

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 wide stone staircase leads up to the entrance. In the foreground, there are rows of flower beds with pink and purple blossoms.

Chapter 13: Alabama Enters a New
Century

STUDY PRESENTATION



Section 1: Wars and Other Military Action
Section 2: Changes and Growth
Section 3: Cultural and Natural Sides of Alabama

Section 1: Wars and Other Military Action

- Essential Question: What ideas caused wars in the late 20th and early 21st centuries?



Section 1: Wars and Other Military

Action

- What terms do I need to know?
 - rebel
 - Patriot missile
 - ceasefire
 - weapons of mass destruction
 - 9/11
 - terrorist
 - War on Terrorism
 - first-responder
 - al Qaeda
 - Muslim
 - disarm



Introduction

- Americans were suspicious of communism after World War II.
- The Cold War developed between the United States and the Soviet Union.
- Many believed the communists would try to take over America and that it would spread across the world. The Vietnam War was one result of this thinking.
- Later, the U.S. went to war to protect Kuwait. Wars were also fought in Iraq and Afghanistan.



The War in Vietnam

- In 1954, Vietnam was a country divided: a communist north; a non-communist south.
- The North invaded the South in 1957 and the Vietnam War began. The U.S. began to send military help in 1961.
- By 1968, a half-million American soldiers were in Vietnam.
- In the end, the South lost the war. 57,000 Americans were killed including 1,200 Alabamians.



[Click for Vietnam War Memorial](#)



Operation Desert Shield

- In August 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait.
- Kuwait is oil-rich. America buys millions of gallons of oil from the country each year.
- The U.S. joined troops from other countries to push back the invasion.



Fighters from different countries fought together against Iraq.



Operation Desert Storm

- Desert Shield became Desert Storm when Iraqi troops would not leave Kuwait.
- War was fought for 43 days but there was a lot of damage.
- America's **Patriot missiles** shot down Iraqi's Scud missiles.
- Iraq agreed to a **ceasefire** and Iraq was supposed to destroy **weapons of mass destruction** (WMDs).
- About 14,000 Alabamians served in the war.



Terrorist Attacks

- September 11, 2001, or 9/11, was a day America was attacked by terrorists.
- Hijackers crashed jets into the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and another into a field in Pennsylvania.
- Thousands were killed and it started a **War on Terrorism**. Security was tightened everywhere.
- The Department of Homeland Security was started to help keep the country safe.



Pentagon damage on 9/11



War in Afghanistan

- The 9/11 attacks were carried out by a group of **Muslims** called **al Qaeda**.
- This group often killed people with different beliefs.
- The terrorists were helped by the Taliban – leaders of Afghanistan. They allowed the al Qaeda leader, Osama bin Laden, to hide there.
- President Bush sent troops to force out the Taliban and look for bin Laden.
- Osama bin Laden was finally killed by Navy SEALs in 2011.



Operation Iraqi Freedom

- The U.S. believed that Iraq still had WMDs. President Bush ordered an attack on the country in March, 2003.
- The purpose of the war was to **disarm** Iraq.
- Most fighting ended in May, 2003.



Iraq Moves Ahead

- The U.S. helped Iraq rebuild their government and have elections.
- The former leader, Saddam Hussein, was arrested and executed.



U.S. Marines board a jet for Iraq.



Alabama's Part in the Middle East

East

- Alabama's National Guard have played a big role in the Middle East wars.
- The Redstone Arsenal helped soldiers with missiles and helicopters.
- Tons of munitions came from Anniston Army Depot.
- Helicopters and antiarmor missiles were made in Alabama.



American Troops around the World

- American troops fought in Europe in World War II. There are still soldiers there today to help keep the peace.
- Today there are people from Alabama serving in the military that are serving around the world.



Section 2: Change and Growth

- Essential Question: How have changes in science and technology caused growth?



Section 2: Change and Growth

- What terms do I need to know?
 - diversity
 - suborbital



The Space Age in Alabama

- Dr. Werner von Braun was a German scientist who built rockets.
- The U.S. Army brought him to the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville to work.
- Work on America's rockets helped to grow the city of Huntsville.
- Huntsville has **diversified** over the years and continued to grow.



Marshall Space Flight Center

- The Marshall Space Flight Center opened in 1960.
- People came to work on a project to send Americans into **suborbital** flight and later to the moon (1969).
- Marshall continues to work on projects to send ships to Mars and the moon.



Dr. Werner von Braun stands by rocket engines developed at the Marshall Space Flight Center.



Section 3: Cultural and Natural Sides of Alabama

- Essential Question: What are cultural features of Alabama today?



Section 3: Cultural and Natural Sides of Alabama

- What terms do I need to know?
 - depletion



Our Culture Today

- There have been some slow changes in our state and some quick ones.
- New words have entered our vocabulary.
- New foods have entered our stomachs!



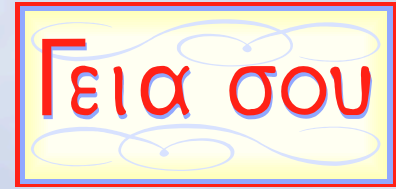
Education

- Our state has thousands of students in grades pre-K through 12.
- There are over 70 schools you can attend after high school.
- Some schools are public (supported by tax money) and others are private. Some students are homeschooled.





Language



- English is the main language of our state.
- A large number of new Hispanic people speak Spanish.
- There are people in our state who work to help those who speak other languages.



Religion

- Religion is important in Alabama today; there are many places of worship.
- Clothing, holiday celebrations, weddings, and funerals may be different depending on the person's religion.



The Arts

- Most schools teach art and music. There are museums and festivals all over the state to show our talented artists' work.
- The Alabama Ballet and Alabama Symphony are important to performance art.
- The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is a famous location for plays.



Cultural Attractions

- There are many types of musical performances in our state.
- Symphonies as well as country and western music are here.
- Museums keep a record of all kinds of objects from our past and put them on exhibit.
- The U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville is a great place to learn about our country's space program.
- The Birmingham Museum of Art is the largest city-owned museum in the southeast.



Alabama's True Nature: Parks and Recreation

- Alabamians are interested in keeping their water pure and roads clean.
- Parks and recreation areas are found in most counties.
- Streams are good for canoeing and kayaking.
- There are many places today to see wildlife, forests, and wildflowers.
- Lakes and rivers are popular for recreation, too.



Alabama's True Nature:

Alabama's Natural Environment

- Over time, humans damaged the lands of Alabama. Overcropping used up nutrients in the soil, and mining scarred the land.
- As cities and industry grew, streams and waterways grew more polluted.
- Farmers have now learned not to **deplete** the soil.
- Laws have been passed to help clean up the pollution, increase recycling, and pick up the trash.





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