Explorations in Iowa History Project, Malcolm Price Laboratory School, University Of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa ©COPYRIGHT 2003 University of Northern Iowa Lynn.Nielsen@uni.edu Duplication for Instructional purposes only. Credits: Logo and site design by ITS CET Documents courtesy of the State Historical Society of Iowa

Lesson 1: Iowa's Location

Learning Goals:

Students will define the terms county, state, country, nation, continent.

Students will locate Iowa on a U.S. map with state borderlines.

Students will identify the states around Iowa from a list of states and an outline map of the United States.

Students will identify the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers on outline map of the United States.

National Standards—Geography:

Knows the location of places, geographic features, and patterns of the environment.

Materials:

State map

World map

United States map

Map of the United States for each student

List of states for each student

Transparency of United States outline map

Activities:

1. Introduce the lesson by reviewing the following terms and having students identify examples of each using an Iowa state map, a United States map or a world map:

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTRY

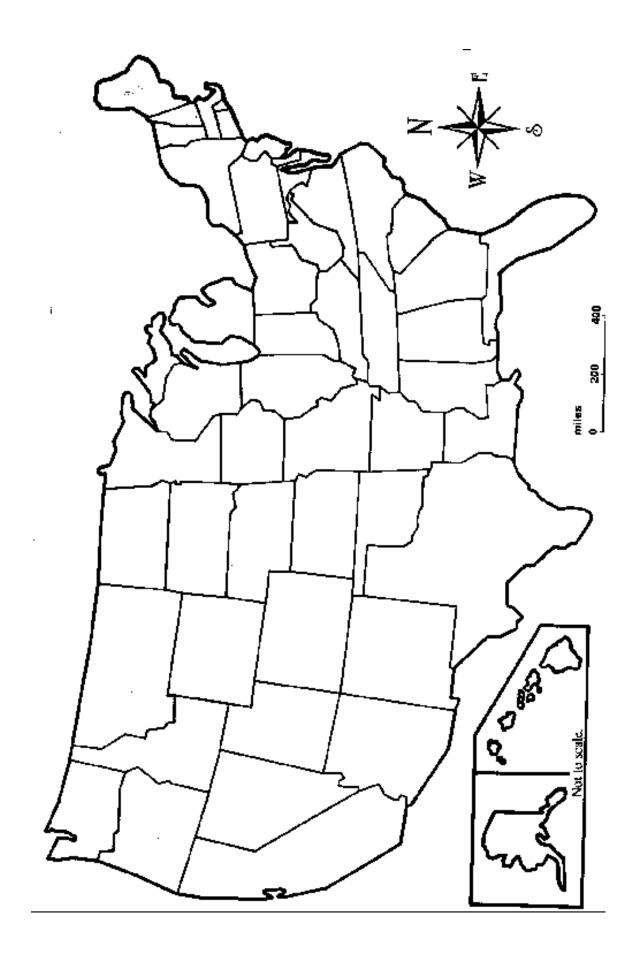
NATION

CONTINENT

- 2. Distribute copies of the United States map.
- 3. Have students label Iowa and its bordering states using a list of states and a wall map of the United States as a guide.
- 4. Have students locate and label the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers.
- 5. Culminate the lesson by playing the game Mental Geography:

Example:

- All students close their eyes and visualize the US map.
- Start in Iowa.
- Go north one state. (Minnesota)
- Go west one state. (North Dakota or South Dakota)
- Everyone opens their eyes.
- Where are they now?
- One student answers. That student then gives the next directions.



UNITED STATES

Alabama Minnesota Vermont

Alaska Mississippi Virginia

Arizona Missouri Washington

Arkansas Montana West Virginia

California Nebraska Wisconsin

Colorado Nevada Wyoming

Connecticut New Hampshire

Delaware New Jersey

Florida New Mexico

Georgia New York

Hawaii North Carolina

I daho North Dakota

Illinois Ohio

Indiana Oklahoma

I owa Oregon

Kansas Pennsylvania

Kentucky Rhode Island

Louisiana South Carolina

Maine South Dakota

Maryland Tennessee

Massachusetts Texas

Michigan Utah