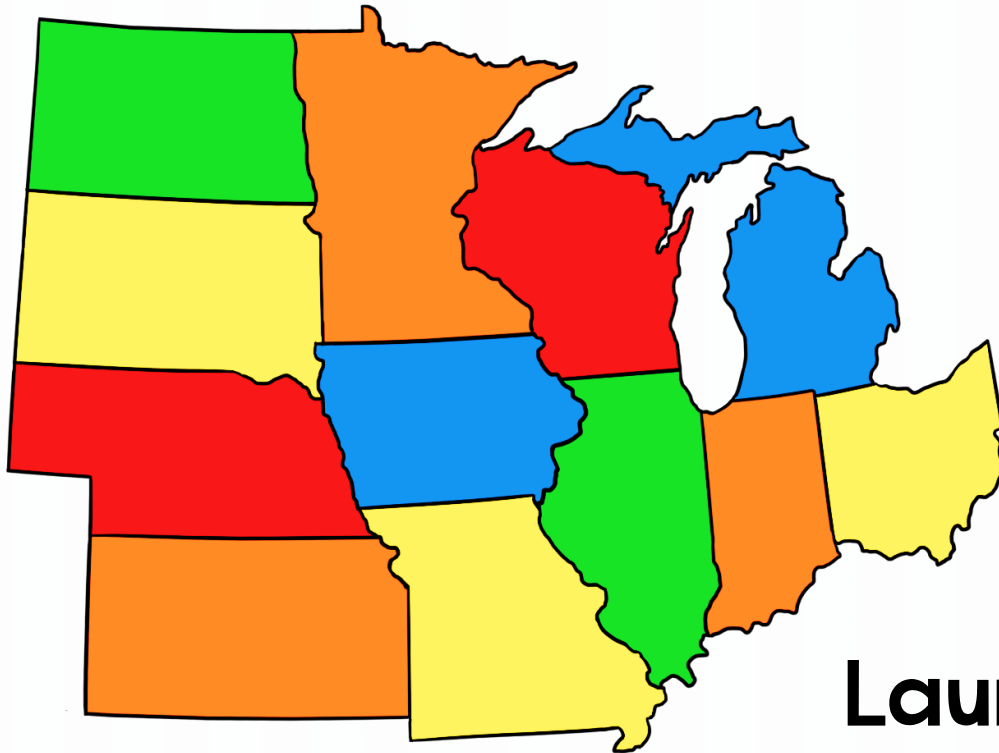


Exciting Review Game!

Midwest Region Showdown

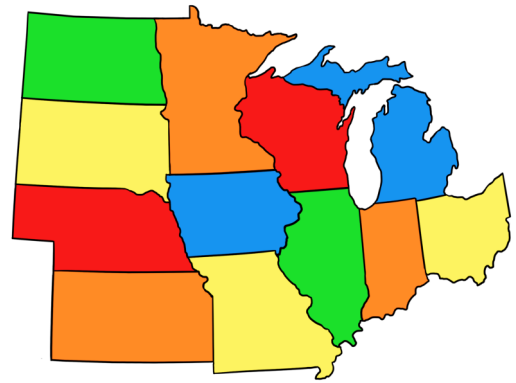
Learn State Names, Locations,
Capital Cities, and Abbreviations



Laura
Candler

Midwest Region Showdown

by Laura Candler



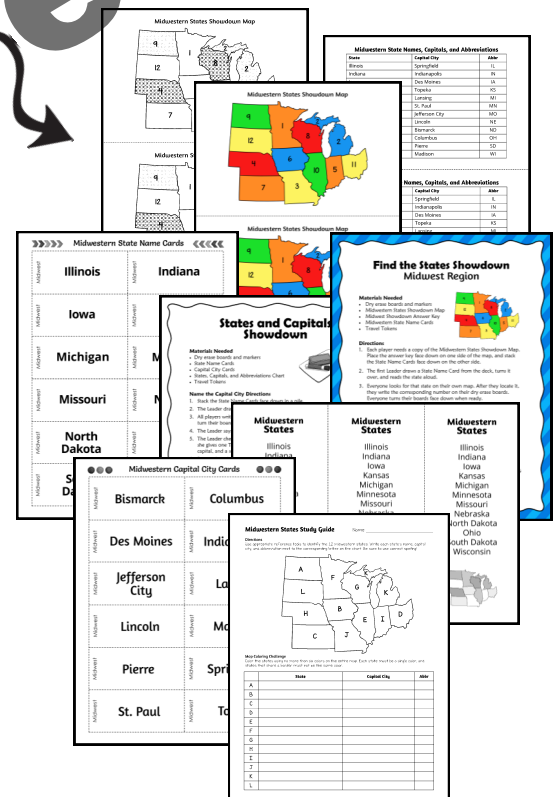
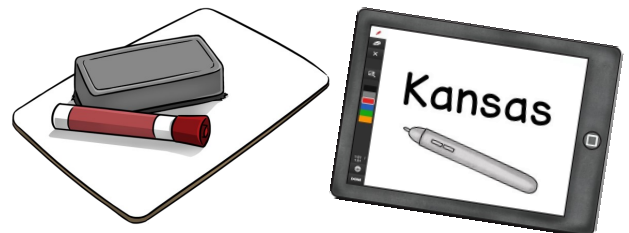
Midwest Region Showdown is an active engagement game for reviewing western state names, locations, capitals, and/or abbreviations. The activity is based on Showdown, a popular and effective cooperative learning strategy. The game can be played as a whole class, in centers, with partners, or within cooperative learning teams. Directions for three variations of the game are included, along with numbered maps, task cards, and answer keys. This product also includes an optional Midwestern States Study Guide your students can complete prior to playing the game. You'll find both color and black & white options for the game directions and maps, so be sure to print only the pages that you need.

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Options for Recording Responses

All players need a method of recording their answers and showing them to the other players. The directions call for dry erase boards, but if you don't have enough for every student, you can substitute laminated sheets of card stock. If your students have digital tablets, another option is to ask them to open an interactive whiteboard app like ShowMe and to write their answers directly on their tablets.



Overview and Advanced Preparation

Midwest Region Showdown includes directions and materials for three variations of the basic Showdown activity, and an optional study guide your students can complete prior to playing the game.

The study guide consists of a map of the midwestern states and a blank chart to complete with details about those states. Each state is labeled with a letter of the alphabet, and students are asked to use appropriate reference tools to identify the states and write the state names, capitals, and abbreviations on the chart. An answer key is provided on page 6.

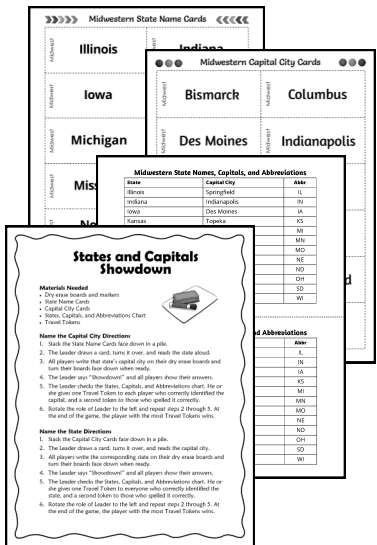
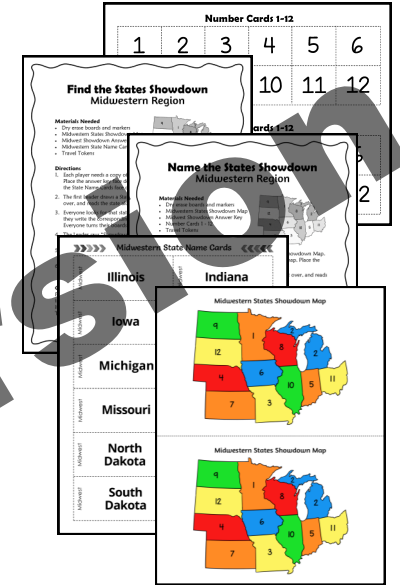
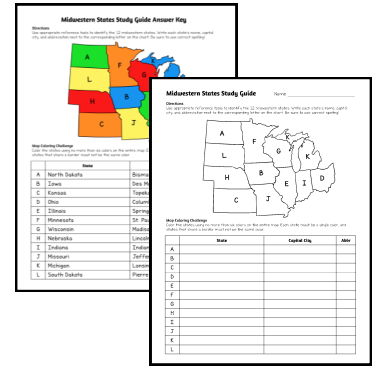
The first two games, **Find the States Showdown** and **Name the States Showdown**, require players to find a given state on a numbered map and identify it by name or by number. There are three variations of the map that differ by color, but you only need to print one of them. Print a copy of the Midwest Showdown Answer Key for each set of game materials, too. Finally, you'll need a set of 12 State Name Cards and 12 Number Cards for each game. Cut the cards apart and paper clip them together or store them in snack sized bags.

The number cards are difficult to handle due to their small size, so you may want to replace them with numbered craft sticks. Write a number from 1 to 12 on one end of each craft stick, and place the sticks, number-side down, in a cup or can. When it's time for the Leader to choose a number, he or she will choose a craft stick instead of a number card.

The third game, **States and Capitals Showdown**, is played without a map. The only materials needed are the **Midwestern State Name Cards**, the **Midwestern Capital City Cards**, the game directions, and the **States, Capitals, and Abbreviations** chart which serves as the answer key. The State Name Cards and Capital City Cards look similar after they're cut apart, so you may want to print them in two different colors.

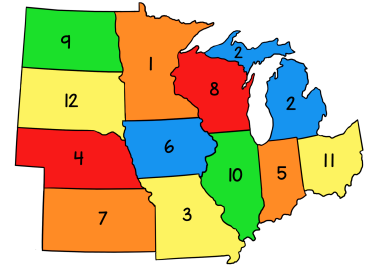
In all three games, "Travel Tokens" are awarded for correct answers to provide an easy way to keep track of points. The number of tokens needed will vary depending on the amount of time your students play and how quickly they respond to each task card, but it's best to start with 20 or 30 tokens per player and adjust as needed. You can create Travel Tokens by printing and cutting apart the paper tokens on page 19, or you can substitute small objects like dried beans, plastic game counters, or paper clips. If you prefer not to use Travel Tokens, players can record tally marks to keep track of the points they earn.

All three games require some initial preparation, so if you're short on time, ask students or parent volunteers to help you cut apart the cards and Travel Tokens. Laminate the materials for each game, store them in a safe place, and you'll be able to use them year after year!



Teaching Tips and Modifications

You can play all three **Midwest Region Showdown** games as a whole class, or students can play with partners, in cooperative learning teams, or in centers. No matter which option you choose, it's best to introduce each game to your whole class before allowing your students to play on their own. Display a copy of the numbered map and read the directions aloud as you demonstrate how to play the game. After your students understand the rules, seat them in pairs or teams and distribute the materials.



Setting Time Limits

The game directions don't include time limits for recording answers, but you may need to add time limits to keep the game moving. Most students need less than a minute to record their answers, and it can be frustrating for them to wait four or five minutes for other players to respond. Setting an appropriate time limit for responding will keep players focused and will result in a more productive review session. To determine the correct amount of time for each round, observe several teams while they play and notice how much time it takes for most students to finish. One-minute sand timers may work, but if the sand runs out before most students finish, you'll need to provide another timing device.

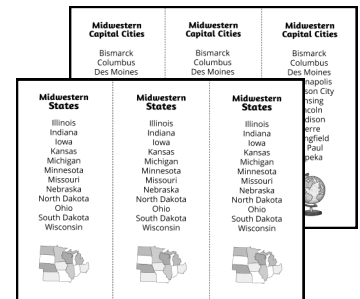


Non-competitive Showdown

Showdown can be played competitively as the game directions are written, but it can also be played non-competitively as a fun practice activity without winners and losers. To downplay the competitive elements of the game, eliminate the Travel Tokens and the point system. The rest of the game directions are the same. After all players write their responses, the Leader checks the answers and makes sure everyone knows the correct answer. Then all players erase their dry erase boards, the role of Leader rotates to the left, and the next Leader draws a card from the deck. The steps are repeated and the activity continues until you end the game.

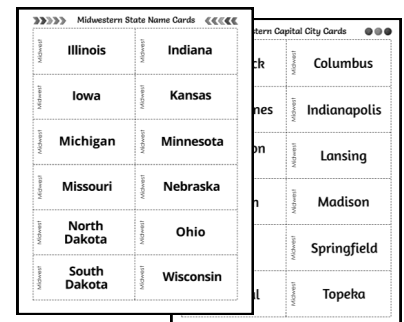
Options for Spelling Modifications

Students aren't directly penalized for misspelling state and capital city names; however, players who spell those names correctly are rewarded with a bonus token. If you're concerned that rewarding correct spelling will give some students an unfair advantage, you can eliminate the use of bonus tokens. Another option is to provide each team with copies of the alphabetical lists of Midwestern States and the Midwestern Capital Cities, and allow players to refer to them as needed to check spelling.



States and Capitals Matching Game

For additional practice, create a matching game by printing one copy of the State Name Cards and one copy of the Capital City Cards. Cut the cards apart and store all 24 cards in a snack-sized bag. Students can work alone or with a partner to practice matching states and capitals. To make the game a little easier, print the State Names Cards on one color and the Capital City Cards on a different color so players know to choose one card of each color.

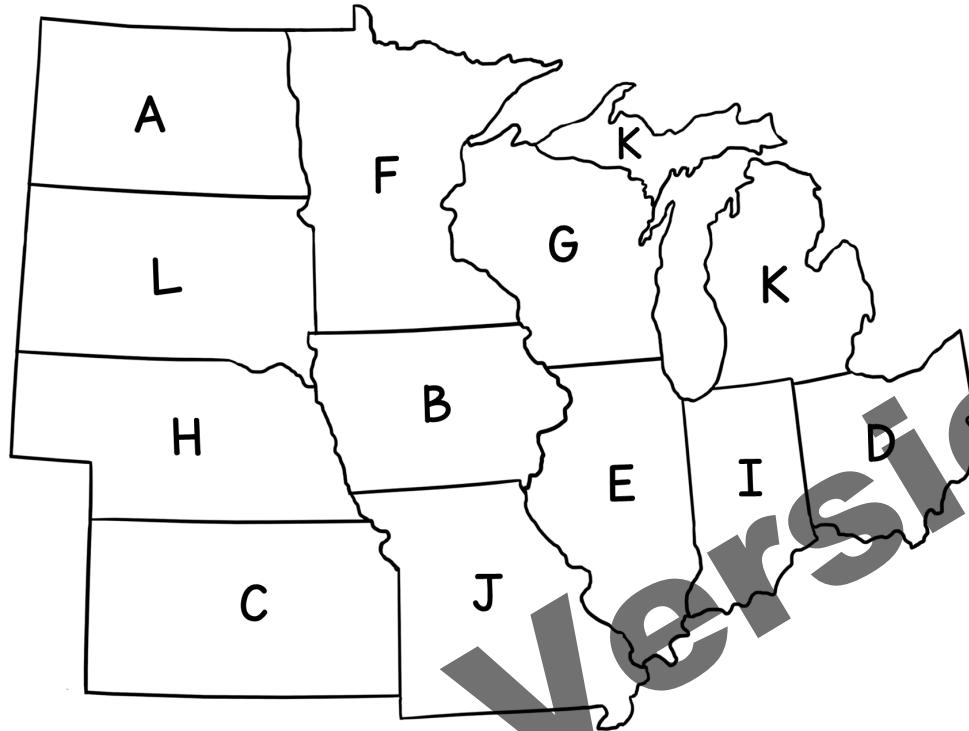


Midwestern States Study Guide

Name _____

Directions

Use appropriate reference tools to identify the 12 midwestern states. Write each state's name, capital city, and abbreviation next to the corresponding letter on the chart. Be sure to use correct spelling!



Map Coloring Challenge

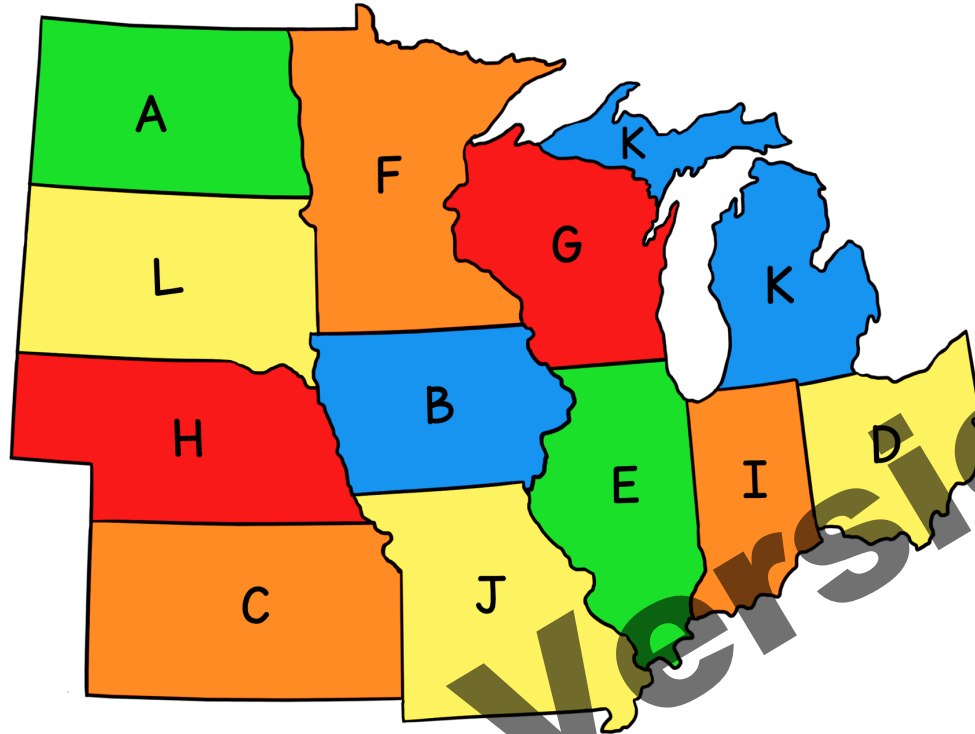
Color the states using no more than six colors on the entire map. Each state must be a single color, and states that share a border must not be the same color.

	State	Capital City	Abbr
A			
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			
I			
J			
K			
L			

Midwestern States Study Guide Answer Key

Directions

Use appropriate reference tools to identify the 12 midwestern states. Write each state's name, capital city, and abbreviation next to the corresponding letter on the chart. Be sure to use correct spelling!

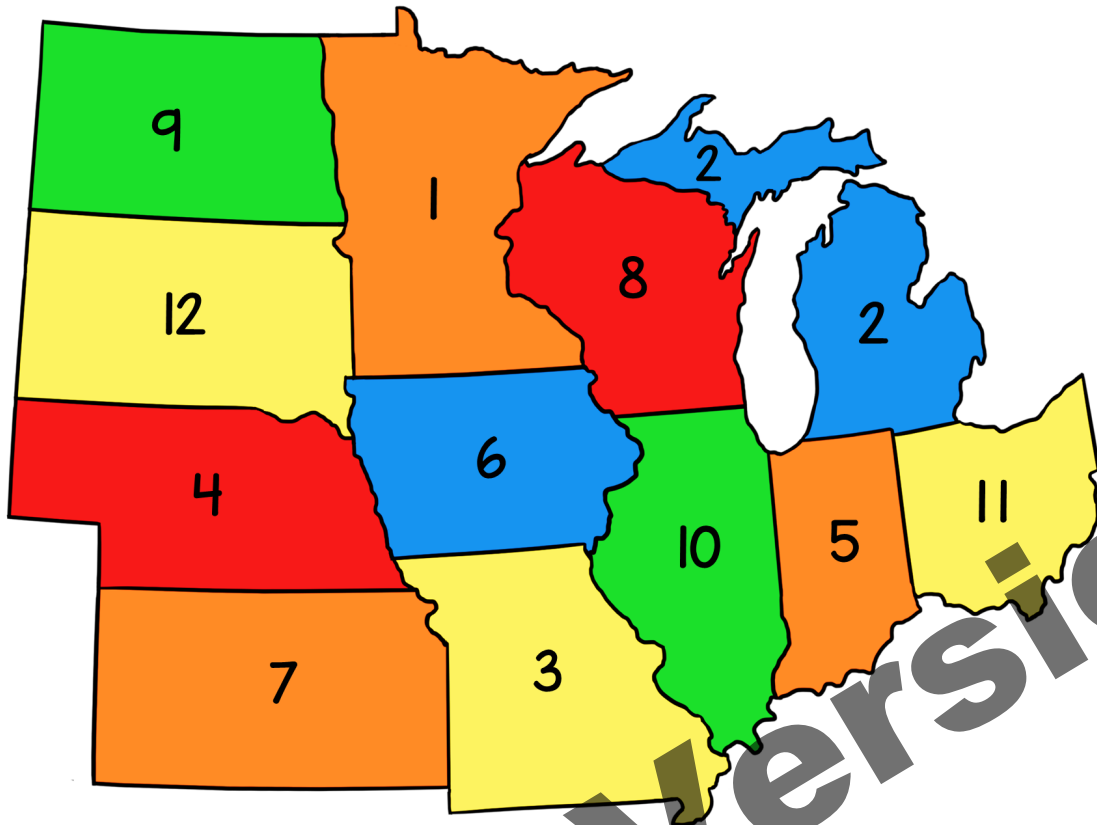


Map Coloring Challenge

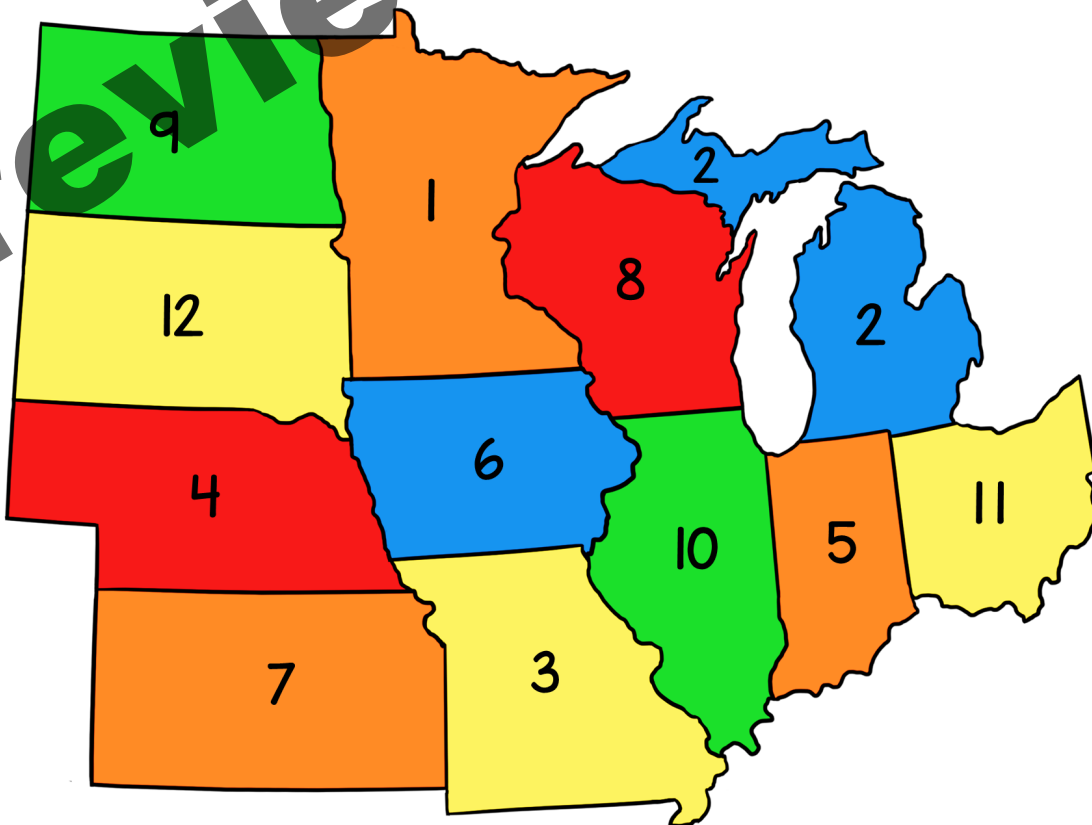
Color the states using no more than six colors on the entire map. Each state must be a single color, and states that share a border must not be the same color.

	State	Capital City	Abbr
A	North Dakota	Bismarck	ND
B	Iowa	Des Moines	IA
C	Kansas	Topeka	KS
D	Ohio	Columbus	OH
E	Illinois	Springfield	IL
F	Minnesota	St. Paul	MN
G	Wisconsin	Madison	WI
H	Nebraska	Lincoln	NE
I	Indiana	Indianapolis	IN
J	Missouri	Jefferson City	MO
K	Michigan	Lansing	MI
L	South Dakota	Pierre	SD

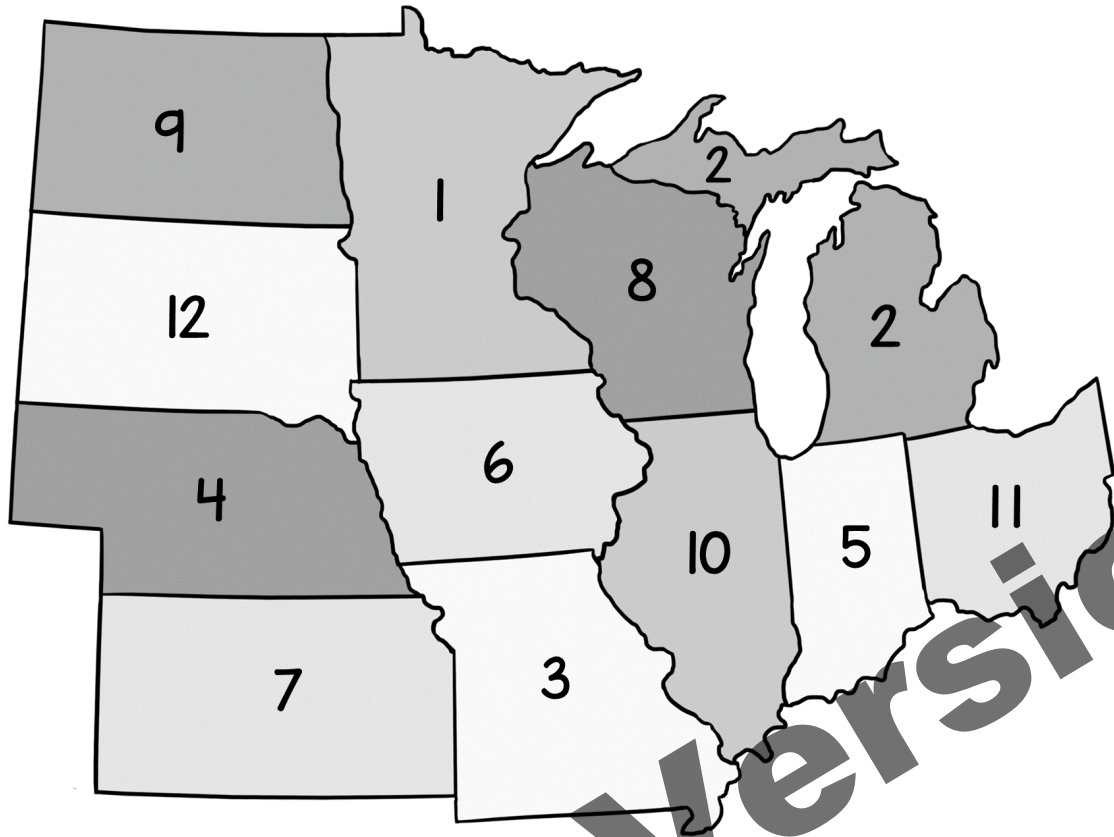
Midwestern States Showdown Map



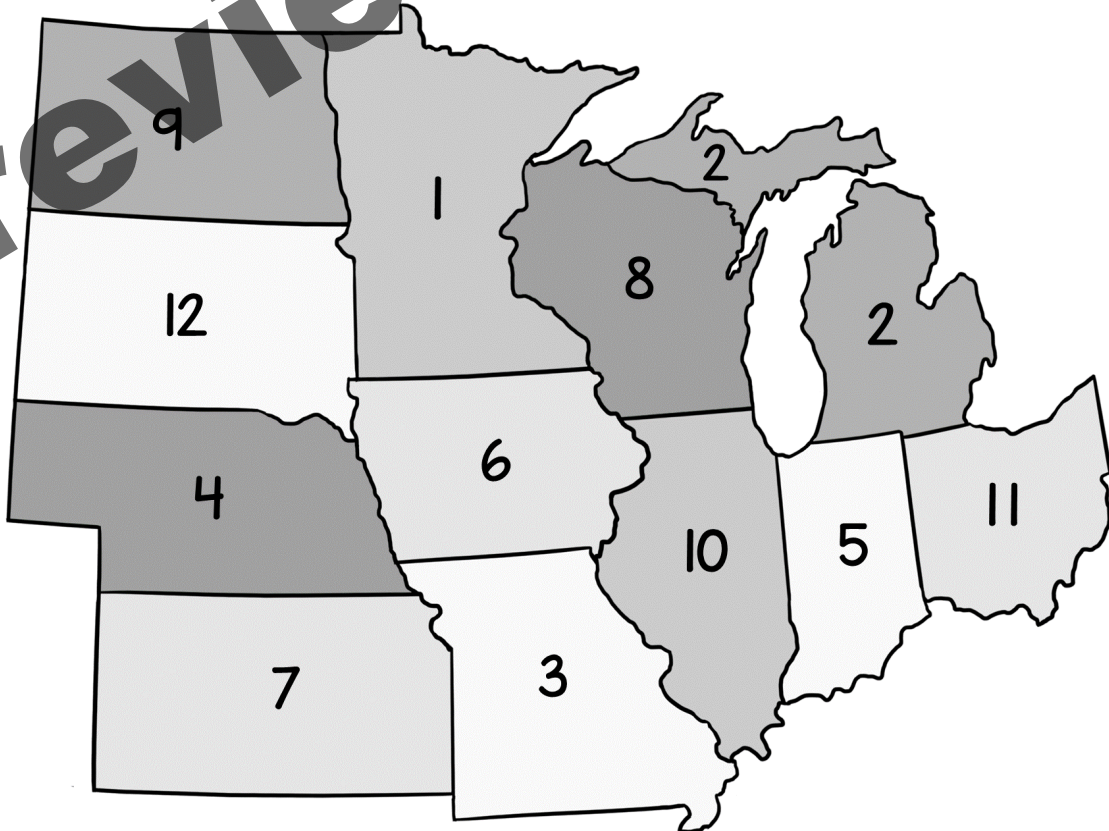
Midwestern States Showdown Map



Midwestern States Showdown Map



Midwestern States Showdown Map



Midwestern States Showdown Map



Midwestern States Showdown Map

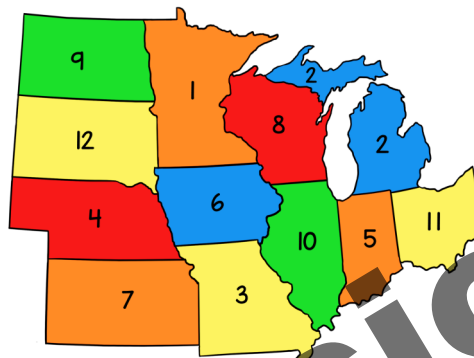


Find the States Showdown

Midwest Region

Materials Needed

- Dry erase boards and markers
- Midwestern States Showdown Map
- Midwest Showdown Answer Key
- Midwestern State Name Cards
- Travel Tokens



Directions

1. Each player needs a copy of the Midwestern States Showdown Map. Place the answer key face down on one side of the map, and stack the State Name Cards face down on the other side.
2. The first Leader draws a State Name Card from the deck, turns it over, and reads the state aloud.
3. Everyone looks for that state on their own map. After they locate it, they write the corresponding number on their dry erase boards. Everyone turns their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says “Showdown!” Players turn over their dry erase boards and compare answers.
5. The Leader checks the answer using the key and gives one Travel Token to each player who correctly wrote the number of the state.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. When the game ends, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

Challenge Variation

For a more challenging game, require players to write the state number, its capital city, and its abbreviation in step 3. Award a Travel Token for each correct answer.

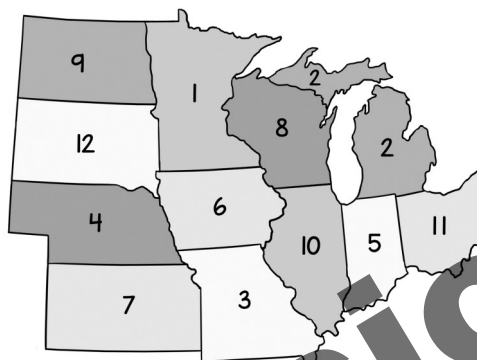


Find the States Showdown

Midwestern Region

Materials Needed

- Dry erase boards and markers
- Midwestern States Showdown Map
- Midwest Showdown Answer Key
- Midwestern State Name Cards
- Travel Tokens

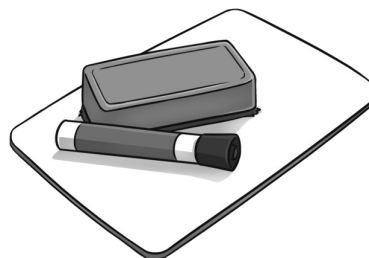


Directions

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2. The first Leader draws a State Name Card from the deck, turns it over, and reads the state aloud.
3. Everyone looks for that state on their own map. After they locate it, they write the corresponding number on their dry erase boards. Everyone turns their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says “Showdown!” Players turn over their dry erase boards and compare answers.
5. The Leader checks the answer using the key and gives one Travel Token to each player who correctly wrote the number of the state.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. When the game ends, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

Challenge Variation

For a more challenging game, require players to write the state number, its capital city, and its abbreviation in step 3. Award a Travel Token for each correct answer.

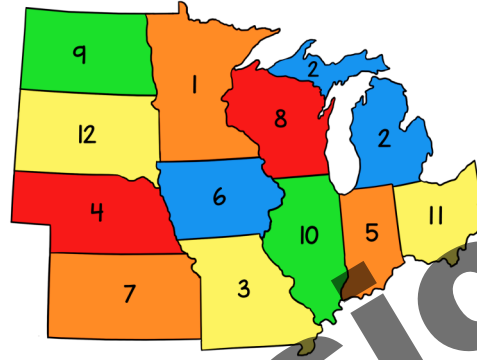


Name the States Showdown

Midwestern Region

Materials Needed

- Dry erase boards and markers
- Midwestern States Showdown Map
- Midwest Showdown Answer Key
- Number Cards 1 - 12
- Travel Tokens



Directions

1. Each player needs a copy of the Midwestern States Showdown Map. Place the answer key face down on one side of the map. Place the number cards face down in a pile on the other side.
2. The Leader randomly chooses a number card, turns it over, and reads the number aloud.
3. Everyone tries to locate the state with that number on their map. When they find it, they write the name of the state on their dry erase board. Everyone turns their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says "Showdown!" Players turn over their dry erase boards and compare answers.
5. The Leader checks the answer using the key. He or she gives one Travel Token to everyone who correctly identified the state, and a second token to everyone who spelled it correctly.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. At the end of the game, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

Challenge Option

For a more challenging game, require players to write the state name, its capital city, and its abbreviation in step 3. Award a Travel Token for each correct answer.

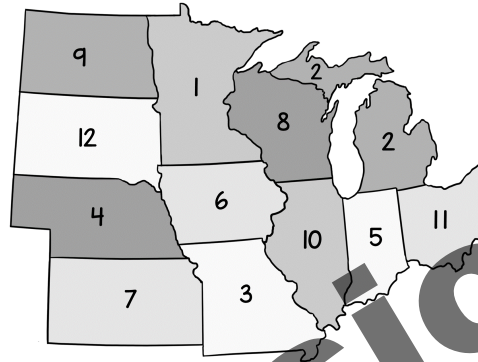


Name the States Showdown

Midwestern Region

Materials Needed

- Dry erase boards and markers
- Midwestern States Showdown Map
- Midwest Showdown Answer Key
- Number Cards 1 - 12
- Travel Tokens

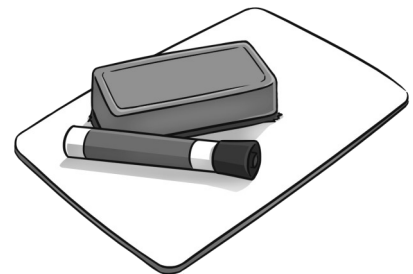


Directions

1. Each player needs a copy of the Midwestern States Showdown Map. Place the answer key face down on one side of the map. Place the number cards face down in a pile on the other side.
2. The Leader randomly chooses a number card, turns it over, and reads the number aloud.
3. Everyone tries to locate the state with that number on their map. When they find it, they write the name of the state on their dry erase board. Everyone turns their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says "Showdown!" Players turn over their dry erase boards and compare answers.
5. The Leader checks the answer using the key. He or she gives one Travel Token to everyone who correctly identified the state, and a second token to everyone who spelled it correctly.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. At the end of the game, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

Challenge Option

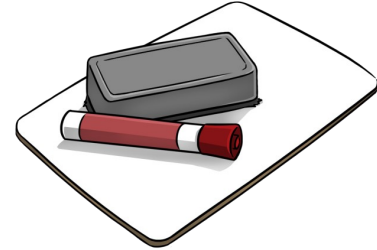
For a more challenging game, require players to write the state name, its capital city, and its abbreviation in step 3. Award a Travel Token for each correct answer.



States and Capitals Showdown

Materials Needed

- Dry erase boards and markers
- State Name Cards
- Capital City Cards
- Travel Tokens
- States, Capitals, and Abbreviations Chart



Name the Capital City Directions

1. Stack the State Name Cards face down in a pile.
2. The Leader draws a card, turns it over, and reads the state aloud.
3. All players write that state's capital city on their dry erase boards and turn their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says "Showdown!" and all players show their answers.
5. The Leader checks the States, Capitals, and Abbreviations chart. He or she gives one Travel Token to each player who correctly identified the capital, and a second token to those who spelled it correctly.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. At the end of the game, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

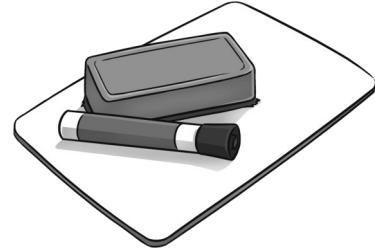
Name the State Directions

1. Stack the Capital City Cards face down in a pile.
2. The Leader draws a card, turns it over, and reads the capital city.
3. All players write the corresponding state on their dry erase boards and turn their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says "Showdown!" and all players show their answers.
5. The Leader checks the States, Capitals, and Abbreviations chart. He or she gives one Travel Token to everyone who correctly identified the state, and a second token to those who spelled it correctly.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. At the end of the game, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

States and Capitals Showdown

Materials Needed

- Dry erase boards and markers
- State Name Cards
- Capital City Cards
- Travel Tokens
- States, Capitals, and Abbreviations Chart



Name the Capital City Directions

1. Stack the State Name Cards face down in a pile.
2. The Leader draws a card, turns it over, and reads the state aloud.
3. All players write that state's capital city on their dry erase boards and turn their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says "Showdown!" and all players show their answers.
5. The Leader checks the States, Capitals, and Abbreviations chart. He or she gives one Travel Token to each player who correctly identified the capital, and a second token to those who spelled it correctly.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. At the end of the game, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.

Name the State Directions

1. Stack the Capital City Cards face down in a pile.
2. The Leader draws a card, turns it over, and reads the capital city.
3. All players write the corresponding state on their dry erase boards and turn their boards face down when ready.
4. The Leader says "Showdown!" and all players show their answers.
5. The Leader checks the States, Capitals, and Abbreviations chart. He or she gives one Travel Token to everyone who correctly identified the state, and a second token to those who spelled it correctly.
6. Rotate the role of Leader to the left and repeat steps 2 through 5. At the end of the game, the player with the most Travel Tokens wins.



Midwestern State Name Cards



Midwest

Illinois

Midwest

Indiana

Midwest

Iowa

Midwest

Kansas

Midwest

Michigan

Midwest

Minnesota

Midwest

Missouri

Midwest

Nebraska

Midwest

**North
Dakota**

Midwest

Ohio

Midwest

**South
Dakota**

Midwest

Wisconsin

Midwestern Capital City Cards

Midwest	Bismarck	Midwest	Columbus
Midwest	Des Moines	Midwest	Indianapolis
Midwest	Jefferson City	Midwest	Lansing
Midwest	Lincoln	Midwest	Madison
Midwest	Pierre	Midwest	Springfield
Midwest	St. Paul	Midwest	Topeka

Number Cards 1-12

1

2

3

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5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

Number Cards 1-12

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN
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TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN	TRAVEL TOKEN

Midwest Showdown Answer Key

#	State	Capital City	Abbr
1	Minnesota	St. Paul	MN
2	Michigan	Lansing	MI
3	Missouri	Jefferson City	MO
4	Nebraska	Lincoln	NE
5	Indiana	Indianapolis	IN
6	Iowa	Des Moines	IA
7	Kansas	Topeka	KS
8	Wisconsin	Madison	WI
9	North Dakota	Bismarck	ND
10	Illinois	Springfield	IL
11	Ohio	Columbus	OH
12	South Dakota	Pierre	SD

Midwest Showdown Answer Key

#	State	Capital City	Abbr
1	Minnesota	St. Paul	MN
2	Michigan	Lansing	MI
3	Missouri	Jefferson City	MO
4	Nebraska	Lincoln	NE
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8	Wisconsin	Madison	WI
9	North Dakota	Bismarck	ND
10	Illinois	Springfield	IL
11	Ohio	Columbus	OH
12	South Dakota	Pierre	SD

Midwestern State Names, Capitals, and Abbreviations

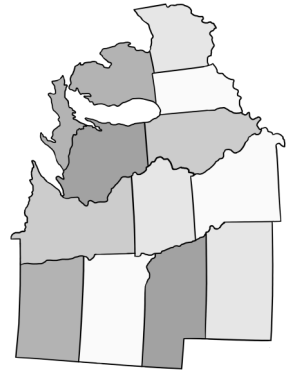
State	Capital City	Abbr
Illinois	Springfield	IL
Indiana	Indianapolis	IN
Iowa	Des Moines	IA
Kansas	Topeka	KS
Michigan	Lansing	MI
Minnesota	St. Paul	MN
Missouri	Jefferson City	MO
Nebraska	Lincoln	NE
North Dakota	Bismarck	ND
Ohio	Columbus	OH
South Dakota	Pierre	SD
Wisconsin	Madison	WI

Midwestern State Names, Capitals, and Abbreviations

State	Capital City	Abbr
Illinois	Springfield	IL
Indiana	Indianapolis	IN
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North Dakota	Bismarck	ND
Ohio	Columbus	OH
South Dakota	Pierre	SD
Wisconsin	Madison	WI

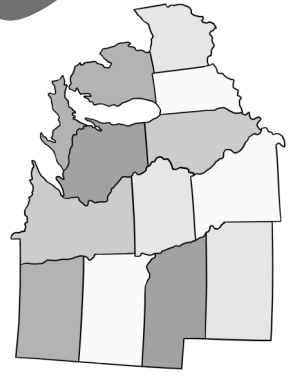
Midwestern States

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin



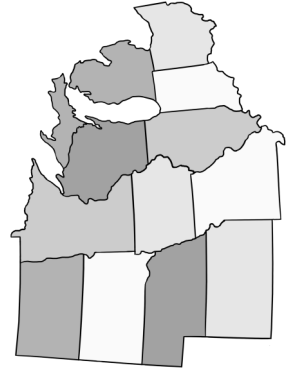
Midwestern States

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South Dakota
Wisconsin



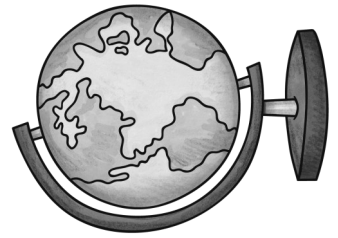
Midwestern States

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin



Midwestern Capital Cities

Bismarck
Columbus
Des Moines
Indianapolis
Jefferson City
Lansing
Lincoln
Madison
Pierre
Springfield
St. Paul
Topeka



Midwestern Capital Cities

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Indianapolis
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Topeka

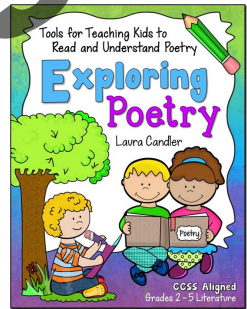
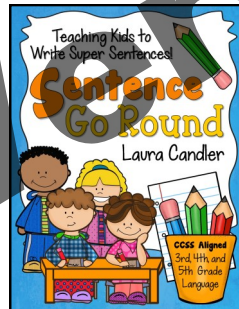
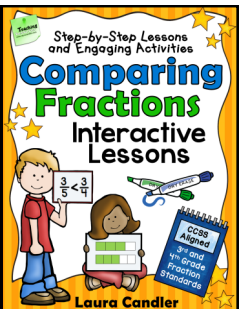
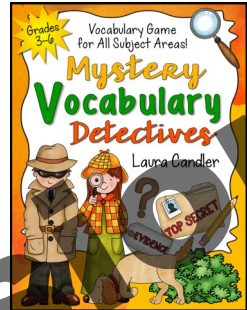
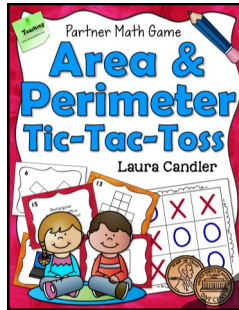
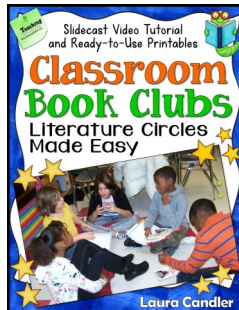
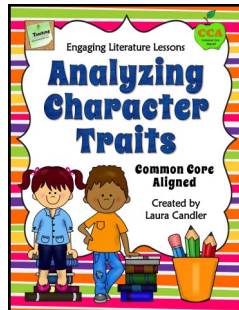
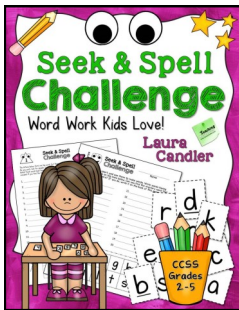
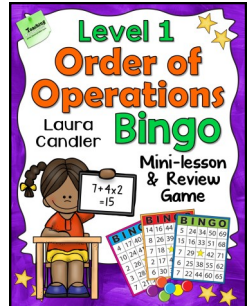
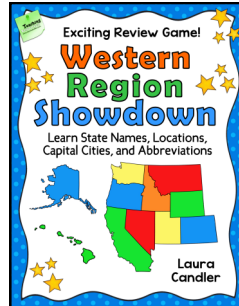
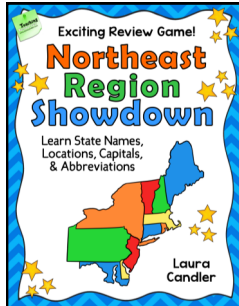
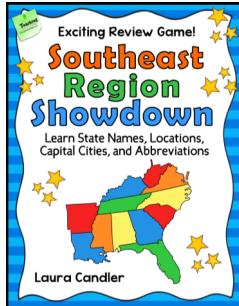
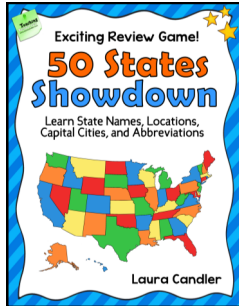


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