



## Broward County Public Schools Videoconference

# Communities And Reading TOUR

**Lesson:** California  
**Instructor:** Evelyn Nelson, BECON Distance Learning Teacher

**Grade Level:** Grade Three

**Sunshine State Standards:** LA.A.2.2, LA.B.2.2, and SS.B.2.1

**Benchmarks:** LA.A.2.2.1, LA.B.2.2.1, SS.B.2.1.1, and SS.B.2.1.4

**Infusion Points:** Language Arts and Social Studies

**Objective(s):**

1. Students will write notes, comments, and observations that reflect comprehension of content presented during the class.
2. Students will determine the main idea from a text.
3. Students will be able to identify physical and human characteristics of California.
4. Students will identify at least one important mineral resource in California.



### Fuel for Thought

**desert** – A place with a very dry climate.

**fertile** – Good for growing crops.

**mountain range** – A large group of mountains

### Literature Emphasis

**Book Title:** Hello U.S.A.: California

**Author:** Kathy Pelta

**Publisher:** Lerner Publications Company: Minneapolis MN (2002)

**Story Summary:** The Hello U.S.A. series takes children on a tour of the history, geography, people, economy, and environment of the fifty states. Colorful photos, easy-to-read text and facts are included that will be valuable for research or reports.

## **Activities**

- The videoconference instructor will review the *Fuel for Thought* vocabulary words
  - Students will copy down the words without the definitions.
  - Part of the follow-up to this lesson will be defining the vocabulary words.
- Instructor will show the travel route between Alaska and California.
- Instructor will read the following selections from *California*
- Instructor will ask students the following questions using a Jeopardy Game format.

## **The LAND**

25 - Which ocean lies to the west of California?

- a. Atlantic Ocean
- b. Pacific Ocean**
- c. Indian Ocean

50 - Name the two mountain ranges that are in California.

- a. Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains
- b. Appalachian Mountains and Tetons
- c. Cascade Mountains and the Sierra Nevada**

75 – The San Andreas fault causes what kind of problems?

- a. hurricanes
- b. earthquakes**
- c. tornados

100 -What area of California is the most fertile?

- a. Rock
- b. Dirt
- c. Central Valley**

## **The HISTORY**

50 – What were the forty-niners looking for in California?

- a. Silver
- b. Land
- c. Gold**

25 – Which European country ruled California first?

- a. England
- b. Spain**
- c. France

75 – Why did California attract the moviemakers?

- a. Good weather
- b. Variety of background scenery
- c. Both of the above**

100 –How long did it take to travel from New York to California by train in 1869?

- a. Four months
- b. 20 days
- c. 7 days

### **The PEOPLE**

25 – True or False

California is a sports lover's dream.

50 - Name a president who was born in California.

- a. Bill Clinton
- b. Abraham Lincoln
- c. Richard Nixon

75 – Where do most of the people live in California?

- a. On farms
- b. In cities
- c. In rural areas

100 –California immigrants mainly come from which areas?

- a. Alaska, Russia, and the Arctic
- b. Italy, England, and France
- c. Mexico, South America, and Southeast Asia

### **The ECONOMY and the ENVIRONMENT**

25 - Which fruit is harvested in California more than in any other state?

- a. pears
- b. grapes
- c. apples

50 – What causes most of the air pollution in California?

- a. Using fossil fuels
- b. Using wind power
- d. Using nuclear power

75 – Which mineral earns California more money today?

- a. gold
- b. oil
- c. silver

100 - What are the tallest trees found in California?

- a. Redwoods
- b. Giant Sequoias
- c. Palm Trees

- Students will define the vocabulary words and expand their journal entries.

**Materials Needed**

“Travel Journal” and a pencil for each student

**Lesson Extension**

California Kids Page

<http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/kids/>