



The Buckeye State | Lesson Plan

What are the unique facts and features about the state of Ohio?

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

Learning Objectives:

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

Key Vocabulary:

- **The French and Indian War:** From 1754 to 1763, the French and Indian War (also known as the Seven Years' War) was a conflict between Britain and France, along with their respective Native American allies, over control of North American territories. It ultimately resulted in British dominance in the region and set the stage for the American Revolution.
- **The Underground Railroad:** A secret network of safe houses and routes used by slaves to escape to free states and Canada in the 19th century. Abolitionists and other allies risked their lives to help guide and shelter those seeking freedom.
- **The Northwest Territory:** A vast region of land established by the United States in 1787, encompassing present-day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota. It was the first organized territory of the U.S. and set the precedent for westward expansion and statehood.
- **Buckeye:** A type of tree native to Ohio, known for its shiny brown seeds that resemble the eye of a deer. The term also refers to Ohio residents, symbolizing the state's heritage and pride.
- **Johnny Appleseed:** Johnny Appleseed, born John Chapman, was an American pioneer and nurseryman renowned for planting apple trees across the Midwest in the early 19th century. He became a legendary figure, celebrated for his generosity, love of nature, and his role in cultivating apple orchards throughout Ohio, Indiana, and beyond.

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

Scan to watch episode:



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 Ohio.

Wrap-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Facilitate a review of the nine key facts about Ohio, 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:

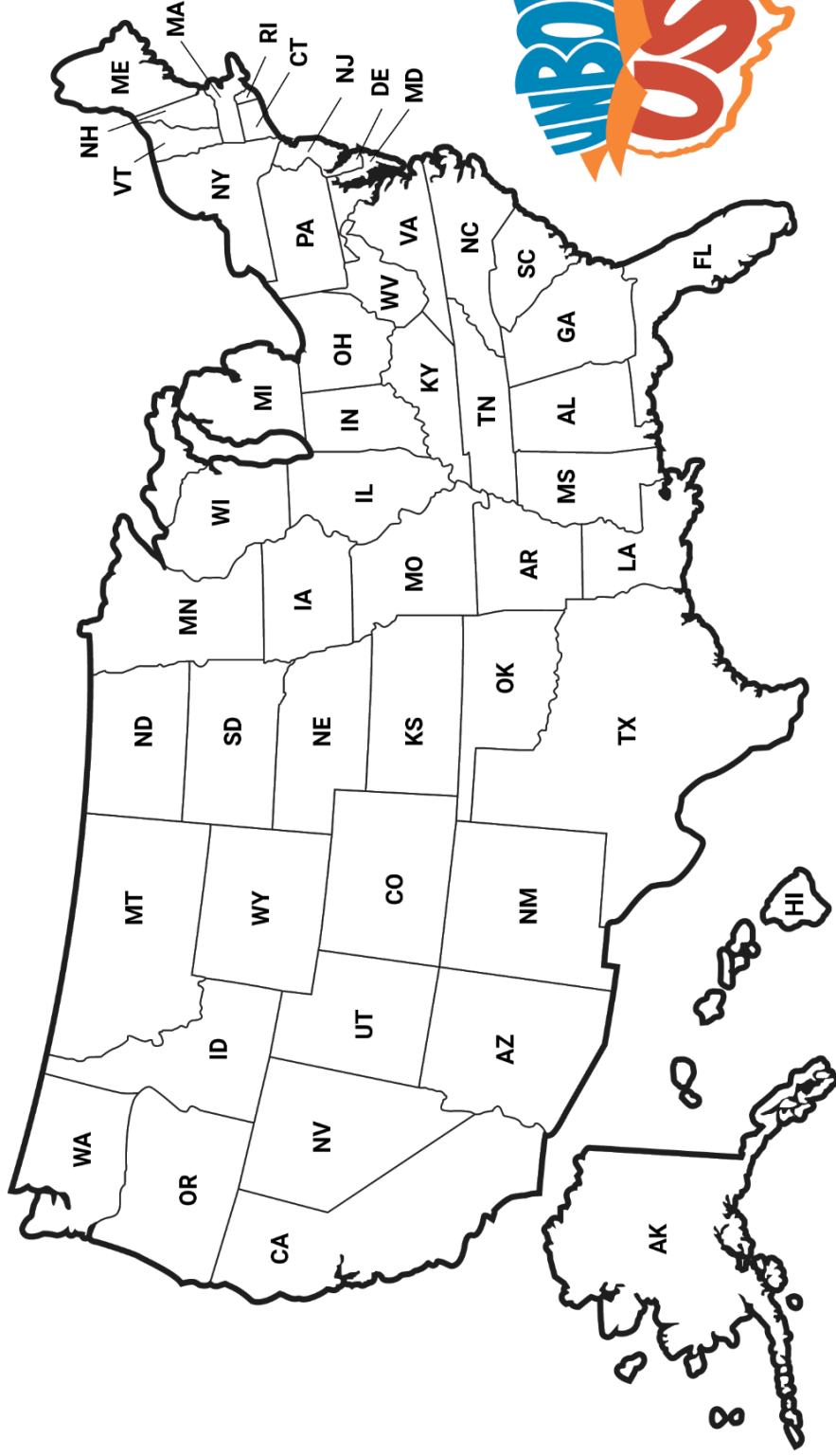
- Analyze the role of the Electoral College in the presidential election process, considering its impact on state representation, the balance of power between states, and its alignment with the principles of federalism outlined in the U.S. Constitution.
 - *Street Smarts: The Constitution* (Video and 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**