

# Alabama: Our Beautiful Home

A photograph of the Alabama State Capitol building, a large white neoclassical structure with a prominent dome and a portico supported by columns. The building is set against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. Lush green trees are visible on both sides of the building, and a well-manicured lawn with colorful flowers is in the foreground.

Chapter 1: Celebrate Alabama!  
**STUDY PRESENTATION**



**Section 1: Festivals and Fairs**  
**Section 2: Historic Places**  
**Section 3: Sports and Recreation**

# Section 1: Festivals and Fairs

- Essential Question: How do the people of Alabama celebrate with festivals and fairs?



# Section 1: Festivals and Fairs

- What terms do I need to know?
  - culture
  - industry
  - theme
  - heritage
  - antique
  - Cajun
  - immigrant
  - livestock
  - Future Farmers of America
  - 4-H
  - exhibit



# Introduction

- Festivals celebrate historic events, art, local food, and **culture**.
- Fairs show off farm crops, **industry**, and students' activities.
- Festivals are planned around a **theme** or idea such as art, food, places, animals, music, events, or holiday.



Alabama National Fair, Montgomery



# Art

## ➤ Important art festivals in Alabama:

- Kentuck Festival
- Fayette Festival
- Dothan's Mural City Art Fest
- Bloomin' Festival of Arts
- Piney Woods Festival of the Arts
- Arts Alive
- Flimp Festival
- Jerry Brown Festival

## ➤ A **heritage** festival reminds us of ways of life of people long ago.



The Kentuck Festival of the Arts in Northport show the work of many artists.



# Food

- Food festivals honor the time when most people in Alabama hunted and grew their own food.
- Important festivals include:
  - Butterbean & Cornbread Festival
  - Sweet Tater Festival
  - Oyster & Seafood Festival
  - Crawfish Festival
  - Peanut Festival
  - Peanut Butter Festival
  - Barbecue Festivals
  - Strawberry Festival
  - Blueberry Festival
  - Apple Festival



The Alabama Butterbean Festival can be enjoyed each year in Pinson.



# Music

- Music festivals focus on a specific kind of music. Alabama music festivals include:
  - Bluegrass
  - Zydeco (music from people with French heritage called Cajuns)
  - Gospel
- Montgomery has a music and children's festival as well as a Shakespeare Festival.





# Cultural History

- Cultural history is the way of life of earlier generations of your family. Cultural history festivals may focus on the culture of **immigrants** to America.
- Alabama has festivals for Native American, German, and African-American cultures.
- Cities may honor the people who started their community with a "founder's day."



# Fairs

- Most counties have fairs in late summer or fall. Alabama has some large fairs, too.
- Farmers show their **livestock** and are awarded ribbons for winning animals.
- Farmers also show the biggest and best crops to win ribbons.
- Other ribbons can be won for canning, baking, needlework, and art.



# Section 2: Historic Places

- Essential Question: How does Alabama honor its important places?



# Section 2: Historic Places

- What terms do I need to know?
  - historic place
  - site
  - capital
  - settler
  - architecture
  - textile
  - Wiregrass
  - planetarium
  - habitat



# Introduction

- Your family has a history. It includes places where you lived and what you did there.
- Your parents have places they lived, too. These are historical places for your family history.
- In the same way, Alabama has a history. **Historical places**, or **sites**, are where important things happened in our state's history.



Fort Gaines on Dauphin Island was a site fighting during the Civil War.



# Sites to Visit

- Russell Cave National Monument is the site of a Native American settlement over 9,000 years old.
- Old Cahawba was Alabama's first **capital** city, but now it is "ghost town."
- **Settlers** fought Creek Indians at places like Fort Mims or Holy Ground Battlefield.
- The MOWA Choctaw Cultural Center is a site to learn about the ancient Creek and Cherokee people.



# Architecture

- **Architecture** is the style of a building. Each county's courthouse has a special style of architecture.
- Rickwood Field (1910) is the oldest baseball field in America and has a special architecture.
- The Alabama Theatre in Birmingham (1927) has an unusual architecture that is very fancy.



# Churches with Special Style

- Churches, such as these, may have a special architecture.



Can you match these churches with their descriptions in your textbook?





# Older Than the State & Old Homes and Neighborhoods

- Mooresville was started in 1803 and is older than Alabama!
- Carolyn C. Smith was one of Alabama's first female architects.
- Before the Civil War, many wealthy people built homes that we can still visit today. These are in the style of the "Old South."
- Some towns work to preserve older neighborhoods that have a special style. They may call the area an historic district.



Historic districts may have special churches like the Old Brick Church in Mooresville (top) or homes like this one in Eufaula (bottom).



# Civil Rights Movement

- Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery have sites related to the Civil Rights Movement.
- One is the Rosa Parks Museum and Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was pastor at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery for about six years.



# Military

- Sites related to the military are important in our history.
  - Fort Condé guarded Mobile.
  - Civil War battles happened at Forts Gaines and Morgan.
  - The Tuskegee Airmen Museum honors black pilots from World War II.
  - The [U.S. Space & Rocket Center](#) explores the amazing history of rockets.
  - Climb aboard a real battleship at the [USS Alabama](#) in Mobile.
  - Montevallo has a national military cemetery.



The USS Alabama is docked in Mobile Bay.



# Industry

- Some sites remind us of the industry that helped Alabama's economy grow.
  - Aldrich Coal Museum (coal mining)
  - Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park (iron & steel)
  - Sloss Furnace Museum (iron & steel)
  - The Vulcan statue in Birmingham (iron)
  - The Tom Bevill Visitor Center explains about the Tenn-Tom Waterway.
  - The Historic Riverdale Mill is an example from the **textile** industry.



# Beautiful and Interesting

- Other sites of interest:
  - Blakely State Park – Civil War battlefield
  - Landmark Park – Learn about the **Wiregrass** region and visit the **planetarium**.
  - Old Courthouse Museum – See items related to the famous book *To Kill a Mockingbird*.
  - Dauphin Island has boat rides touring barrier island **habitats**.
  - DeSoto State Park – home to Little River Canyon (slide 2)



# Section 3: Sports and Recreation

- Essential Question: What sports and recreation activities are important to the people of Alabama?



# Section 3: Sports and Recreation

- What terms do I need to know?
  - destination
  - whitewater



# Recreation: On the Water

- Lakes, rivers, streams, and the Gulf Coast let us have fun on the water such as canoeing, kayaking, and **whitewater** trips.
- The Alabama Scenic River trail is over 600 miles long and takes a month to travel by canoe.
- Fishermen can catch catfish, bass, and trout.
- Deep-sea fishing is very popular.





# Recreation: Hiking and Camping

- Hiking and camping are popular in the state. The Chief Ladiga Trail is over 30 miles long and is good for hikers and bikers.
- People can camp in our state parks and at some historic sites. Also, there are private campgrounds.
- Parks also provide places to explore caves, study nature, have a picnic, and relax.



The Chief Ladiga Trail in Calhoun County



# Golf

- Our good climate is good for the game of golf.
- The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail has 11 golf courses with nearly 500 holes! The courses are all over the state.



The Ross Bridge Resort golf course in Hoover, AL is part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.



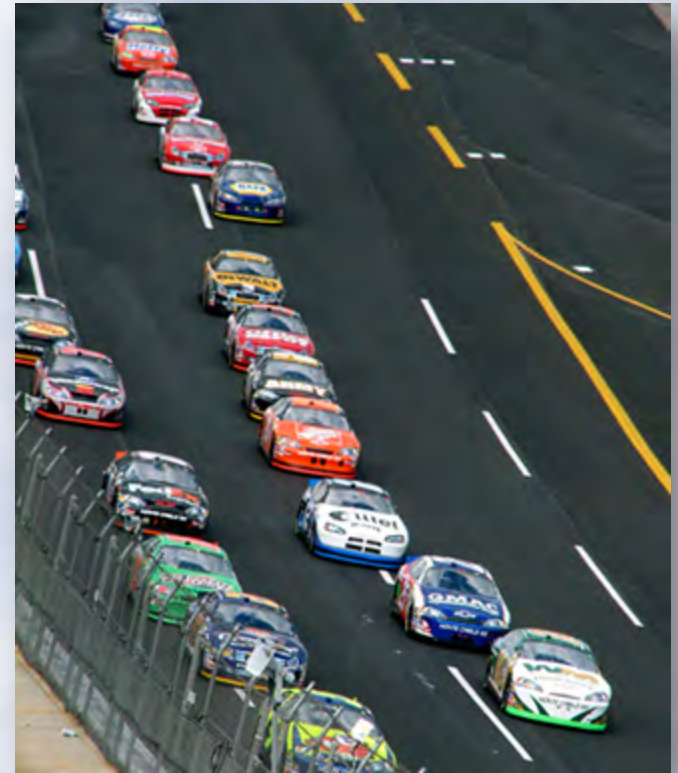
# Sports

- Many sports are popular to play and watch in Alabama.
- Many schools and colleges have sports teams.
- One big stadium is Bryan Denny Stadium (bottom) in Tuscaloosa which holds over 100,000 people.
- Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn (top) holds over 85,000 fans.
- Professional teams include the Huntsville Stars, Birmingham Barons, Montgomery Biscuits, and Mobile Bay Bears.



# Auto Racing

- Stock car, truck, go-kart, pony stock, and drag racing tracks are all over the state.
- The Talladega Superspeedway is the largest in the world at over 2½ miles long. NASCAR racing happens here.





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