



5: ABCs of Statehood



OBJECTIVE:

Students will create a timeline to display the order in which the 50 states were admitted to the Union. Students will then graph how many states were admitted to the Union during certain time periods and relate any patterns they discover to events in history.



MATERIALS:

- “The ABCs of Statehood” work page (page 20)
- “Statehood Graph” work page (page 21)
- United States of America Map Template (page 28)
- Craft paper (roll)
- Rulers
- Pencils
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Reference materials



PREPARATIONS:

- Cut roll paper into 4 foot strips, one per student.
- Gather reference materials.
- Copy work pages.
- Prepare sample timeline with first few states.



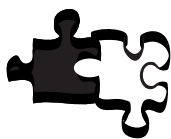
GROUPING:

- Individual



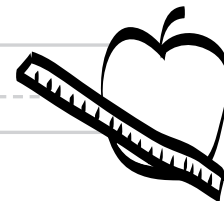
CLASS TIME:

- 3 class periods



CONNECTIONS:

- Social Studies
- Language Arts
- Art



Analyzing Data About History



TERMS and CONCEPTS:

- Ratification
- Statehood
- Symbol



STEPS:

1. Display the sample timeline and explain that students will use a chart and other references to create timelines to show the order in which the states were admitted to the Union. Students will list the names of the states in order of their admission, include the date each state ratified the Constitution, and decorate the timeline with symbols from each state (e.g., state birds, state flowers, state trees, symbols from state quarters, etc.).
2. Distribute “The ABCs of Statehood” work page (page 20) and strips of craft paper. Make blank sheets of white paper available for notes and planning. Allow students 2-3 class periods and/or time at home to complete the timelines. You may wish to encourage students to loosely sketch their timelines in pencil, then trade with a classmate to check each other’s work before using markers and adding illustrations.
3. After students have completed their timelines, distribute the “Statehood Graph” work page (page 21) and a copy of the labeled United States of America Map Template (page 28). Students should create a bar graph demonstrating how many states were admitted to the Union during each decade and then color the states on the map using the colors/patterns indicated.
4. Work with students to answer the accompanying questions on the “ABCs of Statehood” work page (page 20) based on their graphs and maps, relating the patterns they discover to events in history. The teacher can relate key events, or students can conduct individual research to make these connections.



ENRICHMENT/EXTENSIONS:

Students can give oral presentations, using their timelines as illustrations, before displaying them in the classroom or hallway.



ABCs of Statehood

DIRECTIONS:

Review the chart below. Research the questions below and write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

Alabama	December 14, 1819	Montana	November 8, 1889
Alaska	January 3, 1959	Nebraska	March 1, 1867
Arizona	February 14, 1912	Nevada	October 31, 1864
Arkansas	June 15, 1836	New Hampshire	June 21, 1788
California	September 9, 1850	New Jersey	December 18, 1787
Colorado	August 1, 1876	New Mexico	January 6, 1912
Connecticut	January 9, 1788	New York	July 26, 1788
Delaware	December 7, 1787	North Carolina	November 21, 1789
Florida	March 3, 1845	North Dakota	November 2, 1889
Georgia	January 2, 1788	Ohio	March 1, 1803
Hawaii	August 21, 1959	Oklahoma	November 16, 1907
Idaho	July 3, 1890	Oregon	February 14, 1859
Illinois	December 3, 1818	Pennsylvania	December 12, 1787
Indiana	December 11, 1816	Rhode Island	May 29, 1790
Iowa	December 28, 1846	South Carolina	May 23, 1788
Kansas	January 29, 1861	South Dakota	November 2, 1889
Kentucky	June 1, 1792	Tennessee	June 1, 1796
Louisiana	April 30, 1812	Texas	December 29, 1845
Maine	March 15, 1820	Utah	January 4, 1896
Maryland	April 28, 1788	Vermont	March 4, 1791
Massachusetts	February 6, 1788	Virginia	June 25, 1788
Michigan	January 26, 1837	Washington	November 11, 1889
Minnesota	May 11, 1858	West Virginia	June 20, 1863
Mississippi	December 10, 1817	Wisconsin	May 29, 1848
Missouri	August 10, 1821	Wyoming	July 10, 1890

- Eleven states joined the Union within a seven month period. Which states were they? Why did they all join during such a brief period? What did the states have in common?
- What was the longest time period during which no new states joined the Union? Why were no states admitted during this time?
- How did the Gold Rush, from 1848 to 1852, affect the ratification of the Western states?
- Which two states were ratified between 1941 and 1960? What is the distinguishing characteristic of these two states?

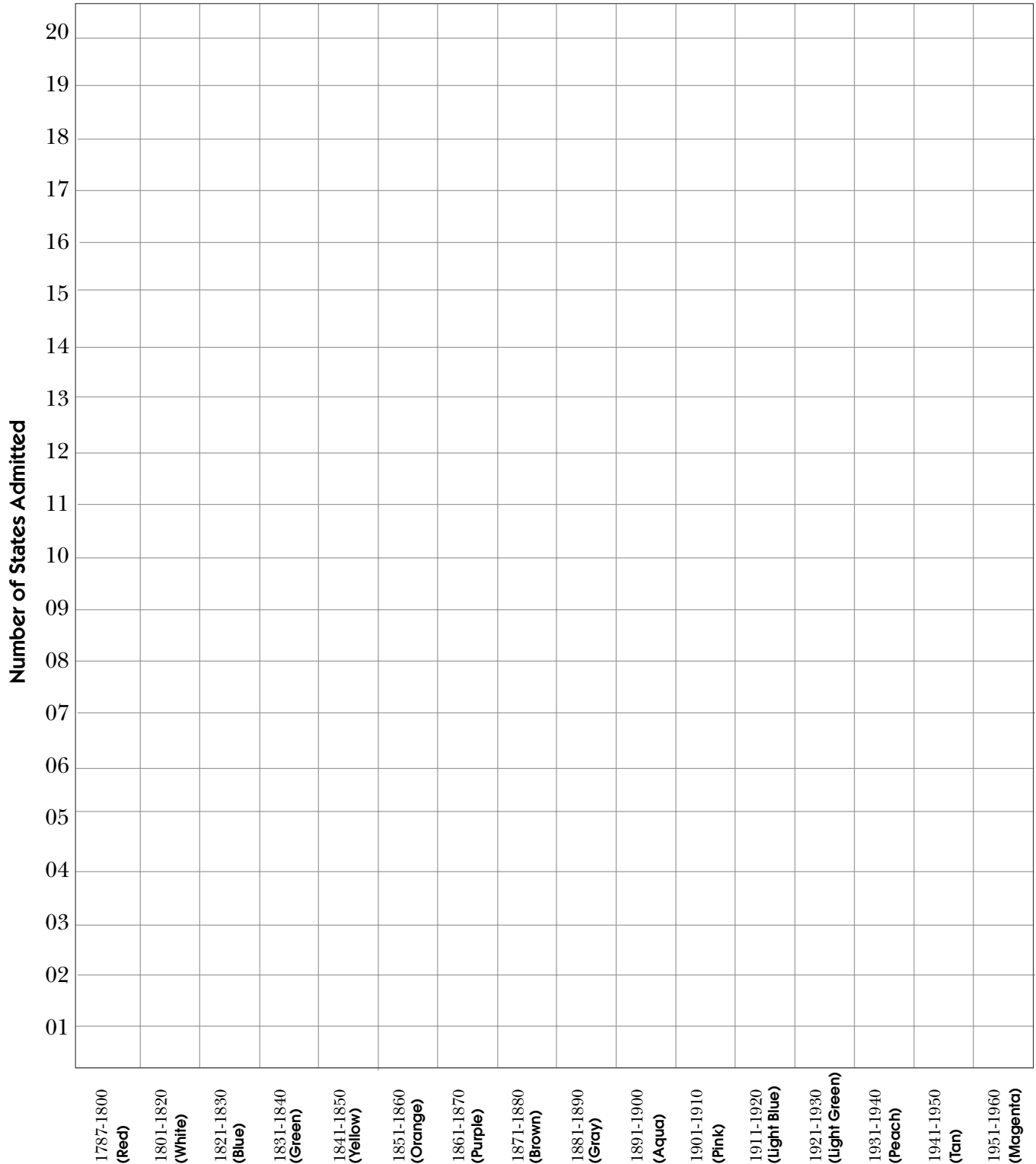
CHALLENGE! What other patterns do you notice about the dates of ratification of states? Can you relate these patterns to events in history?

Name _____ Date _____



Statehood Graph

DIRECTIONS: Using a bar graph, show how many states were admitted to the Union during each period listed.



Statehood Dates and Color Key