

California

A CHANGING STATE

An Atlas for California Students



More Information about those Cover Icons...



The *Coast Redwood* is the state tree. These trees grow more than 320 feet high and live more than 2,000 years. Redwood forests can be found from the Oregon **border** to the Central Coastal Range. Redwood trees thrive in areas of moderate to heavy rain and summer **fog**.



Kayaking is a popular activity in the clear **rivers** of Northwest California.



The *Gold Rush* began on January 24, 1848, when James Marshall discovered this precious metal in the Sierra Nevada **foothills**. Gold is the state **mineral**.



Lettuce is a cool season crop grown on the Central and Southern Coast and in the Central Valley. Lettuce production is highest in Monterey County.



The *California Gray Whale* is the state marine mammal. These mammals travel between nutrient-rich feeding grounds in the Arctic and warm water breeding grounds in Baja California. Gray Whales measure 35-45 feet long as adults and weigh a ton for each foot of length.



The *State Capitol Building* is located in Sacramento. This is where the governor and lawmakers go to work.



The *California Valley Quail* is the state bird. These birds can be found from Southern Oregon to Southern California and east into Nevada. They are commonly found living in **grasslands** and brushy **woodlands**. These ground-dwelling birds mainly eat seeds and leaves as well as insects.



Half Dome is a large **granite** dome in Yosemite National Park. This hump-like mass rises 4,800 feet above the floor of Yosemite Valley. Each year, thousands of people climb to the top.



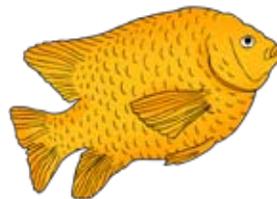
Oranges are one of California's most important crops. Many of these tasty citrus fruits are grown in the San Joaquin Valley.



Golden Trout are native to the Kern Plateau in the southern Sierra Nevada. This colorful fish is the state fish.



The *California Dogface Butterfly* is the state insect of California. The name comes from a wing pattern resembling a dog's face, which is found on the male butterfly. Dogface Butterflies are most common in the Santa Ana Mountains of Southern California.



The *Garibaldi* is a brightly colored fish that lives in the rocky bottoms of the Pacific Coast from Monterey Bay to Baja California. Young Garibaldi with bright blue spots on their reddish-orange bodies are even more colorful than the adults. The Garibaldi is the state marine fish.



The *Desert Tortoise* is the state reptile. Living in the Mojave and Sonoran Deserts of Southeastern California, these reptiles live 80-100 years, and grow to be 8 to 15 lbs. As herbivores, their diet consists of herbs, grasses, and wildflowers.



The California coastline stretches 840 miles between Oregon and Mexico. People of all ages enjoy *surfing* the waves.

Dear Students and Teachers,

Geography investigates the interaction of humans with their natural environment. The goal of this atlas is to help you understand how this relationship changes over time. As you study the maps and text, ask these essential questions:

- **Why do people come to California?**
- **Why do people settle where they do?**
- **How do people supply their needs?**
- **How do people alter the environment?**
- **How do people move throughout California?**

These questions apply to everyone who has lived in California in the past. And they still apply to everyone living in California today—including you.

Many people who have studied these topics for decades made this atlas possible. We are all friends and are united by our desire to help California students and teachers form their own answers to these essential questions. Doing so will raise the maps to life.

In addition to the people listed in the Credits on Page 51, we would like to thank Stuart Allan of Allan Cartography who gave generously of his time, publications and expertise to our cartographers. Dr. Teresa Bulman, Gwenda Rice, and David Banis of the Oregon Geographic Alliance contributed the map study skills section. Professor William Bowen of California State University at Northridge granted permission to use maps from his own publications, and provided important insights on many topics. The Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund funded this project, with additional support from the National Geographic Education Foundation and Humboldt State University.

In just a few years over 40 million people will live in California. We originate from every corner of the globe. Our state is a world leader in agriculture, digital age technology, education, and environmental protection. But our future prosperity depends in part on citizens who understand the environmental, cultural, and economic factors that influence our lives. This atlas will help you down that path.

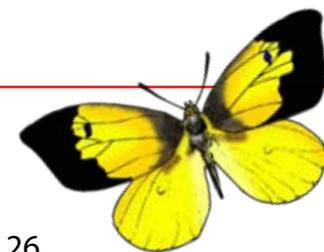


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