



The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!

By Gabrielle Balkan

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A 2016 Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People (National Council for the Social Studies-Children's Book Council)

Be inspired by the inventiveness, beauty and diversity of the United States in this curious collection of fact-filled maps. Explore thousands of wondrous locations and be awed by the achievements of hundreds of people who helped make America what it is today. Celebrate, explore, enjoy!

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- Sales Rank: #6731 in Books
- Published on: 2015-10-01
- Released on: 2015-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 13.75" h x .75" w x 11.50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 112 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 2–5—A colorful introduction to the 50 states. Each spread details a different state and includes an oversize map and some information. Similar in format to Lynne Cheney's *Our 50 States: A Family Adventure Across America* (S. & S., 2006), Balkan's book is more neatly rendered (states are in alphabetical order). Facts are laid out on the map and in a separate column. This volume offers the usual content, such as statehood date and order, state flower, and state bird, as well as fun trivia (Pennsylvania is the home of the first banana split). In addition, Balkan provides interesting historical and geographical tidbits not usually found elsewhere and spotlights famous people from each state. Especially nice is the way the author features prominent women and minorities. For instance, the spread on Georgia highlights Yamacraw Indian chief Tomochichi, author Flannery O'Connor, and singer Little Richard. The illustrations are colorful and childlike. Though bright and appealing, the portraits lack detail. Other works, such as Mark H. Brockenbauer's *Our Fifty States* (National Geographic, 2004), examine the subject in more depth. Still, this is an above-average title on a popular topic, and state trivia enthusiasts will find it entertaining and useful. **VERDICT** The up-to-date material and the demand for offerings on the subject make this work a recommended purchase for public and school libraries.—Margaret Nunes, Gwinnett County Public Library, GA

Review

"Author Gabrielle Balkan's research and writing draws readers in with a fun mash-up of history, geography and pop culture, while Sol Linero's illustrations make every spread a delight - **BookPage**

"A great read to share with your young one. Bright and colorful, you'll enjoy it as much as they will - **Design Sponge**

"For Those Who Pride Themselves on Knowing Their State's Flower/Bird/Motto. A large-format atlas of the U.S., *The 50 States* is chock-full of interesting facts, trivia and history - **Family Circle**

"When I first laid eyes on *The 50 States*, written and researched by Gabrielle Balkan and illustrated by Sol Linero, I absolutely had to have it because I think it's easily the most delightful book on the topic that I've ever seen - **Inhabitots**

"There are Tlingit nation canoes in Alaska, Walden Pond in Massachusetts, Harpers Ferry in West Virginia (but also the first pepperoni roll and first red-brick street; not all icons are serious business) - **Kirkus Reviews**

"Readers will enjoy browsing this oversized and colorful atlas of the United States....will offer hours of browsing pleasure - **Literacy Daily (International Literacy Association)**

"A big, beautiful educational journey across the U.S - **Pretty Prudent**

"A stylish atlas that evokes the character and diversity of the country, equally suitable for coffee tables or family vacations - **Publishers Weekly**

"Open the large formatted book and explore the United States. Each state (and the District of Columbia) is presented handsome, colorful, and highly informative maps to create a memorable journey - **Reading Rockets**

"The engaging, colorful pages, high interest facts, and intriguing material make this a volume that has appeal for a wide audience - **School Library Connection, Highly Recommended**

"A colorful introduction to the 50 states....an above-average title on a popular topic, and state trivia enthusiasts will find it entertaining and useful." - **School Library Journal**

"Surprises abound in *The 50 States*, a splendid reference, coffee-table book and conversation starter for anyone, anywhere - **Shelf Awareness**

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"A big, beautiful educational journey across the U.S." - *Pretty Prudent*

About the Author

Author GABRIELLE BALKAN has written over 20 books for children, including the Mr Presidents series for Scholastic. She lives and works in New York. Illustrator Sol Linero lives and works in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Her clients include Scholastic, Oprah magazine, Jamie Oliver Magazine and Wired.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marie Williams:

The book *The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why must we leave a good thing like a book *The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!*? Some of you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim this book can give many facts for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer using your book. Knowledge or info that you take for that, you may give for each other; you could share all of these. Book *The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!* has simple shape however you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by start and read a e-book. So it is very wonderful.

Rex Pelkey:

The ability that you get from *The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!* could be the more deep you looking the information that hide inside the words the more you get serious about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to understand but *The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!* giving you excitement feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by means of anyone who read it because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having that *The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!* instantly.

Howard Foster:

As a scholar exactly feel bored to be able to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library or make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's spirit or real their hobby. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is to get complicated. Book is very important in your case. As we know

that on this era, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps! can make you really feel more interested to read.

Kathryn Cortez:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got scholars? We believe that that problem was given by teacher for their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And also you know that little person like reading or as studying become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important along with book as to be the point. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You will find good news or update about something by book. Amount types of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them are these claims The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 fact-filled maps!.

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