



South Carolina | Lesson Plan

What are the unique facts and features about the state of South Carolina?

Students will understand South Carolina's geography, unique characteristics, and historical significance.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and locate the state of South Carolina on a map, understanding its geographical positioning among the 50 states.
- Know the abbreviation for the state of South Carolina and be able to spell its name.
- Describe nine unique characteristics of South Carolina, including aspects of its history, climate, and cultural significance.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Lords Proprietors:** Eight men from England who were given land by King Charles II in 1663, which included what is now South Carolina. The King wanted to thank them for helping him get back his throne, so he let them own and rule the land. The Lords Proprietors made rules, gave out land, and tried to get people to move there. But, the settlers in South Carolina didn't always agree with how they ruled, and later, the colony became a royal colony ruled by the King instead.
- **Palmetto Tree:** A type of palm tree that grows in South Carolina. It is an important state symbol because it helped protect soldiers during the American Revolution. In 1776, Colonel William Moultrie used palmetto logs to build a fort on Sullivan's Island. The soft, spongy wood was strong enough to absorb cannonballs from the British, helping the soldiers win the battle. This is why the Palmetto Tree is featured on South Carolina's state flag.
- **Charles Town Settlement:** The first permanent English settlement in South Carolina, founded in 1670. It was named after King Charles II of England. Charles Town became an important port city for trade and grew quickly because of its rich farmland and busy harbor. People traded things like rice, indigo, and animal furs. The city also became a center for culture and government in the colony. Later, in 1783, the name was changed to Charleston after the American Revolution.
- **Fort Sumter:** A fort in Charleston Harbor, known as the site where the first shots of the Civil War were fired on April 12, 1861. The Confederate army attacked the fort, which was controlled by the Union. After 34 hours of fighting, the Union soldiers surrendered. This battle marked the beginning of the Civil War. Today, Fort Sumter is a national monument where people can learn about this important event in American history.
- **"Monkey Island":** A small island near Beaufort, South Carolina, known for being home to over 3,500 free-roaming rhesus monkeys used for medical research.

Educational Standards: CCRA.R.1, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.W.7, CCRA.W.8



Academic Subjects: America, History, Geography

What You'll Need

- Video: *Unboxed, USA: South Carolina* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Unboxed, USA: Game Map* (Click [Here](#))
- Optional: colored pencils, crayons, or markers to color the map

Lesson Plan (45 mins.)

Warm-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Begin by exploring the concept of the United States as a unified country with diverse states, each with its unique history, landscape, and characteristics. Reflect on the meaning of the word "United" in "United States" and its significance.
2. Introduce the "Unboxed, USA: Game Map," explaining the instructions and emphasizing the mystery element of identifying one of the fifty states through clues.

Watch and Complete: (25 mins.)

1. Explain that students will play a game to discover the mystery state.
2. Play the video. Encourage active participation and observational skills.
3. Pause the video as needed to allow students time to process information, make educated guesses, and understand key points in greater depth.
4. Take time to go over key vocabulary and historical elements for the state of South Carolina.

Wrap-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Facilitate a review of the nine key facts about South Carolina, encouraging students to articulate their learning and contribute their insights either verbally or by writing on the board.
2. Consider collecting the completed activities as a formative assessment to gauge understanding and engagement with the lesson's content.

Optional Extension Lesson:

- Analyze the role of the Electoral College in the presidential election process, considering its impact on state representation, the balance of power between states, and its alignment with the principles of federalism outlined in the U.S. Constitution.
 - *Street Smarts: The Constitution* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))
 - *Street Smarts: The Electoral College* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))
 - *Craftory: Ballot Box* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))
- Analyze the concept of federalism and its impact on the relationship between state and national governments, as outlined in the U.S. Constitution.
 - *Street Smarts: Federalism* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))
 - *Leo & Layla: Madison & Montesquieu* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))

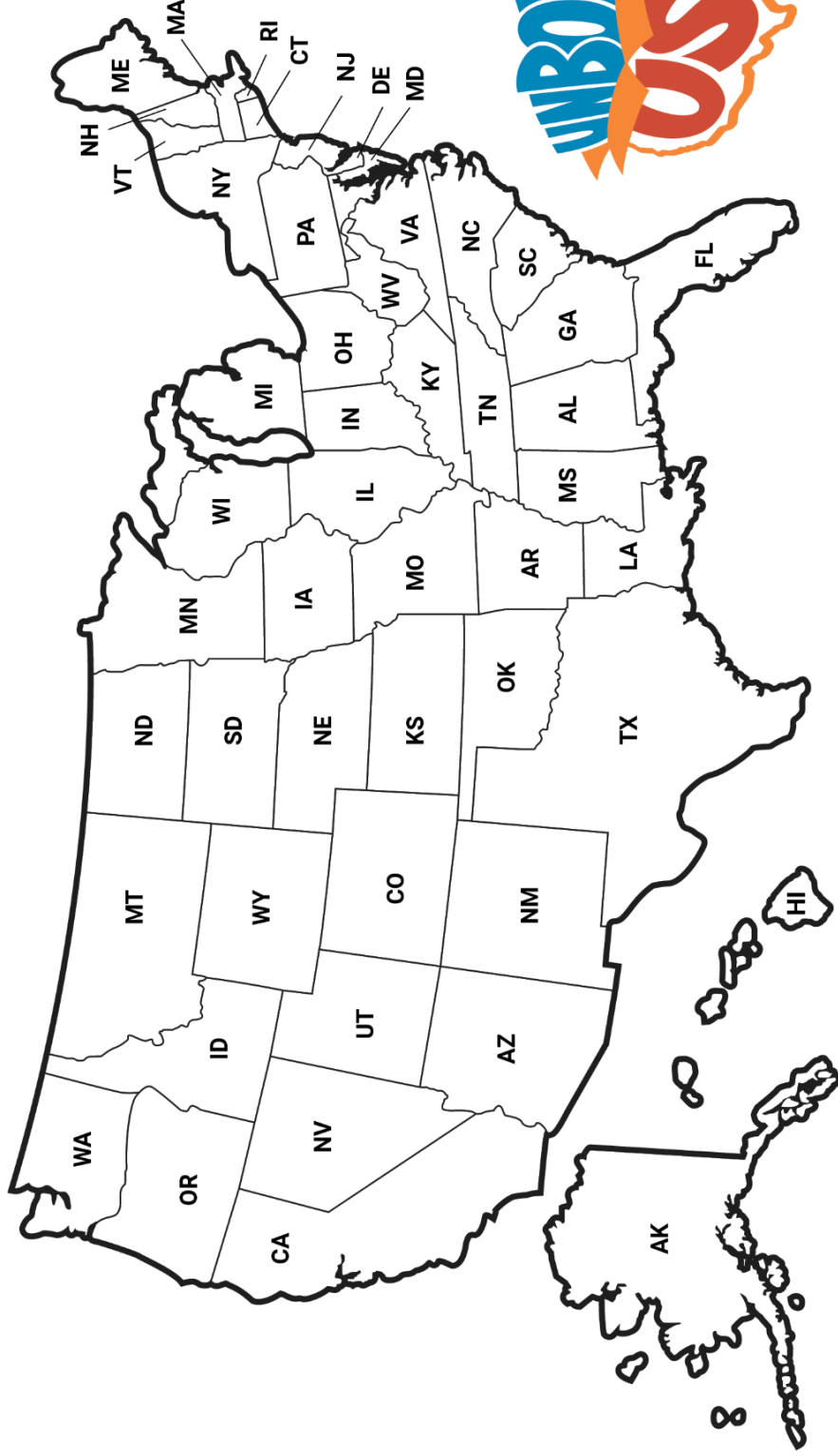
- *Leo & Layla: John Adams & Thomas Jefferson* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))
- *Leo & Layla: Justice John Marshall* (Video and educational resources [Here](#))

Don't have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15 mins.)

Distribute the game map and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.

Instructions:

Play along with the **Unboxed, USA** video. After the first three clues, mark your initial guess with a "1" on the state you think it is. Start jotting down any important facts on the lines provided. After the next three clues, make your second guess by marking a "2" on the state you think it is. Continue adding facts to your list. Following the last set of three clues, make your final guess and mark it with a "3." Were you correct? Put a star on the correct state and write it out on the line provided. Aim to have a list of six key facts by the end of the episode.



Fact 1 _____ **Fact 4** _____

Fact 2 _____ **Fact 5** _____

Fact 3 _____ **Fact 6** _____

_____ **State Name**