



# Explore Alaska Booklet



People have been exploring the area that is now Alaska for thousands of years. Make a booklet to tell a story about exploring Alaska!



## Materials Needed:

Explore Alaska Booklet template and printables (or draw your own), scissors, construction paper, glue, colored pencils or markers.

## Instructions:

**Step 1:** Cut out the template on the solid lines. Fold back and forth on the dotted lines, accordion-style. If making your own, cut a sheet of 8.5 x 11 paper in half lengthwise. Fold back and forth to make four sections (see template for spacing).

**Step 2:** Cut two pieces of construction paper, each 4.5 inches (11.5 cm) long by 3 inches (7.5 cm) wide, for the front and back covers. Glue the covers to the white paper.

**Step 3:** Choose pictures from the printables sheet and cut them out (or draw your own). Arrange them in your booklet to telling a story about exploring Alaska. When you are satisfied with your arrangement, glue down the pictures. Remember to use both sides of the booklet!  
*Hint:* Do not glue pictures on top of the dotted lines. This will make it easier to fold the booklet.

**Step 4:** Write captions for the pictures. You can even write or draw your own story about exploring Alaska!



Discover more by visiting the Museum of the North, or go to the Virtual Museum: [www.uaf.edu/museum/virtualmuseum](http://www.uaf.edu/museum/virtualmuseum)

# Exploring Alaska

People have been exploring the area that is now Alaska for thousands of years, and continue to do so today.



Bering Land Bridge.

*Image: National Park Service.*

During the last Ice Age, the areas that are now Alaska and Russia were connected by land. This was called the Bering Land Bridge. The first Alaskan peoples likely crossed this land bridge from Asia about 14,000 years ago, following the animals they hunted for food. They started exploring their new land, learning about climates, animals, plants, and seasonal cycles.

These ancient people became experts on how to survive in this environment, using the resources around them to thrive and develop vibrant and diverse cultures. Today, indigenous people in Alaska continue to gather and teach valuable knowledge about their environment.



Berry Picking.

*Image: UAMN Ethnobotany series.*

In more recent times, Russian explorers in the 1700s mapped the coast of Alaska and set up churches and trading posts. Britain, Spain, France, and the US also sent expeditions to the area, bringing in different religious and cultural influences. In 1867, Russia sold Alaska to the United States, and more Americans began moving to the area.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the discovery of gold in Alaska and the Yukon Territory brought thousands of hopeful gold seekers north. Although only a few actually struck it rich, the search for gold led many people to explore across the region. In the 20th century, the discovery of oil and the expansion of the military in Alaska led more people to move to Alaska.



Chilkoot Trail, 1898. *Image: Wikimedia Commons.*



Today, people from all over the world explore and travel around Alaska. They come to Alaska for work, family, education, scientific research, or adventure!

*Left: Alone in the Wilderness by Michio Hoshino, UAP2000-007-014.*

# Explore Alaska Booklet Template

Glue front cover here.

Glue back cover here.

- Cut on the solid lines.
- Fold back and forth on the dotted lines, accordion-style.
- Cut two pieces of construction paper, each 4.5 inches (11.5 cm) long by 3 inches (7.5 cm) wide, for the front and back covers.
- Glue the covers to the template where indicated.
- Decorate your booklet!

# Explore Alaska Booklet Printables



Bering Land Bridge



Woolly Mammoth



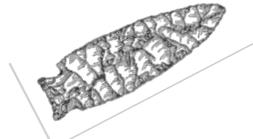
Caribou



Old Bering Sea ivory figure, Metropolitan Museum of Art



Baleen Snow Goggles, St. Lawrence Island



Projectile Point



*Pleistocene of Alaska* by Jay Matternes



Hunting tools from the Pleistocene and Holocene



Raven Flood Totem Pole by students at Mt. Edgecumbe School



Model of Russian Ship



New Archangel (now Sitka), 1837



Russian Trading Post



Map of Russian America



Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska



Russian Fur Trading

# Explore Alaska Booklet Printables (Page 2)



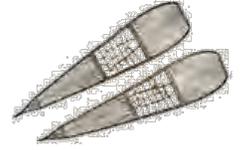
Chilkoot Trail, 1898



Kate Carmack (Shaaw Tláa), who helped discovered gold in the Klondike



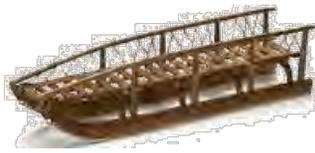
Gold pan



Dena'ina Athabascan Snowshoes  
National Museum of Natural History



First ascent of Denali, 1913



Iñupiaq dog sled  
National Museum of Natural History



Model Canoe, UAMN



Unangax (Aleut) carrying basket  
National Museum of the American Indian



*Caribou Hunting* by Alex Harris



*Off to the Trapline* by Fred Machetanz



Alaska Bush Plane



*Alone in the Wilderness*  
by Michio Hoshino



Trans-Alaska Pipeline



RV on the Alaska Highway



Backpack for camping



*Statue of Liberty Doll*  
by Rosalie Paniyak



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