

Blackline Masters For Enrichment Activities
for
Pennsylvania: Our People, Places, and Past

by

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Activity 1

Reading a Map of PA Counties

On page 156 of your text, there is information about the 67 counties of our state. William Penn set up counties when he founded our state in 1681. Remember, that each county has a make-believe border. Signs tell you when you leave and enter another county.

Each county has its own government. The borough or city that runs county government is known as the county seat. For example, find Adams County in southern PA. The town of Gettysburg is the center of county government for Adams County. Use the map to answer the following questions.

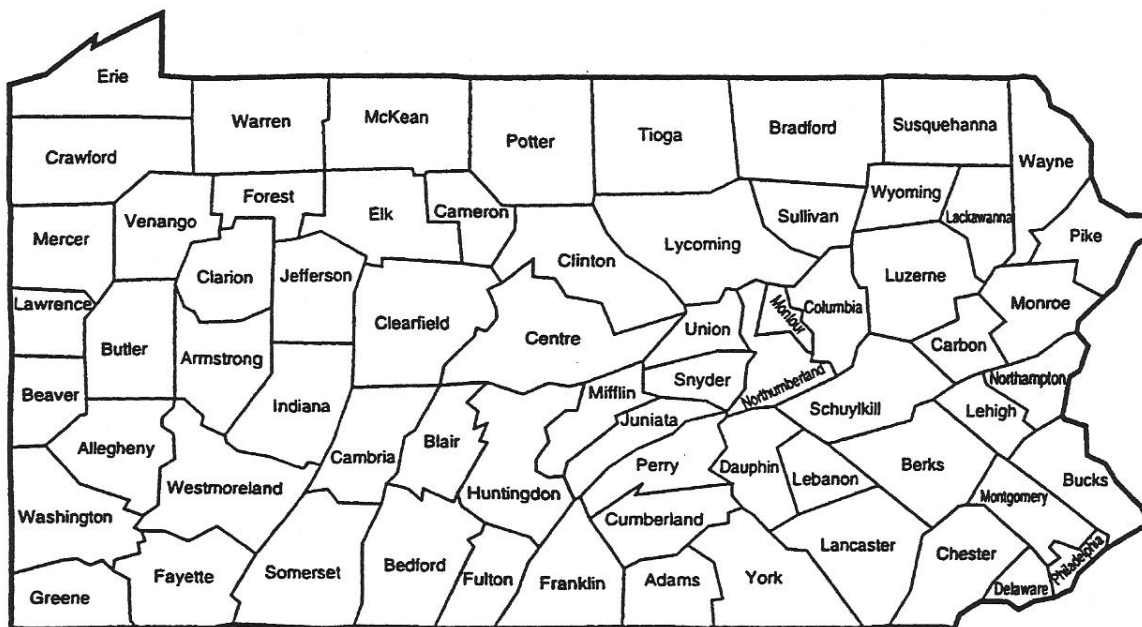
1. What is the northernmost county of PA? _____
2. What is the easternmost county of PA? _____
3. In land space, name one of the largest counties. _____
4. In which county do you live? _____
5. What is the name of your county seat? _____
6. How many county lines border on your county? _____
7. Place a dot on the map for the location of your county seat.
8. Pittsburgh is located in a county that starts with an "A." _____
9. Which county has the same name as a Great Lake? _____
10. Name 3 counties with animal names. _____
11. Name 2 counties with the same last names of U. S. presidents.

12. Name a county that has the name of a state in the U. S. _____
13. Name at least one county with a name that came from Native Americans. _____
14. Name one county that has the name of a natural resource? _____
15. Name at least two counties that have the same names as large rivers in Pennsylvania. _____
16. If the names of the counties were alphabetized, what county would be listed last? _____ the first one listed? _____
17. Name one county that could be a person's first name. _____
18. Color the county in which you live the color of your choice.

Activity 2

Location of PA Caves

Caves that are open to the public are called "show caves." Use the county map to locate and label each of our state's nine show caves.



1. Lost River Caverns is located in an eastern county that borders the Delaware River. The cave is located in the southern part of a county that begins with "N."
2. Penn's Cave is located near the center of our state near Penn State. It is located in the southern part of a county that begins with a "C."
3. Indian Echo Caverns is located near our state capital, Harrisburg. It is located in southern part of the county. It begins with the letter "D."
4. Indian Caverns is located near the center of our state. It is located in the northwest part of this county. It begins with the letter "H."
5. While you are in the area, Lincoln Caverns is located in the northeast part of this same county. This cave is east of Indian Caverns.
6. Laurel Caverns is located the farthest west and south in PA. It is our largest show cave. The county's name begins with the letter "F."
7. From #6, travel two counties to the east to locate Coral Caverns. The cave is located in the western, central part of this county (letter "B").
8. Find Penn's Cave again. Travel northeast into the finger of this county. This is where Woodward Cave is located.
9. Our last show cave, Crystal Cave, is located in eastern PA. However, it is located to the southwest of Lost River Caverns in a county that begins with the letter "B."

Activity 3

Common Cave Formations and Features

Why visit a cave? Caves are nature's way of showing the awesome beauty that can be found underground. It takes millions of year for a cave and cave formations to form. Each cave is different from the other with something special to enjoy and remember. Use the word list and other sources to help you fill in the blanks. Also, use the clues in the sentences. Four words will not be used.

Word Box

bacon	cave pearls	drapery	popcorn	speleology
bats	cave fleas	flowstone	quartz	spelunkers
breakdown	cedar	helectite	sink	stalactite
calcite	column	limestone	soda straw	stalagmite

1. A formation that hangs from the cave ceiling is a _____.
2. This formation looks like a breakfast food when light shines on it a certain way.

3. This bumpy formation only "grows" underwater. It looks like some snack food if it is not covered with mud. _____
4. A formation that "grows" from the cave floor is a/an _____.
5. A formation that looks like cave curtains is known as _____.
6. This formation is a bunch of small mineral nodules that form in a cave pool.

7. This formation develops when cave minerals ooze (move slowly) over a wall.

8. This formation continues from the ceiling to the floor. _____
9. This formation goes against the law of gravity and "grows" in crooked ways.

10. Large rocks lying on a cave floor that have fallen from the ceiling is known as _____.
11. This formation is a thin, hollow tube "growing" from the ceiling. _____
12. Another name for a cave depression is a _____
13. A type of tree that grows where caves are formed is the _____.
14. This word means a study of caves. _____
15. The type of rock most often found in caves is _____.
16. The type of mineral found in this type of rock. In its "wet" form, this mineral forms many types of cave formations. _____

From the leftover words, write a question that uses one of those words.

Activity 4

Did You Know?

Here are some other interesting "tidbits" about Pennsylvania. Cut out each sentence and paste onto oaktag strips. You will have a set of sentence strips that you can read to each other. You can keep adding to your sentence strips with other things you have learned about our state.

America's first major paved road was built in 1792 to link Philadelphia to Lancaster, the colonies' largest inland city at that time.

Pennsylvania is the only state with ports where ships can travel to the Atlantic Ocean, Great Lakes, and the Mississippi River.

Daniel Boone, hero of the American frontier, was born in Berks County near Reading. He learned to hunt, shoot, and trap there before he moved to the frontier.

The Erie Triangle was not originally part of the PA colony. The U. S. government sold it to PA for 75 cents an acre so the state would have a port on the Great Lakes.

William Penn spelled Pennsylvania "Pensilvania."

As a small boy in the 1790s, James Buchanan played around his home in the wilderness with a bell around his neck to keep from getting lost.

The hard and soft coal beds in Pennsylvania have been called the two most valuable mineral deposits in the world.

Many of Pennsylvania's caverns have provided Native American relics, yet only 8 caves are operated for tourists.

The first declaration of Thanksgiving was issued in PA by the Continental Congress.

Pennsylvania ranks 1st in production of Christmas trees and more of them are grown in Indiana county than any other county.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show can trace its beginning to William Penn who organized a farm show in 1682.

Pennsylvania has the largest apple-processing plant in the world.

Pennsylvania has the largest chocolate-processing plant in the world.

Activity 5

Group These People

List the following people who are written about in Pennsylvania: Our People, Places, and Past under the following groups. Note: Some people can appear in more than 1 column. Some people also can fall into the "Other" category because they held other jobs. Other names that are not listed can be added to the "Other" column. If you need help, use the index on pages 164 - 165.

Fulton	Rockefeller	Wanamaker	Woolworth
Carnegie	Cornplanter	Kier	Tubman
Mott	Bessemer	Franklin	Westinghouse
Hall	Hershey	Washington	Frick
Drake	Baldwin	Pinchot	Chester
Delaney	Heinz	Meade	Buchanan
Penn	Barton	Tamanend	Hays

<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Businessperson</u>	<u>Patriot</u>	<u>Politician</u>	<u>Other</u>

Create other groups in which to place people. For instance, Bill Cosby could be listed as an entertainer. You may need to justify your answers. You can find other well-known Pennsylvanians in the index.

Activity 6

Eyewitness Accounts of the Johnstown Flood

An eyewitness report is an account written by someone who has actually seen or lived an event. It is called a first hand account of the event. Accounts of events by eyewitnesses are very important to historians researching the past. They provide details about everyday life and events before, during, and after the event. Often, such details are not presented in history books or are left to fade into time! The people who wrote diaries and accounts help the past "come alive" for historians and for you.

Here are two eyewitness accounts describing the horror of the flood. Each account gives you an idea of what it must have been like to experience a 40 foot wave of water destroying the city. Do you know how high 40 feet is? Is your school building or home 40 feet? Measure 40 feet in the hallway.

Read the following material on eyewitness reports of the Johnstown Flood that occurred in 1889. Read the questions before the passages so that you will know for what to look.

Preview Questions to Answer

1. What do the passages tell you about the power of the flood?
2. Was it by luck or by skill that these eyewitnesses survived the flood? Justify your answer.
3. What was the main difference between the eyewitness report in Account 1 and the eyewitness report in Account 2.

Account 1 is a description provided to the New York Sun newspaper by a man who watched the torrent of water from the top of Johnstown Hill.

"In an instant the deserted street became black with people running for their lives. An instant later the flood came and licked them up with one eager and ferocious lap. The whole city was one surging and whirling mass of water, which swept away house after house with a rapidity that even the eye could not follow."

Account 2 is a description provided by G.B. Hartley of Philadelphia who was staying at a hotel in downtown Johnstown called the Hulbert House.

"When the great rush of water came, I was sitting in the parlors of the hotel. Suddenly, we were startled to hear several loud shouts on the streets. These cries were accompanied by a loud crashing noise. At the first sound we rushed from the room panic-stricken.

There was a crash and I found my self pinned down by broken boards and debris of various kinds. The next moment I felt the water surging in. I knew it went higher than my head because I felt it. The water must have passed like a flash or I would not have come out alive. After the shock I could see the entire roof of the hotel had been carried off.

Catching hold of something, I managed to pull myself up on the roof. The roof had slid off and lay across the street. On the roof I had a chance to observe my surroundings.

Crouching and shivering on another part of the roof were two girls, one a chambermaid of the hotel and the other a clerk in the store next to it. The clerk's arm had been torn from its socket. I took off my overcoat and gave it to her. She was in a pitiful state. A young man was caring for his mother, who had had her scalp completely torn off. He asked me to hold her head until he could make a bandage. The blood saturated it before it was well on. Soon after this we were rescued, more dead than alive."

4. Re-read the passages. Look for and write action words that make each account "come alive" (describing words). Also, which parts of the account are very detailed?

Describing Words

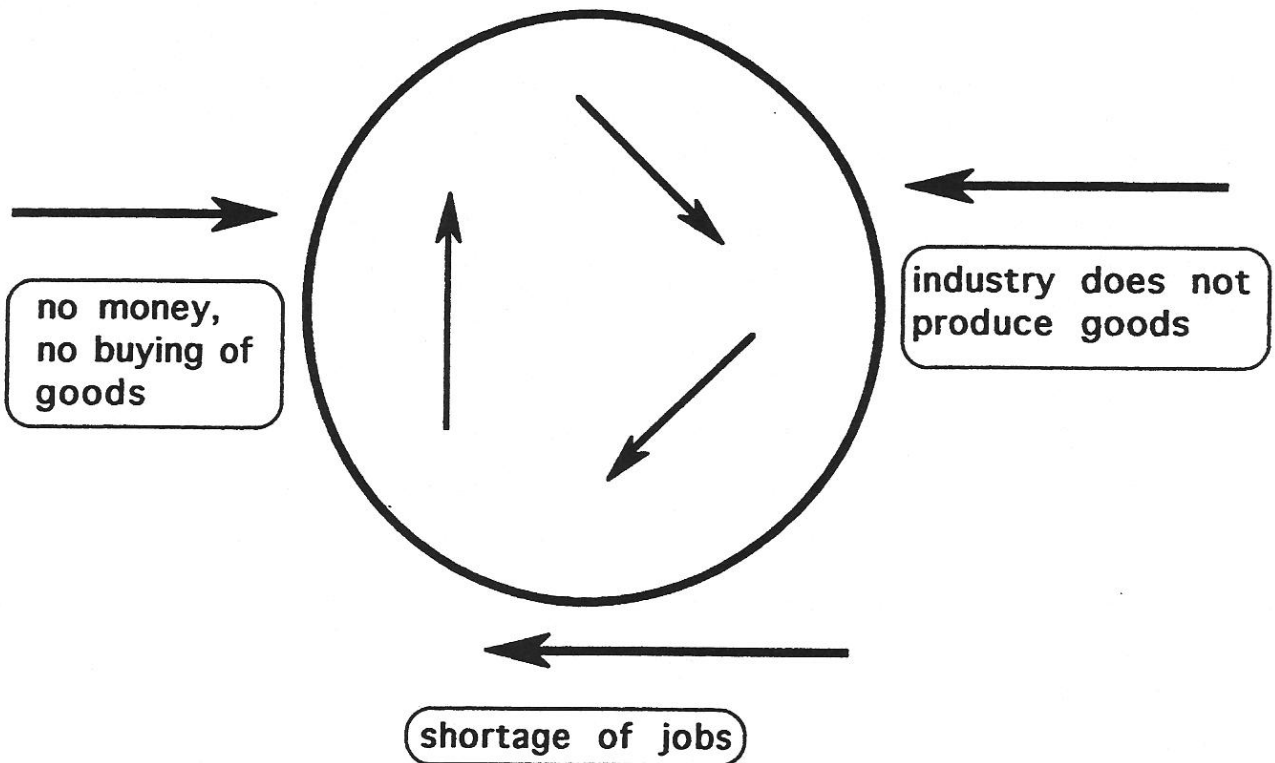
Parts with Details

5. Now, recall an event that occurred to which you were an eyewitness. Write about this event. Provide details and action words that describe the event.

Activity 7

A Depression Cycle

A depression that deals with our production of goods and services has a round cycle that fuels itself. It works like this. If people are not buying goods, then industry does not produce the goods. If industry does not produce goods, then the workers in the industry lose their jobs. They have little or no money. There is a shortage of jobs. Farmers cannot sell their crops. Owners of farms and businesses do not make money. They lose their farms because they cannot pay their bills. Business owners go out of business - and the circle continues.



Pennsylvania was one of the hardest hit states by the depression. By 1932, nearly one million people lost their jobs. This amounted to one out of four workers having no work. In some mining and steel towns, 8 out of 10 people lost their jobs.

Activity 8

Can You Compromise?

People are full of ideas. When an idea is expressed, it is usually not possible to get everyone to agree on the idea. People can be in favor of an idea or against it. Then, more ideas are discussed. People present their ideas and are expected to listen to the ideas of others.

You have heard "you cannot have everything you want!" We could be talking about family vacations, meetings (Boy or Girl Scouts), or visiting family members. When we discuss ideas, we usually have some compromises. That is, each side will give up part of its wants or requests so that some kind of agreement can be reached. In a compromise, sometimes not everybody is totally happy. But that is the way life works.

Compromise has been with us throughout history. This was especially true with our Constitution. A plan of government was created from many compromises among the men. They had many fiery debates. Not everybody was happy but the compromises presented a workable government. This plan still allows our lawmakers to work out compromises to difficult problems today.

Write about three things in your life in which you have had to compromise something. If you cannot think of three, use examples from the newspaper or the history part of your textbook.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Activity 9

Our U. S. Constitution

Many people say that our Constitution is a "living" set of words for our government. You may ask how words can live? They do not have a heart. There is no brain controlling their functions. There is no blood flowing through their veins and arteries. They do not breathe! The paper that explains how our government works sounds more dead than alive!

However, it is very much alive because the ideas expressed in the Constitution have been useful to us for more than 200 years. Why has our Constitution been so successful? There are three words that provide important parts of the Constitution. They are: change, compromise, and interpretation.

The writers of our plan of government knew their country would grow. They were wise because they knew some things would need to be changed with this growth. They developed a process whereby this plan could be changed and made better. These changes are called amendments. Since the Bill of Rights that gave us freedoms and rights, we have had only 17 other amendments added.

Take a moment to discuss these questions (find the answers) or to write about them in your journal logs.

1. Issues on slavery were not in the Constitution until after the Civil War. How was slavery changed in this country through our Constitution?
2. Women had no voting rights for many years. Why do you suppose they were not allowed to vote? How was this changed or amended in our Constitution?

Activity 10

Using Government Words

Word Box

act; amendment; bill; borough; city; commissioners; council;
democracy; executive; federal; government; judicial; jury; law;
legislative; local; mayor; rights; states; tax; township; veto

Directions: Use the words from the "Word Box" to complete the following sentences. Two words from the "Word Box" will not be used.

1. This branch of elected people make the laws. _____
2. Any changes to the Constitution is called a/an: _____
3. A set of rules by which people are governed is known as: _____
4. A bill that has been passed and been signed is called a/an: _____
5. If the President or Governor does not sign a bill into law, this is called a/an: _____
6. When a bill becomes a law, it is given a/an ____ number. _____
7. Government that is run by elected people is known as: _____
8. Presidents and Governors are part of this branch. _____
9. A written idea for a suggested law is called a/an: _____
10. We have 50 political parts to our country. They are called: _____
11. Money that is paid to governments for services is a/an: _____
12. The elected person who is in charge of the city or borough government is called a/an: _____
13. This is the court system of government. _____
14. The first 10 amendments to our Constitution are called the "Bill of _____." _____
15. A group of people who decide the guilt or innocence of an accused person is called a/an: _____
16. A community with fewer than 10,000 people is a/an: _____
17. A community with greater than 10,000 people is a/an: _____
18. A type of local government that is not a borough, city, or county is called a/an: _____
19. The group of people who make laws for their city or borough is called a/an: _____
20. Elected people who run the county government are called: _____