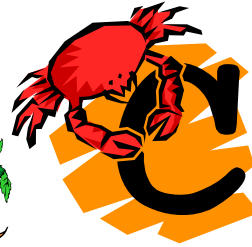


The



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Written Especially for Our Pen Pals in Mr. Holt's Fourth Grade
Pleasant Ridge Elementary School
Charlestown, Indiana



By Mrs. Renz's Fourth Grade Students
Tom McCall Elementary School
Redmond, Oregon



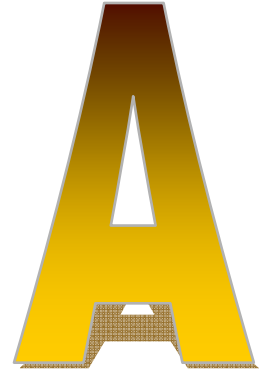
© May 2008

Dedicated to our fabulous pen pals.
We have had fun writing to you this year.
~ Mrs. Renz & Students





Danny Ainge was a BYU Basketball star (1956-) and former NBA player/coach. He played for the Boston Celtics, the Sacramento Kings, the Portland Trail blazers and the Phoenix Suns. He was born in Eugene, Oregon.



State Animal: Our state animal is the American **Beaver**. The American Beaver was named Oregon's state animal by the 1969 Legislature. It has beautiful fur and was over-trapped by early settlers. I have seen a beaver when I was driving to Springfield.



Apples are grown in the Town of Hood River. I have eaten an apple. Have you eaten an apple?

By Adrian

B



B is for **beaver**. Our state animal is a beaver. Beavers can chop wood down with their teeth.



The **Bald Eagle** is the U.S.A. national bird. We have some bald eagles here. I think it is fun to watch them fly.



Our **basketball** team is the Portland Trail **Blazers**. They are a good basketball team. I like to watch them play basketball!

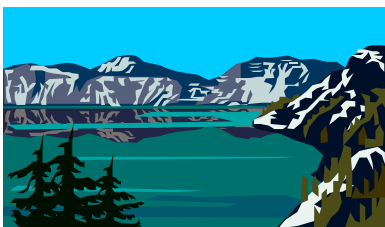
By Alliah



C is for the Oregon **Coast** it is a lovely place to be for a vacation. You can fly kites because it is very windy there. The Oregon Coast is in Lincoln City.



C is for the **Cascade Mountains** are actually volcanoes we can even see them out the windows of our school.



C is for the **Crater Lake**. It is a National Park and it is the deepest lake in Oregon.

By Amberlyn



D is for the **dirt** on the hiking trails. You can find it everywhere. I would hate to breathe it in.



D is for The **Dalles**. It is one of the cities in Oregon. I would love to go there some day.



D is for **Dr. John McLoughlin**, the Father of Oregon. It would have been awesome to see him. We're going to his house on May 20th when we visit Fort Vancouver.

By Bailey



E is for all the **eagles!** I think that the eagles are beautiful. I like watching them fly.



E is for **Eastern Oregon.** Not many people live in Eastern Oregon.

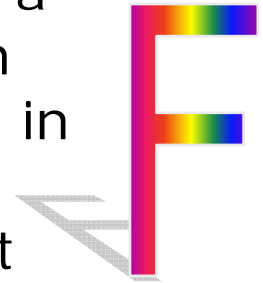


E is for **Eugene.** Eugene is the home of the University of the Oregon Ducks. I am not an Oregon Ducks fan.

By Brenna



F is for **fly fishing**. It is a great thing you can do in Oregon. You can **fly fish** in the Deschutes River. I love fly fishing because it is fun to cast the line!



The Bluegrass **Festival** is a great place to hear great music. You can listen to bluegrass music and hang out. I think the people there are very nice. It's a good thing to do for families!



The **forests** cover 2.5 million acres of land in Oregon. I love to play in the forests. I hope to see you having fun in the forests of Oregon.

By Betsy



Oregon grows **grass** seed. We sell it to garden stores and people who want to put in lawns. I am allergic to grass!



We also grow **garlic** in Madras. We use it to cook food. It stinks!

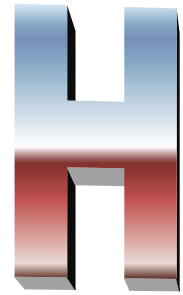


We have a candy store called **Goodies**. My cousin works at the store in Bend. We have one in downtown Redmond, too.

by Brandon



H is for **High Desert Museum!** The museum is in Bend, Oregon. The museum is a cool place!



H is for **hiking** in the Cascade Mountains! The mountains are west of Redmond. The Cascade Mountains are a beautiful sight, especially when you are on a tall hill that is kind of close to the mountains.

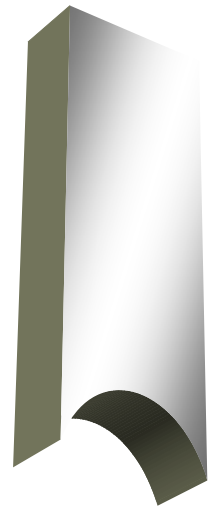


H is for **healthy food** in Oregon! There is a lot of healthy food in Oregon that people don't notice! We grow apples, berries, cherries, hazelnuts, wheat, mint, and lots more.

By Briana



One great thing about Oregon is that you can go to the coast and get homemade **ice cream**. Our dairy cows give milk to the factory that makes ice cream. I like strawberry with malt best.



The second thing best about Oregon is that **irrigation**. That is when people water their fields. It's a lot of work to change the irrigation so it keeps your fields green.



You can go **ice skating** at **Inn of the Seventh Mountain**. It is near Mt. Bachelor (about an hour from my house). I have never been ice skating but I'd like to go!

By Cameron



J is for the **Journey** of Lewis and Clark at Fort Clatsop. Lewis and Clark traveled the Oregon Trail with Sacagawea. Lewis and Clark also made it to the Pacific Ocean and back in two years.



J is for **Journeys** in Oregon. Yahoo! There are a lot of places to explore in our state.

J is for **Dr. John McLoughlin**. He is considered the Father of Oregon. He is a famous man. He ran Fort Vancouver.



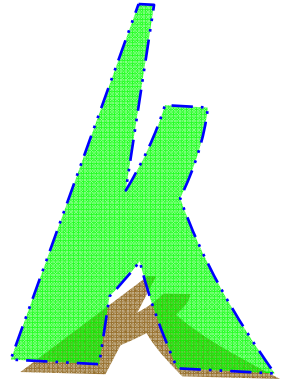
J is for **Jet boats** in Oregon. Jet boats are popular in Oregon. Many people have Jet boats.

J is for **Juniper Trees** in Oregon. There is a lot in Oregon. They are very shady.

By Carli



K is for...



Kayaking. It is a fun activity for the summer. I love kayaking.

Killer snakes.
Watch out for
Rattlesnakes! Don't
get bit.

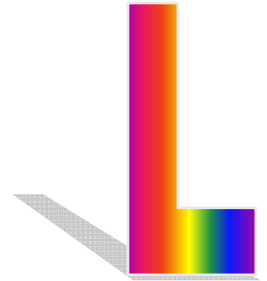


Kokanee. Kokanee are land locked salmon. We have seen them spawn at Brown's Creek. They are fun to fish for and eat.

By Dalton

L is for

L is for **Llamas**. Lots of people in Oregon own llamas. Llamas are kind of like alpacas.



L is for **Crater Lake**. It's the deepest Lake in Oregon.



L is for **lava**. Lava is very hot. It sometimes comes from volcanoes.



L is for **logging**. **Loggers** cut wood from the forests.

L is for **Lincoln City**. Lincoln City is a city in Oregon at the Coast.

By Eric



M is for all the **mountains** in Oregon. Like Mt.



Hood, Mt. Bachelor, Mt. Jefferson, and lots more! Mt. Hood is the tallest mountain in Oregon.

M is for the **Metolius River**. Fishermen come here because it is one of the best fly fishing rivers.



M is for **Multnomah Falls**. It is 611 feet tall and is 30 minutes from Portland. You can go hiking there.

By Zachary B.

N

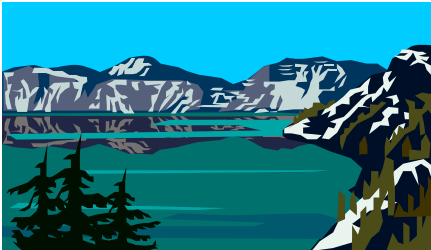


N is for the state **nut**. It's the hazelnut. They taste good to me. A fourth grader wanted the hazelnut to be the state nut.

N is for **Nike**, a famous shoe company that was founded in Oregon. Nikes are used all over the world. Their shoes are comfy to me.



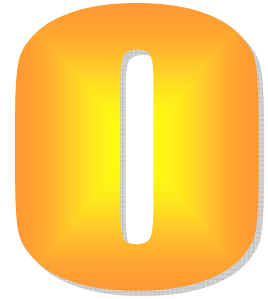
N is for **National parks** there are two in Redmond, Oregon they are Crater Lake and Sea Lion Caves.



By Gillian



O is for **Oregon City**.



Oregon City is located at the confluence at the

Willamette and Clackamas rivers.

In 1829 Oregon incorporated and in 1844 it became the capital of the Oregon territory in the year of 1849.



O is for **OMSI**. OMSI stands for Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. We went to OMSI for a field trip. Also at OMSI you can watch Omnimax movies.



Oregon, My Oregon



O is for "**Oregon, My Oregon.**" "Oregon My Oregon" is our state song. It is also my favorite song. Here it is:



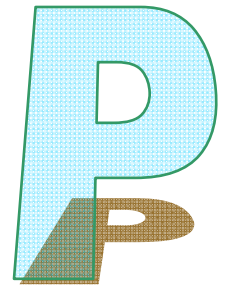
Land of the Empire Builders, Land of the Golden West;
Conquered and held by free men, Fairest and the best.
On-ward and upward ever, Forward and on, and on;
Hail to thee, Land of the Heroes, My Oregon.

Land of the rose and sunshine, Land of the summer's breeze;
Laden with health and vigor, Fresh from the western seas.
Blest by the blood of martyrs, Land of the setting sun;
Hail to thee, Land of Promise, My Oregon.

By Grace



P is for **population**.
3,700,758 people live
in Oregon. Redmond's
2006 Population is



23,500 is where I live. Salem's population
is 142,940 is the state capital of Oregon.

P is for **Portland**. Portland is the biggest
city in Oregon. It started
as a spot known as the
clearing, which was on
the banks of the
Willamette River, about



halfway between Oregon City and Fort
Vancouver. 545,140 is the population of
Portland.

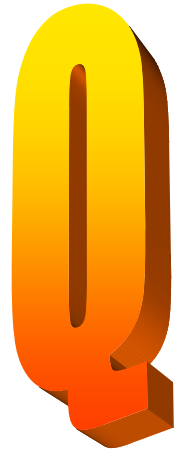
P is for the **Pacific Ocean**
contains about 25,000
islands. The Pacific touches
Oregon. It extends from
the Arctic in the north to
Antarctica in the south,
bounded by Asia and Australia.



By Hunter



Q is for Oregon's **quiet** beaches at the Oregon Coast. Some cities at the coast are Coos Bay and Newport. The quiet beaches are filled with sea gulls.



Oregon sometimes has **earthquakes**. Most of them are small. Some of them are by the Three Sisters Mountains in Central Oregon.



Oregon has lots of **quail**. They are a type of bird. They are usually black and gray.



By Jacob



R

R is for **Redmond** a town in Oregon. Redmond is named after Mr. Frank Redmond. I live in Redmond.

R is for the **reindeer ranch**. It has live reindeer. It is fun.

R is **rain** that happens on the other side of the Cascade Mountains. We live on the east side of the mountains where the weather is dry.



R is for **rivers** that flow in Oregon. People fish for salmon and trout. I love fishing.

By Jake



R Is for **Redmond** where 25,000 people live. Students go to Redmond High School. It is a very fun place to be.

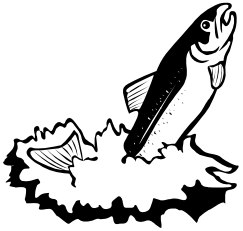


R is for all of the **rivers** like the Deschutes, where you can **raft** all day. It is very fun to go rafting.



R Is for the **Reindeer Ranch!** Stores can **rent Reindeer** for Christmas! I've never been there but I've seen them.

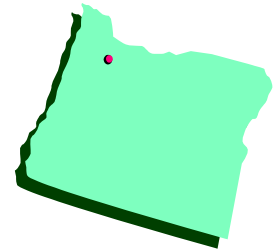
by Tyler



S is for the **salmon**. Oregon is famous for salmon. A lot of people fish in the summer for salmon in Oregon. I went fishing and caught a salmon.



S is for **Salem**. Salem is for is our state capidel. It is located in Washington D.C. I went to Salem on a field trip.

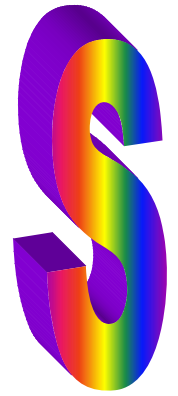


S is for **square dancing**. Squire Dancing is Oregon's state dance. A lot of schools Square Dance. I love to Square Dance!



By Grace

S is for the **State** of Oregon. Oregon became a state in 1859.



Salmon is the state fish of Oregon. I have also caught a salmon. I think that eating fish is gross.

S is for **snow shoeing** because you can snow shoe all around. Snow shoeing is for all the people who snow shoe.

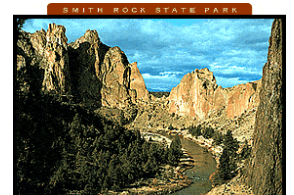


S is for **snow** because there is snow all around. I snow board all around on the mountains of Central Oregon.



S is for **sea lions**. S is also for all the sea lion caves. I haven't been there.

S is for **Smith Rock BMX**. Smith Rock is a place where there are lots of mountains and rocks. I do BMX racing and I love it.



S for **skiing** for all the skiing we do in Oregon. S is for all the **sledding** and **snowboarding**.



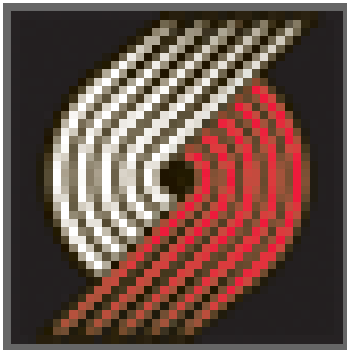
By Zakk



T is for
Tillamook
Cheese. It is
made in
Tillamook, which



is near the coast. Lots of people like it. I don't.

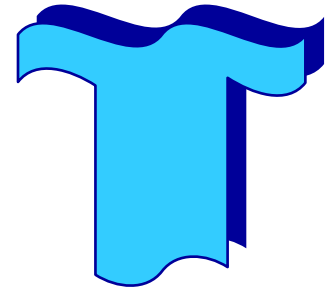


T is for the Portland
Trailblazers. The trailblazers
are a basketball team. They
play in Portland, our biggest
city in the state.



T is for **Tom McCall**. Tom
McCall was the governor of
Oregon many years ago.
They named my school
after him. He used to live
near here.

By Jocilyn



T is for **Mount Tabor**, where you can watch the sun set. It is near Portland.

T is for **Tumalo**, where my mom lived when she was little. T is for Terrebonne where my grandma Ann lives.

T is for **timber**, another name for wood.



T is for **tourism**, tourism is making money off the people that come to Oregon.

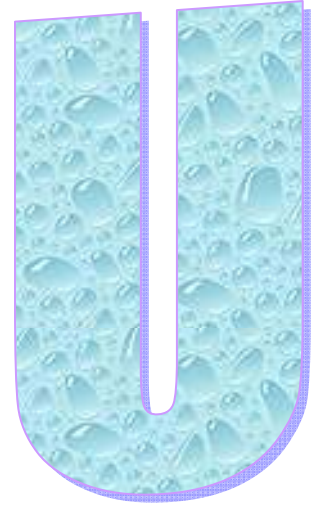
T is for **Troutdale**, Troutdale is near where my teacher used to live.

By Judy



Usually Oregon has good weather for swimming, bike riding and fishing.

We get a lot of sun and very little rain on the eastern side of Oregon (where I live).



U is for **Umatilla**. Umatilla is a tiny town outside of The Dalles. It is by the Columbia River.

U is for **underwater** deep sea diving at the Oregon Coast. The water is really cold.



By Lovesta

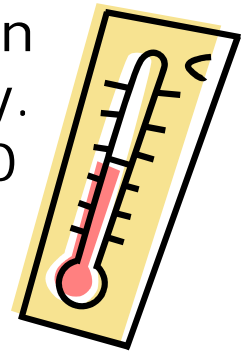


V is for... The Willamette **Valley** is the heart of Oregon's agriculture country. I've been there. I went there when I went to the Oregon coast.



V

Oregon's climate is **VERY** odd. You can have every kind of weather in one day. Like we have had snow in June and 80 degrees in winter. It was crazy!



You can come to Oregon and **VISIT** our very own Oregon coast. Or go or to sea side, where Lewis and Clark turned back East. I went there on a family vacation.



By Monica

W

The **Willamette Valley** is the most populous part of our state. It is also our state's largest goods producer. There, you will find many attractions, like Mt. Hood Forest National Park, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in Astoria, or Ecola State Park. From aviator museums to beautiful views, you can see it all in the **Willamette Valley!**

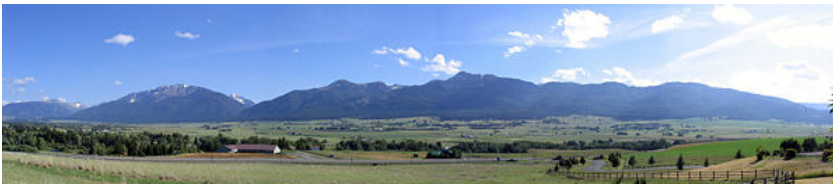


The **Western Meadowlark** is our state bird. Its Latin name is

Sturnella neglecta. The way to know that you are seeing a Western Meadowlark: An adult has yellow under parts, and it has a black "V" on its chest, their backs are mostly brown, they have long beaks, and their heads are tan with black streaks.



The **Wallowa Mountains**, which are nestled up in the Columbia Plateau, are very cold looking, even in summer, like the picture to the left.



Most of the mountains are in the Eagle Cap Wilderness

Area, which is part of the Wallowa –Whitman National Forest. This area is drained by the Wallowa River. The tallest peak of the range is Sacagawea Peak, which stands 2999 meters above sea level. Sacagawea Peak is the 6th tallest mountain in Oregon, and the tallest mountain in Oregon that is not included in the Cascades. Many geologists disagree about how the Wallowa Mountains came to be, but many of them think that a granite and magma upwelling in the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous Periods. That was about 160 to 120 million years ago.

By Nolan



The High Desert is eXtremely dry. We get very little rain here. We live in the High Desert!



The Oregon Coast is eXactly next to the Pacific Ocean. I have been to the Oregon Coast! It is warm in the summer.



The Willamette Valley has eXtrodinary views there. I want to go to the Willamette Valley. It looks amazing!

By Preston



Y is for you.
You can swim
in the Pacific
Ocean. I used
to live near
there when I lived in
Tillamook.



Y is for **Yew Creek**.
A lot of Yew trees
live there. It
sounds like a fun
place to visit!



Y is for the **year**
Oregon became a
state on February 14,
1859.



By Rachael

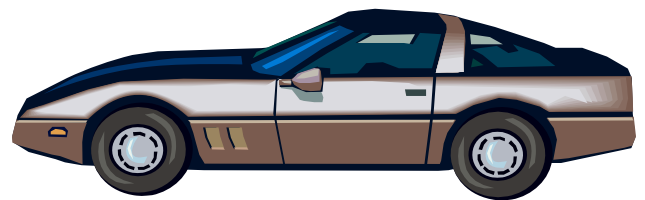
Z is for the **Portland Zoo**. They have lots of **zebras**, and bears. I haven't been there.



Z is for the town called **Zig Zag**. It is near Mt. Hood (about 2 hours from Redmond). I haven't been there.



Z is for the **zooming** cars on our highways. Our main highway in Central Oregon is called Highway 97. The other main highway is called Interstate 5.



By Reed

The

End