

Name the Border States

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Teaching Objective

Students will visually identify and then write the names of states that border Canada and Mexico.

Overview

Give students a U. S. map without the state names and ask them to write in the names of as many U.S. states that border Mexico and Canada they can. This activity may be done in pairs and may be repeated with a different partner at a subsequent class until students are confident in their knowledge.

Teacher Resources

A handout made from Microsoft Office clip art is attached, but you may also use your favorite search engine to find “blank United States map” so you can offer students a variety of maps to break their expectation of seeing the same rendering every time. **Note:** Most United States maps show Alaska as an inset. Be sure your students are aware that Alaska is one of the United States that borders Canada.

The Nations Online Project provides a free blank outline map of the United States available to print for educational, school or classroom use. Go to <http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/index.html>, scroll down, and click on *World Maps*. Then scroll down to Maps of the United States and click on *Blank Map of the United States*. Right click on the map and then click on *copy image*. You should now be able to paste the image on a clean sheet of paper (preferably use the page setup for landscape). (Note: This map does not show Alaska.) Try http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/usa_blank_map.htm to access this map directly.

To find the answers, go to <http://www.mapsofworld.com/usa-map.jpg>.



States that share a border with Canada (13):

States that share a border with Mexico (4):
