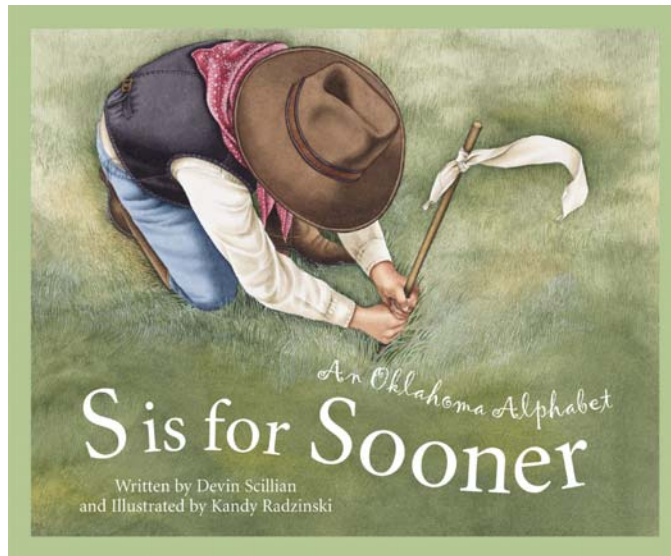


A Teacher's Guide



S is for Sooner: An Oklahoma Alphabet
Guide by Cheryl Grinn
based on the book by
Devin Scillian
Illustrated by Kandy Radzinski

Sleeping Bear Press 310 North Main Suite 300 Chelsea MI 48118
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SHARPEN UP!

Sharpen your thinking skills as you try this crossword puzzle. You can find all the answers as you read the book *S is for Sooner*. Have fun!

O _ _
K _ _ _ _
L _ _ _ _
A _ _ _ _ _ _
H _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
O _ _ _ _ _ _
M _ _ _ _ _ _
A _ _ _ _ _ _

1. one of the most important resources in the world
2. town known for Italian food
3. female astronaut Shannon
4. invented by Sequoyah
5. wrote the song "Oklahoma" with Richard Rodgers
6. state song
7. state flower
8. Gordon Copper was one

Oklahoma Time March

This history of Oklahoma can be found throughout the book *S is for Sooner*.

1. Find the date each event happened.
2. Put the events in chronological order and place them on the timeline.
3. Make sure you put the date and the event.

_____ Coronado arrives in Oklahoma

_____ First proposal for statehood

_____ Oklahoma becomes a state

_____ First successful oil well

_____ Panhandle added to Oklahoma territory

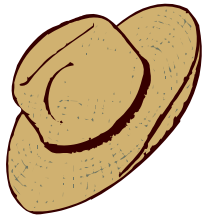
_____ Oklahoma land run

_____ Tulsa founded by Creek Indians

Time

OKLAHOMA TIMELINE





What Does a Cowboy Need ?

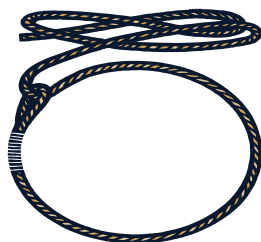
Cowboys are very much a part of Oklahoma. *S is for Sooner* will help you to learn about the importance of the cowboy in Oklahoma's history.

Cowboy Bob has just arrived from New York City. He has no idea what kind of gear he will need to help him in his new job as ranch hand. Your task is to help him choose the correct gear for ranching. Circle the items that Bob will need in Oklahoma.

tennis shoes
rope
baseball cap
boots
Game By

umbrella
horse
car
10 gallon hat
spurs

chaps
neck scarf
shorts
jeans
sandals



ABCs of Oklahoma Tribes

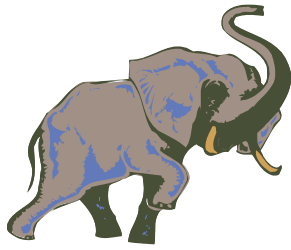


Oklahoma is the home to many American Indian tribes. You can learn the number of tribes represented in Oklahoma in the book *S is for Sooner*. There are _____ tribes in Oklahoma.

The tribes below are all mixed-up! Put them in the correct alphabetical order. You may have to look at the second or third letter to correctly alphabetize them.

Wyandotte	Wichita	Chickasaw
Pawnee	Ponca	Peoria
Cherokee	Choctaw	Comanche
Creek	Cheyenne	Kickapoo

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____



Arbuckle Wilderness Math

The Arbuckle Wilderness in Oklahoma is an area that is filled with exotic animals. Read *S is for Sooner* to find the many types of animals found there.

Try some wilderness math problems. Place the letter that matches the answer in the spaces below the problems. You will find the name of an exotic animal.

1.
$$\begin{array}{r} 225 \\ + 236 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2.
$$\begin{array}{r} 372 \\ + 525 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3.
$$\begin{array}{r} 56 \\ + 32 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

4.
$$\begin{array}{r} 100 \\ + 900 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5.
$$\begin{array}{r} 598 \\ + 675 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

A

C

R

D

I

6.
$$\begin{array}{r} 625 \\ - 418 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

7.
$$\begin{array}{r} 69 \\ - 36 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

8.
$$\begin{array}{r} 403 \\ - 399 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

9.
$$\begin{array}{r} 935 \\ - 608 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

10.
$$\begin{array}{r} 240 \\ - 197 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

P

E

M

B

Z

$$\begin{array}{r} \hline 43 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \hline 33 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \hline 327 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \hline 88 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \hline 461 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Oklahoma's Famous Folks

Match each of the people with the reason they are famous. You can find all of the answers in *S is for Sooner*. Start reading!

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Geronimo | A. notorious outlaws |
| _____ 2. Sequoyah | B. astronaut |
| _____ 3. James brothers | C. Cherokee chief |
| _____ 4. Toby Keith | D. Apache warrior |
| _____ 5. Gordon Cooper | E. Olympic gymnast |
| _____ 6. Bill Pickett | F. invented steer wrestling |
| _____ 7. Wilma Mankiller | G. country music star |
| _____ 8. Shannon Miller | H. invented Cherokee alphabet |



When Did It Happen?

The following events all happened in Oklahoma. To find the date when each event occurred go to *S is for Sooner* and start searching. Have fun with your search!

1. Geronimo dies _____
2. "Oklahoma" becomes official state song _____
3. Frank James dies _____
4. Mistletoe adopted as state flower _____
5. Oklahoma becomes the 46th state _____
6. Will Rogers born _____
7. Oklahoma Land Run _____
8. Bombs dropped on Boise City _____

Choose one event and write a paragraph explaining why it is important in Oklahoma history.

Little Money and a Long Way To Go!

Many forts are found in Oklahoma. Some are old and others are modern. Learn more about these forts in *S is for Sooner*.

Pretend you are a pioneer passing through Oklahoma. You've had some bad luck and lost most of your supplies. It's still a long way to your destination. You must make some decisions about what supplies you really need. Keep in mind the weather, the land, and the problems you may yet encounter. Use your money wisely.

You have \$75.00 left for the rest of the trip. Decide which supplies are essential for your journey. Make a list of the supplies you will buy. Should you spend all of your money or save some for later? There are four people in your family. Mom, dad, 10-year-old son and a baby daughter.

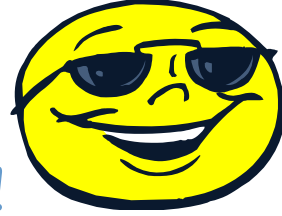
Fort Store Price List

blanket	\$ 2.00	books	\$.75
gunpowder	\$.50 per pound	checkers game	\$.30
soap	\$.10 per bar	rope	\$ 7.50 per yard
hunting knife	\$ 3.00	cloth	\$ 2.50 per yard
copper kettle	\$ 1.50	shoes	\$ 2.00
axe	\$ 3.50	shirt	\$ 1.30
hammer	\$ 1.45	dress	\$ 2.75
pickax	\$ 5.00	jeans	\$ 3.00
1/2 pig	\$10.00	milk	\$.30 per quart
biscuit mix	\$ 2.00	shovel	\$ 6.00
flour	\$.75 per pound	eggs	\$.40 per dozen
cow	\$ 25.00	horse	\$50.00

Compare your list with three classmates. Decide if you need to make any changes.

Write a paragraph explaining why you made your choices.

Comics Are Creative!



The creator of Dick Tracy was a famous citizen of Oklahoma. You can find out who this cartoonist was in the book *S is for Sooner*. The name of Dick Tracy's creator is _____.

Choose one of the other famous Oklahoma citizens mentioned in the book and create your own comic strip featuring the person you chose.

Make a four-panel strip. Make sure it tells a story. You may use more than one character in your cartoon. Be CREATIVE.

Out of Tragedy Came Kindness



S is for Sooner: An Oklahoma Alphabet Book tells the sad story of the event that took place in April 1995. After you have read about this tragedy, think about the way people showed kindness to each other.

Work with a partner and make a list of all the kind things you could do for people at your school. Don't forget kids, teachers, secretaries, custodians, principal, lunchroom ladies, crossing guards, and any other people that help out in your school.

After you have completed your list, make a plan to do one act of kindness a day for the next two weeks. Think about how many people you will make happy, just by being kind.



Now, make a list of the acts of kindness that you could do for your family. See the difference it will make as you practice your kindness!

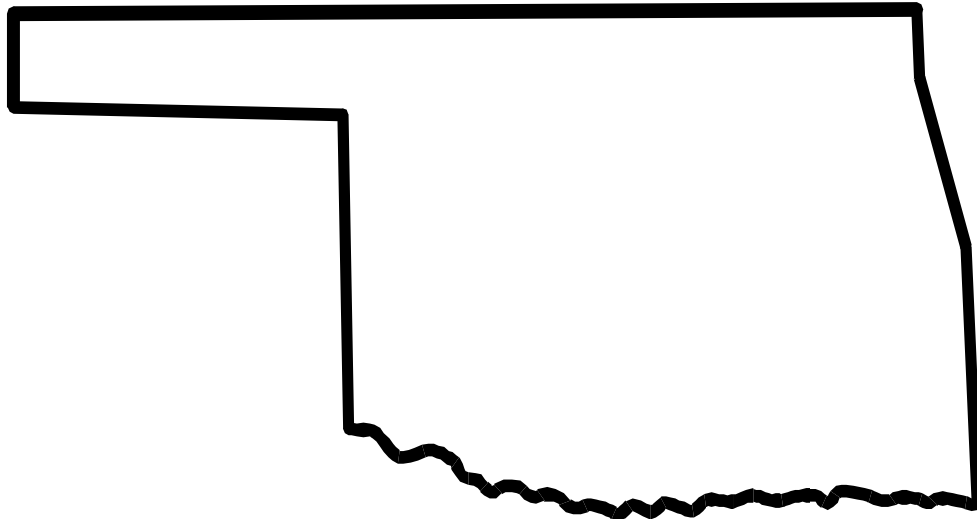
After you've done several acts of kindness, write a paragraph describing how you felt after doing an act of kindness.

Mapping Oklahoma

Try your mapping skills by completing this map of Oklahoma. You can find some interesting information about the panhandle and how it came to be in *S is for Sooner: An Oklahoma Alphabet*.

Draw and label the following points on the Oklahoma map.

1. Draw those states that border Oklahoma. Label the states.
2. Put in the state capital.
3. Add a compass rose to the map.
4. Put in the city or town where you live or would like to visit.





The Cowboy Museum

Cowboys have always played an important role in Oklahoma's history. *S is for Sooner* talks about cowboys and the contributions they have made to Oklahoma. Read and find the name of the city where the National Cowboy Hall of Fame is located: _____

You have just landed a dream job as the designer for an exhibit at the Cowboy museum. Use the information you have to make a list of all your ideas for your exhibit. It should be about cowboys and their importance in Oklahoma. You could choose just one cowboy to focus on or cowboys in general.

After you have decided the theme of your exhibit, draw it on manila paper. When your drawing is done, get a cardboard box and make a 3-dimensional exhibit in the box.

Make sure you have a card or letter next to your exhibit, which helps to explain it.

Be creative! Have fun!



Country Music Survey and Graph

S is for Sooner contains the names of many country music stars from Oklahoma. Read to see if you can find your favorite.

Survey your class to see which of the following stars are favorites.

SURVEY

Reba Mc Entire

Vince Gill

Garth Brooks

Toby Keith

Faith Hill

Use the data you gather in this survey to make a bar graph below. Make sure you label your graph. Make the bars colorful and easy to read.

Challenge: Write a paragraph explaining what you like about your favorite.

Fact or Opinion?????

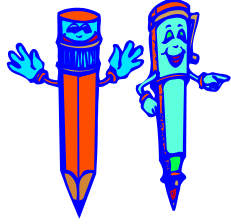
The alphabet book on Oklahoma, *S is for Sooner*, will help you to decide which of the statements below are fact and which are fiction. Mark facts with an “F” and opinions with an “O.”

Remember: A fact is a statement that can be proved true or false. An opinion is how a person thinks or feels about something (it can't be proved right or wrong).

- ___ 1. Oklahoma was known as the “Dust Bowl” in the 1930s.
- ___ 2. The Cherokee language is beautiful.
- ___ 3. Buffalo Soldiers were African-Americans.
- ___ 4. A cyclone is another name for a tornado.
- ___ 5. Eskimo Joe’s is everyone’s favorite restaurant.
- ___ 6. Oklahoma has more man-made lakes than any other state.
- ___ 7. The Sooners are more fun to watch than the Cowboys.
- ___ 8. Rodgers and Hammerstein wrote the state song.
- ___ 9. Frank and Jesse James were outlaws.
- ___ 10. Jim Thorpe was the best athlete ever.

Fact ?

Opinion ??



Sooner Poetry

Oklahoma is filled with wonderful sights, sounds, and people. Get a feel for the wonders of Oklahoma as you read the book *S is for Sooner*. Use this information to help you write a diamante poem about Oklahoma.

A diamante poem is called that because it is shaped like a diamond. You must use the following form when writing a diamante poem:

Line 1- topic (noun)

Line 2 - two words describing the topic (adjectives)

Line 3 - three action words (verbs)

Line 4- four-word phrase showing feeling about the topic

Line 5- three action words

Line 6- two describing words

Line 7- ending word

Give it a try!

1. _____

2. _____

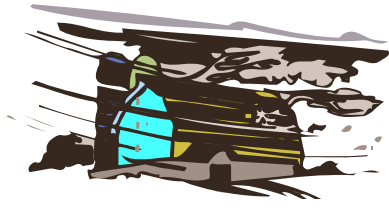
3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____



Tornado Safety

Oklahoma has more tornadoes per square mile than any other state. Have you ever seen a tornado? What do you need to do to keep safe during a tornado? *S is for Sooner* will give you more information about Oklahoma and its tornadoes.

Draw a poster showing what things you need to do to keep safe if you see a tornado.

- 1) Use a large sheet of white paper.
- 2) Make your poster bright and bold.
- 3) Make sure it is easy to read and understand.

Does it get your message across?

- 1) Put the posters up in your classroom.
- 2) Have a class discussion about tornado safety.
- 3) Practice a class tornado drill.
- 4) Discuss your plan with your family. Make sure each person knows what to do.

Rebus Writing

A famous leader of the Western Cherokee developed the American Cherokee alphabet. Find the name of this famous leader in the book *S is for Sooner*. Before the alphabet, pictures were used to tell stories. Rebus writing is a combination of words and pictures.

Pretend you are a member of the Cherokee tribe and the alphabet has just been developed. You are still learning how to use it. Write a letter to a friend describing your role in a buffalo hunt. Use a combination of words and pictures. Make a key to show what each picture stands for in words.



Be Like Will Rogers

Will Rogers was a man of many talents. Read about some of his accomplishments in *S is for Sooner*. Will Rogers is famous for saying, “I never met a man I didn’t like.” He always looked for the good in every person. It’s your turn to try his philosophy!

Choose one classmate (not your best friend) and make a list of all of the things you like about this person. Look for all the good things they say and do. Give the list to this classmate and watch them smile.

Things I like about _____

Challenge: Make a list for your mom or dad or both, telling them all the reasons you love them.

Buffalo Soldiers



You will find the history of African-Americans in Oklahoma in the book *S is for Sooner*. The Indian tribes called the African-Americans “Buffalo Soldiers” because they were brave.

Work with a partner and brainstorm a list of qualities you think Buffalo Soldiers had. Why do you think they were brave? Use your ideas to write a paragraph about the special qualities the men had and why they were important to Oklahoma.



Oil Well Math

(Writing story problems)

Find the year of the first successful oil well hit in Oklahoma. Where is this information? You can read about it in *S is for Sooner*.

The year was _____.

Oil Information

An oil well can pump 50 barrels an hour.

It costs \$ 1.00 to pump each barrel.

There are 5,000 oil wells working.

Oil sells for \$ 30.00 per barrel.

Use this information to make three story problems. Use some or all of the information in each problem. Exchange papers with a partner and solve each other's problems. Make sure you know the correct answers to the problems you write.

Oklahoma Answer Key

Sharpen Up 1) oil 2) Krebs 3) Lucid 4) alphabet 5) Hammerstein 6) Oklahoma
7) Mistletoe 8) astronaut

Timeline 1541, 1893, 1907, 1897, 1890, 1889, 1836
order- 1541, 1836, 1889, 1890, 1893, 1897, 1907

Cowboy gear - rope, boots, horse, 10 gallon hat, chaps, spurs, neck scarf, jeans

Alphabetize Tribes - 67 Cherokee, Cheyenne, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Comanche, Creek,
Kickapoo, Pawnee, Peoria, Ponca, Wichita, Wyandotte

Arbuckle Wilderness Math 1) 461 2) 897 3) 88 4) 1,000 5) 1,273 6) 207 7) 33
8) 4 9) 327 10) 43 Zebra

Famous Folks 1) D 2) H 3) A 4) G 5) B 6) F 7) C 8) E

Comics Are Creative Chester Gould

Cowboy Museum Oklahoma City

When Did it Happen 1) 1909 2) 1953 3) 1915 4) 1893 5) 1907 6) 1897
7) 1889 8) 1943

Fact or Opinion 1) F 2) O 3) F 4) F 5) O 6) F 7) O 8) F 9) F 10) O

Oil Well Math 1897

Oklahoma Standards Correlations
Priority Academic Student Skills

Language Arts

Standard 2 - Modes and Forms of Writing

Rebus Writing
Comics are Creative
Astronaut's Journal
Be Like Will Rodgers
Sooner Poetry
Trail of Tears
Buffalo Soldiers
Twister Tall Tales

Visual Literacy

Standard 3- Compose Visual Messages

Rebus Writing
Cowboy Museum
Tornado Safety

Math

Standard 3- Number Operations and Computation

Arbuckle Wilderness Math
Oil Well Math

Social Studies

Standard 1- Process skills of social studies

Oklahoma timeline
Trail of Tears

Standard 2- Analyze regions from a spatial perspective

Mapping Oklahoma

Standard 5- Unique features which contributed to the settlement of Oklahoma

Sharpen up	Buffalo Soldiers
Cowboy Gear	Cowboy Museum
Music Survey	When Did it Happen
Famous Folks	