



# Backpack-tivity:

## An @Home Learning Activity

### Across the United States

**Introduction:**

As you complete this activity, you will learn about the geography of the United States.

**Materials:**

You'll need a map of the United States, and a pen or pencil.

**Directions:**

Together, study a map of the United States. (If you don't have a U.S. map, use the one at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/americas/> or search Google images at <http://images.google.com/imghp?hl=en> to find one.) Locate on the map the state where you live and other states you've lived in. Identify the capital cities of those states. Find other places you've visited or read about. Trace a route from your home to those places. Then play a game.

Family Partner: Say: "I'm thinking of a city that's south of Baton Rouge and east of Houston..." or "I'm thinking of an ocean that touches Oregon..." or.... Ask your child to guess the place you're thinking of.

Student: When you guess the place your learning partner is thinking of, it's *your* turn to give a clue about a place on the map and challenge your learning partner to find it.

Continue to take turns giving clues and guessing places until one of you is stumped.

**Talk About It:**

Which two states don't touch any other state? Which state is largest? Which state is smallest? What is the capital of the United States? Write your answers on these lines.

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**Learn More:**

Print the outline map of the United States at [http://www.sctbooces.org/isc/iss/webquests/statequest/IMAGES/USoutline\\_map.gif](http://www.sctbooces.org/isc/iss/webquests/statequest/IMAGES/USoutline_map.gif). Try to label the states on the map without looking at a labeled map.

This activity was completed by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.