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If you have any questions, please feel free to email me directly at amber@fromabcstoacts.com, I will do my best to respond promptly.

Amber

Creator and Author of From ABCs to ACTs
New Mexico

State Motto

Crescit eundom

It grows as it goes
Welcome to New Mexico

The Land of Enchantment

From 400 year old buildings to hot air balloon rides, the state of New Mexico certainly lives up to its nickname, The Land of Enchantment.

Including both desert and mountains in its 121,697 square miles, New Mexico may be relatively young, being the 47th state added to the union on January 6, 1912, but it has added a diversity, both in terrain and culture, that is nearly unmatched since joining the nation.

Did you know?

- New Mexico is home to the highest capital in the U.S. The city of Santa Fe is 7,000 feet above sea level.
- Every year, Albuquerque, New Mexico holds a nine day hot air balloon festival that is the largest in the world.
- Not only is Santa Fe, New Mexico the oldest capital city in the United States having been founded in 1610, but it is also home to the oldest continuously occupied public building, the Palace of the Governors, which was built that same year.
- New Mexico lawmakers are the only ones in the country that do not receive salaries. These citizen legislators do however, qualify for state pensions after serving in office for five years.

Famous Figures

- **Jeff Bezos (Born 1964)** Since opening his first online bookstore out of his garage on July 16, 1995, Bezos has grown his fledgling company to one of the largest in the world, what we know today as Amazon.com. In January 2018, Bezos became the richest person in history.
- **William Hanna (1910-2001)** Originally an engineer, William Hanna had trouble finding work during the Great Depression and turned to creating cartoons instead. He is most well-known for his partnership with Joseph Barbera. Together Hanna-Barbera created many classic cartoons such as Tom & Jerry, Yogi Bear, The Flinstones, and Scooby Doo, many of which are still watched today.
New Mexico Research

With your parents’ or teachers’ permission, use the resources found in this state study, along with books and the internet to research the state of New Mexico in order to complete the questions below.

What is the state abbreviation? _________________________________

When did New Mexico become a state? _________________________________

In what region of the country can New Mexico be found? _________________________________

What is the state motto? _________________________________

What is the state nickname? _________________________________

What is the capital city of New Mexico? _________________________________

State Symbols:

What is the New Mexico state bird? _________________________________

What is the New Mexico state flower? _________________________________

Name one major landmark that can be found in the state of New Mexico.

Draw a picture of that landmark here:
New Mexico State Flag

Look at the state flag on top and then do your best to color the black and white version below to match.
Taking Flight

As you read earlier in this pack, the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico is home to the largest hot air balloon festival of its kind.

Those massive balloons are unlike the birthday variety you may be used to in that they use heated air, rather than helium, to float through the sky.

You can reproduce this, on a smaller scale of course, with simple materials that you probably already have at home and for this extension activity, we’re going to do exactly that, build our own hot air balloon.

For this activity, you’ll need:

- An empty bottle
- A pot with hot water
- A deflated balloon

To start, you’re going to stretch the opening of the balloon over the mouth of the bottle. Both should be empty. You’ll only need the already present air to make this experiment work.

Once your balloon is securely attached to the top of your bottle, place the bottle into a pot of hot water.

Have a parent or teacher help you with this step as the water in the pot should be very hot (not boiling, but hot).

As the air inside the balloon heats up, the molecules, much like those in a real hot air balloon, will begin moving further away from each other.

Now, molecules are so small that you won’t be able to see them. You will however, be able to watch your balloon expand, just like a hot air balloon does before taking flight.
Find the state of New Mexico on the map and circle it.
Find the Capital

Find the capital city of New Mexico and mark it on the state map.
Colors of the State Flower

Find a picture of the New Mexico state flower, the Yucca Flower and do your best to color the picture below to match.
Fact Finding

Find and write down 3 facts about the New Mexico state bird, the Roadrunner.

1.

2.

3.
Books to Extend Your State Study

Coyotes All Around by Stuart J. Murphy

E is for Enchantment: A New Mexico Alphabet by Helen Foster James

Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale by Gerald McDermott
New Mexico Alphabet: Land of Enchantment by Jan Mike

Good Night New Mexico by Adam Gamble

How the Stars Fell into the Sky: A Navajo Legend by Jerrie Oughton