

# My South Dakota Book

Teacher and Parent Guide

## Teacher's Guide

Your guide to using  
"My South Dakota Book"  
with answer key and parent letter



student questions



My South Dakota Book



teacher answer guide

# Teacher Letter

Dear Teachers,

SDN Communications and the independent telephone companies all have deep roots in this state so we appreciate you teaching fourth graders about South Dakota. This project is our small way of helping you do that.

We have just a few suggestions on using this book.

1. This is the Teacher Guide for the *My South Dakota Book* available online. It's full of resources, answers, and the guide for the activity section. You can find it under the "Resources Tab" at:  
[www.sdncommunications.com/about-us/about-sdn/my-south-dakota-book/](http://www.sdncommunications.com/about-us/about-sdn/my-south-dakota-book/)
2. These are workbooks. Let the children do the activities and write in them. Encourage them to fill in the blank picture spots with their personal snapshots. We want this to be a keepsake and memory of their time studying South Dakota history.
3. Please reproduce the letter for parents on the opposite page so they know why their children get to keep this book.
4. Before you use the book or give it to the children, take time to read the "How to Use" paragraph on page 1.
5. As you go through this book with your students, please fill out the survey enclosed with this guide. When completed, send it to SDN Communications. We appreciate your input!

Sincerely,

SDN Communications, publisher  
[www.sdncommunications.com/about-us/about-sdn/my-south-dakota-book/](http://www.sdncommunications.com/about-us/about-sdn/my-south-dakota-book/)  
1-800-247-1442

# Parent Letter

Dear parents,

Too often we think small in South Dakota.  
Do you ever hear your children say things like:

- “Our school is too small to do that.”
- “Our town is too little.”
- “South Dakota is the last in everything.”
- “There’s nothing to do here.”

*My South Dakota Book: Hometown Snapshots* displays the best South Dakota has to offer in towns large and small. From our rich history to big festivals, this book covers the colorful character of this big state.

My South Dakota Book is a gift to your children from some telecommunications companies that think big. SDN Communications and the cooperative, private, municipal and tribal-owned telephone companies of South Dakota cover 80 percent of the state’s geography – that’s big! They’ve put 22,000 miles of fiber optics in the ground to move voice, data, internet and video – that’s also big!

We hope you’ll help your fourth grader do the activities included in the book, and most importantly, talk about your family’s history in the state. Together we all, adults and children alike, can learn to dream a big future for our beloved state.

Sincerely,  
SDN Communications, publisher  
1-800-247-1442

p.s. This is a complete answer guide resource available to you under the “Resources Tab” at:  
[www.sdncommunications.com/about-us/about-sdn/my-south-dakota-book/](http://www.sdncommunications.com/about-us/about-sdn/my-south-dakota-book/)

# Answer Key

## Answer Key for My South Dakota Book

### Page 5: Southeast Region

1.) How do you think Lewis and Clark described South Dakota in 1804?

*“Sea of Grass,” harsh winters, met Missouri Indians and Yankton Sioux Indians, traveled up the Missouri River, rough terrain in western South Dakota, traded for supplies, met animals like bison and coyotes, met a French Trader, (Touissant Charbonneau) and Shoshoni woman Sacagawea.*

2.) Why do you think citizens chose Yankton to be the capital of Dakota Territory?

*On July 10, 1859, Dakota Territory was opened to settlement. In 1862, Yankton was selected as the capital of Dakota Territory because it was a popular point along the Missouri River for travelers to stop and trade. Another important event that helped to settle Yankton was the arrival of the Dakota Southern Railroad, helping to occupy the town and keep the economy growing.*

### Page 7: Southeast Region: Rest Area: Sioux Falls

1.) Name the two major Interstates that cross paths at Sioux Falls:

*Interstate 29, Interstate 90*

2.) Look on a map. Find the route from your house to Sioux Falls. How many miles is it?

*Students will learn to use the scale of the map and measure the distance in miles and kilometers.*

### Page 23: Northeast Region

1.) What kind of foods come from dairy cows?

*Milk, cheese, ice cream, butter, beef, etc.*

2.) About what size is an acre of farmland?

*b.) football field (not counting the end zones)*

### Page 36: Northeast Region: New Effington

1.) What similarities does your life have with the humans that lived 12,000 years ago? Differences?

*Similarities: hunting, camping, living with our families, making new tools for building, fixing, and farming. Differences: technology, permanent homes, forms of transportation, grocery stores, using money for trade, and communication (e-mails, cell phones, text messages, letters, and telephones), etc. and the Internet*

### Page 41: Central Region

1.) Besides the Missouri River, how else could we divide South Dakota?

*Politics, occupation, crops, heritage (German ancestry, Dutch ancestry), rainfall, temperature, land use, etc.*

2.) Look on a map. How many Native American reservations fall within the Central region?

*Five. There are nine federally recognized reservations in South Dakota. Five of them fall within the Central Region: Standing Rock, Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Lower Brule, and Rosebud.*

**Page 57: Central Region: Rest Area: Pierre**

1.) Who is the current governor of South Dakota?

*Republican Governor Dennis Daugaard (elected November 2, 2010; sworn in January 8, 2011)*

2.) The Oahe Dam near Pierre is the largest earth-rolled dam in the United States. Can you name all four dams in South Dakota?

*Oahe Dam, Big Bend Dam, Fort Randall Dam, Gavins Point Dam*

**Page 61: West Region**

1.) What year was gold discovered in the Black Hills? What year did the Homestake Mine open?

*The Black Hills Gold Rush began on French Creek in 1874. Homestake Gold Mine was established in 1877.*

2.) How did the Badlands get its name?

*Although beautiful, early settlers found this area rugged and very difficult to cross with horses, wagons, and supplies.*

**Page 71: West Region: Rest Area: Rapid City**

1.) What is a fossil?

*The remains or a trace of an animal or plant of a past geologic age embedded in the earth's crust.*

2.) Memorial Park in Rapid City houses a Berlin Wall exhibit. What makes it so famous?

*Two tank traps and two wall segments were shipped to Memorial Park in Rapid City. What started as a class project was eventually dedicated on October 5, 1996 in the heart of Rapid City. It's one of America's largest Berlin Wall exhibits.*

**Page 77: West Region: Rest Area: Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse**

1.) Who is given credit for carving Mount Rushmore?

*Gutzon Borglum and his team of 400 men carved Mount Rushmore in 14 years.*

2.) Why was George Washington chosen to be carved into this national monument?

*George Washington was the first president of the United States.*

3.) When is the only time visitors are allowed to hike to the peak of Crazy Horse?

*The annual Crazy Horse Volksmarch (an organized hike) is a 10K (6.2-mile) walk to the world's largest mountain carving in progress. This event draws up to 15,000 participants in June of each year. It is the only time each year (weather permitting) the public can walk to the mountain carving in the southern Black Hills of South Dakota.*

4.) You can find Abraham Lincoln's face on more than Mount Rushmore. On which dollar bill is he featured? What did Lincoln do to shape American history?

*Abraham Lincoln is featured on the \$5 bill. Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States and during his presidency, he built the Republican Party into a strong national organization. On January 1, 1863, he issued the Emancipation Proclamation and declared all slaves free. Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C. by John Wilkes Booth.*

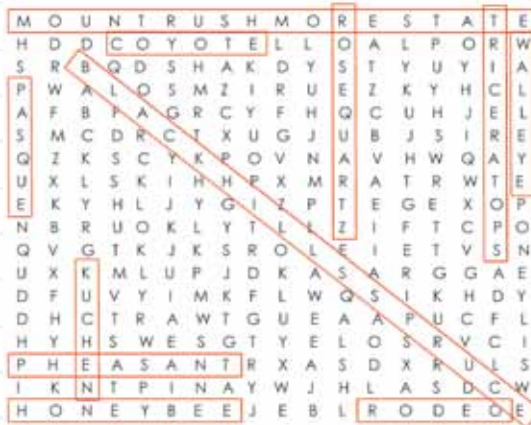
5.) Which Boston-born sculptor came to South Dakota to start sculpting Crazy Horse?

*Korczak Ziolkowski (Kor-chuck Jewell-cuff-skee) started carving the sculpture as a request from Lakota Sioux Indian Chief Henry Standing Bear.*

### Page 88: South Dakota Matching

- G. Pierre  
*The capital of South Dakota*
- D. Sioux Falls  
*South Dakota's largest city*
- F. De Smet  
*Hometown of Laura Ingalls Wilder*
- J. Harney Peak  
*The tallest point in South Dakota*
- I. Rapid City  
*South Dakota's second largest city*
- A. Yankton  
*The first capital of Dakota Territory*
- C. Brookings  
*Home of South Dakota State University*
- E. Pine Ridge  
*The second largest reservation in the country*
- B. Hot Springs  
*In this city, you can swim in natural, hot water springs*
- H. Redfield  
*"The Pheasant Capital of the World"*

### Page 89: South Dakota Word Search

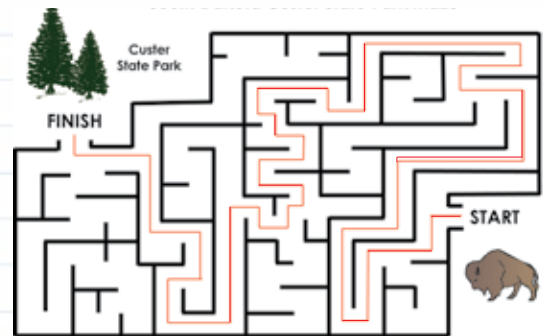


### Page 90: South Dakota Spelling Words

(Answers not comprehensive)

- |       |      |       |      |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| Tooth | Dash | Tad   | So   |
| Sat   | Ash  | Oats  | Sod  |
| As    | Tots | Toads | Dots |
| Sad   | Soda | Soak  | Ask  |
| Tusk  | Task | Has   | Huts |

### Page 91: Custer State Park Maze



### Page 92: South Dakota Word Scramble

- LEWIS & CLARK
- CORN
- MISSOURI RIVER
- CRAZY HORSE
- PIERRE
- BADLANDS
- FARMING
- SOUTH DAKOTA
- MAY

### Page 93: South Dakota Animal Tracking

- 1.) C
- 2.) B
- 3.) A
- 4.) D

### Page 95: Lewis and Clark Journal Entry

MERIWETHER LEWIS AND WILLIAM CLARK STARTED THEIR 8,000 MILE JOURNEY IN 1804. PRESIDENT THOMAS JEFFERSON SENT THE CREW UP THE MISSOURI RIVER TO EXPLORE AMERICA. AMERICAN INDIANS HELPED LEWIS & CLARK NAVIGATE THROUGH SOUTH DAKOTA. IN 1806, LEWIS & CLARK JOURNALED ABOUT THE GREAT PLAINS LOOKING LIKE A SEA OF GRASS.

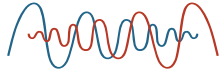
### Page 97: South Dakota By The Numbers

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 1.) What year did South Dakota become a state?        1     8     8     9
- 2.) How many state senators are there in South Dakota?        3     5
- 3.) How many Indian Reservations are in South Dakota?        9
- 4.) The construction of Mount Rushmore began in what year?   1     9     2     9
- 5.) How high is Harney peak (in feet)?        7     2     4     2
- 6.) What is the area of South Dakota in square miles?   7     5     8     8     4
- 7.) Use the decoder to change circled numbers to letters. Put the letter you found from question #1 into the first circle below. The letter from question #2 goes into the second circle, etc.

  H     E     I     A     G     E  

Use the letters above to fill in the blanks in order.   H     E     R     I     T     A     G     E



**SDN COMMUNICATIONS®**

If you have questions or comments about this  
Teacher and Parent Guide or

*My South Dakota Book: Hometown Snapshots*

please contact your local telecommunications  
provider, SDN Communications®,  
or visit [www.sdncommunications.com](http://www.sdncommunications.com)

Copyright © 2006, 2008, 2011 SDN Communications