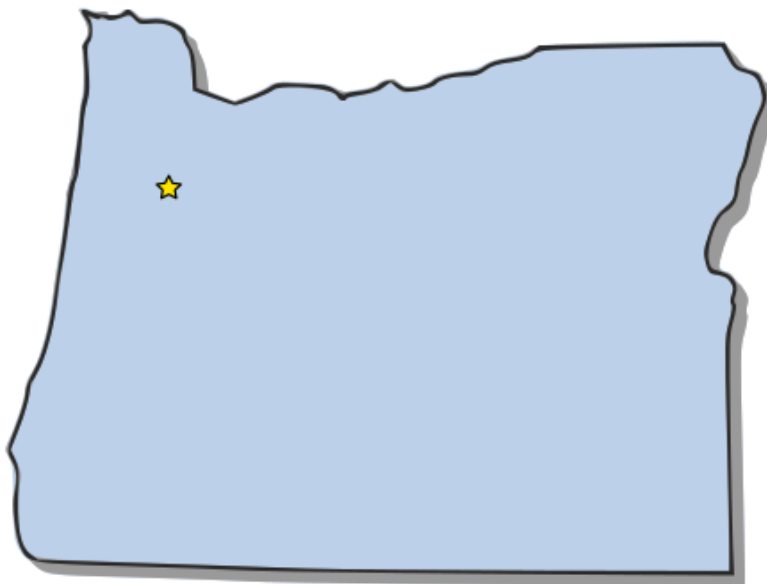


February 14, 1859

Oregon Becomes a State

Oregon is located on the Pacific coast of the United States. With its beautiful mountains and forests, it is filled with tourist attractions. During its history, it was claimed by Russia, Spain, Great Britain, and the United States. Russia finally gave up its claim in treaties signed in 1824 and 1825. Spain gave up its claim in a separate treaty, and the United States and Great Britain reached a settlement to ownership of the land in 1846. Since that time, Oregon has beckoned people to come. The Oregon Trail was one of the first major land routes to bring settlers to Oregon. They reached the beautiful, fertile land and knew this was where they wanted to build their homesteads. People are still drawn to the beauty of the state, as seen by the growth of industry, farming, shipyards, and lumbering jobs. Many famous people are from Oregon including Beverly Cleary, Chief Joseph, Linus Pauling, Douglas Engelbart, and Steve Prefontaine.

Look at the map of Oregon below. Label the capital of Oregon. Locate the cities of Portland, Eugene, Bend, Medford, Klamath Falls, Corvallis, Hillsboro, Heppner, Roseburg, Albany, Mitchell, Baker City, Enterprise, Lakeview, Beaverton, Madras, Canyon City, Vale, Grants Pass, Coos Bay, Florence, Lebanon, Toledo, and Woodburn, and label them on the map. Now label Mount Hood, Mount Jefferson, Mount Bolivar, Cascade Mountains, Marys Peak, Three Sisters, Mount McLoughlin, the Klamath Mountains, the Blue Mountains, and the Willowa Mountains. Also, locate the Columbia River, Snake River, Willamette River, Deschutes River, John Day River, Sandy River, Willowa Lake, Crater Lake, Harney Lake, and Malheur Lake, and label them. Lastly, label the states or bodies of water that border Oregon. When you have finished, move on to the timeline of Oregon history on the next page and the research prompts that follow.



Timeline of Oregon History

1543

1778

1792

1811

1834

1846

1847

1859

1861

1867

1872

1883

1903

1905

1912

1925

1932

1948

1956

1991

1. Lewis and Clark College is established
2. John Jacob Astor starts a fur trading post in Oregon
3. Mill Ends Park, the world's smallest official park, is created in Portland, Oregon
4. The Cayuse War begins
5. Women in Oregon receive the right to vote
6. Spanish explorers are the first Europeans to see the Oregon coast
7. Owyhee Dam is completed
8. Gold is discovered on Griffin Creek
9. Flash floods destroy about one-third of the town of Heppner, Oregon
10. Oregon's first newspaper begins publication
11. Oregon elects its first woman governor
12. Captain James Cook visits Oregon
13. Natural gas is brought to Oregon through pipelines
14. A railroad is begun that will link Oregon to the rest of the United States
15. The World's Fair, called the Lewis and Clark Exposition, is held in Portland
16. A Methodist missionary starts a school for Native American children
17. The Modoc War begins
18. Oregon becomes the thirty-third state in the Union
19. Oregon adopts its state flag
20. Captain Robert Gray becomes the first American to sail into the Columbia River

Research Prompt #2

The Donation Land Law of 1850 caused much growth in the Oregon Territory. What was the Donation Land Law of 1850? How did it differ from the Homestead Act of 1862? Is the Homestead Act still in existence today?

Research Prompt #3

Look at a map of the Oregon Trail. Where did it start? What states did it go through? Where did it end? Why did people go to Oregon on the Oregon Trail? What are some of the ways the land at the end of the Oregon Trail is used for today?

Timeline of Oregon History Answer Key

Spanish explorers are the first Europeans to see the Oregon coast	1543	
	1778	Captain James Cook visits Oregon
Captain Robert Gray becomes the first American to sail into the Columbia River	1792	
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A Methodist missionary starts a school for Native American children	1834	
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	1925	Oregon adopts its state flag
Owyhee Dam is completed	1932	
	1948	Mill Ends Park, the world's smallest official park, is created in Portland, Oregon
Natural gas is brought to Oregon through pipelines	1956	
	1991	Oregon elects its first woman governor