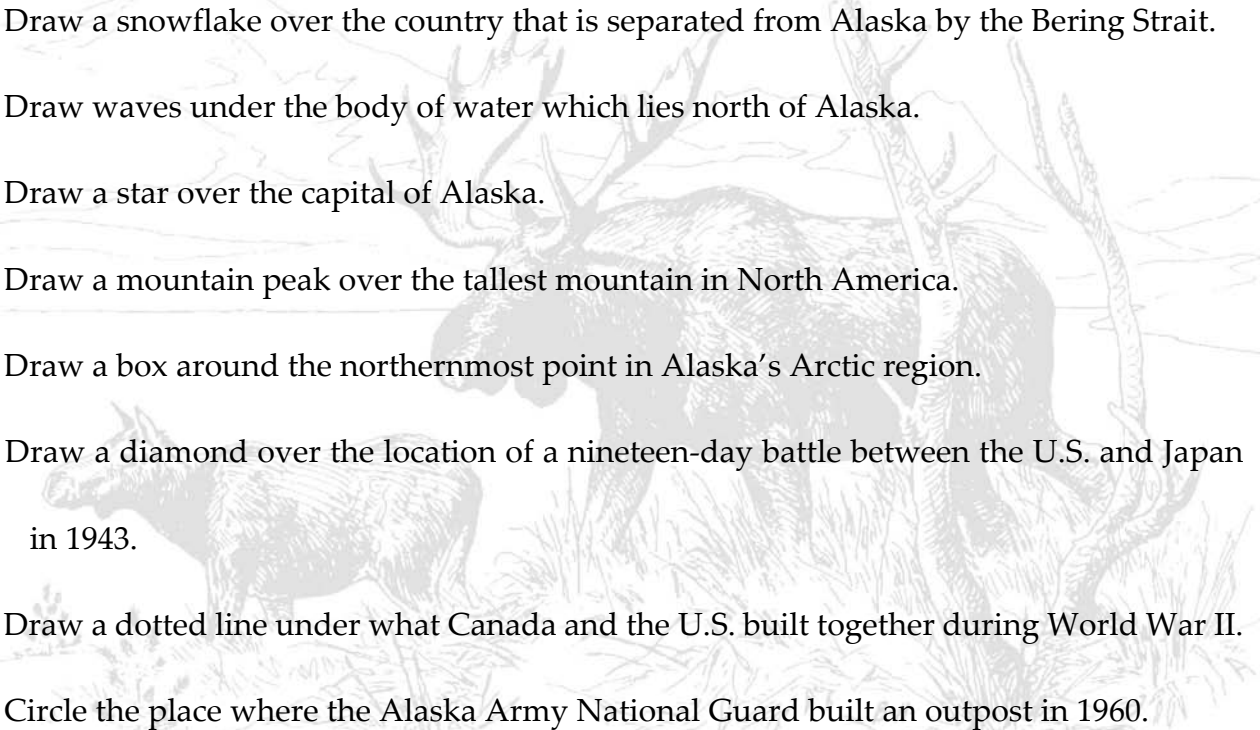
Freedoms

Navy

drawing

# God Created Alaska

Follow the directions in each sentence below.

- 
1. Draw a snowflake over the country that is separated from Alaska by the Bering Strait.
  2. Draw waves under the body of water which lies north of Alaska.
  3. Draw a star over the capital of Alaska.
  4. Draw a mountain peak over the tallest mountain in North America.
  5. Draw a box around the northernmost point in Alaska's Arctic region.
  6. Draw a diamond over the location of a nineteen-day battle between the U.S. and Japan in 1943.
  7. Draw a dotted line under what Canada and the U.S. built together during World War II.
  8. Circle the place where the Alaska Army National Guard built an outpost in 1960.

**RUSSIA**

**LITTLE DIOMEDE**

**ALASKA HIGHWAY**

**JUNEAU**

**ATTU ISLAND**

**ARCTIC OCEAN**

**POINT BARROW**

**MT. MCKINLEY**