

EXPLORERS

Madison In 1541, Spanish Explorers reached Kansas in search of gold. France explored and claimed Kansas in 1682.

Everleigh In 1803, Kansas Territory became part of the United States.

NATIVE AMERICANS

Scarlett The American Indians were first on our land, long before it was a state.

Nora B Kansas's main Indian tribes include: Comanche, Kiowa, Cheyenne, and Arapaho.

KANSAS

Maeve Kansas became the 34th state on January 29th in 1861. It is Kansas' 165th birthday. Happy birthday, Kansas!

TOPEKA

Evelyn Topeka became the state capital of Kansas in 1861.

FLAG

Olivia Kansas' current state flag was adopted in 1927.

Thora It features a sunflower atop the state seal with a blue background.

FARMERS

Archie Some families in Kansas make their living from land. Some of the state's crops and farm products are: wheat, corn, and hogs.

Charlotte H. We also are known for oats, sunflowers and barley.

STATE FLOWER (Sunflower)

Brogan Every state has a favorite flower. The Kansas state flower is the sunflower.

Cece They can grow from 2 to 6 feet in height.

Charlotte B. The flower is made up of yellow rays and brown disks.

STATE TREE (Cottonwood Tree)

Dawson The state tree is the cottonwood tree. It reminds us that our roots should run deep if we want to grow straight and tall.

Silas Kansas' official state tree was adopted in 1937.

STATE BIRD (Meadowlark)

Betito Most states have a state bird. The Kansas state bird is the Western Meadowlark.

Riley It is yellow breasted with a black V on its chest.

STATE ANIMAL (Buffalo)

Neil
The Kansas state animal is the buffalo. The American buffalo was adopted as the state animal in 1955. It is the largest wild animal in America.

STATE INSECT (Honeybee)

Anna
The honeybee is the Kansas state insect adopted in 1976.

Maclin
Honeybees are important to the farmers because they pollinate the crops.

STATE REPTILE (Ornate Box Turtle)

John
Hello! I'm a slow creature, it might take me a while to get on stage. The box turtle was adopted as the Kansas state reptile in 1986.

STATE AMPHIBIAN (Tiger Salamander)

Leo
I'm the most recent adoption by the state of Kansas.

Wyatt
I was adopted on April 13, 1994. I'm the Tiger Salamander.

FAMOUS KANSAS PEOPLE

Reagan
1. Hello, my name is Amelia Earhart. I was born in Atchison. I was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

Jian
2. My name is Dwight Eisenhower. I am from Abilene. I was the 34th President of the United States.

Grant
3. My name is Bob Dole. I was born in Russell. I was a politician who served in the United States Senate for over 30 years.

4. My name is George Brett. I played for the Kansas City Royals for 21 years. We won the World Series in 1985. I was inducted in the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999.

Mikey

5. My name is Matt Besler. I was born in Overland Park. I was an American soccer player for Sporting Kansas City. I am Catholic and was known to pray the rosary before each game.

Calvin

6. My name is Carrie Ingalls. I was born in Montgomery County. I was the younger sister of Laura Ingalls Wilder, who is known for her Little House books.

Ava

7. My name is Bill Martin, Jr. I was born and raised in Hiawatha. I am an educator and author of more than 300 children's books including *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*, and *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*

Alex

Mimi
8. The University of Kansas was founded in Lawrence on March 21, 1865.

Mia
They are known as the Jayhawks. Rock Chalk Jayhawk, KU!

Norah M.
9. Kansas State University was founded in Manhattan on February 16, 1863.

Rosie
They are known as the Wildcats. K-S-U Wildcats!

Beau
10. Hello, my name is Father Kapaun. I was a priest and Army chaplain during the Korean War. During my time as a prisoner of war, I cared for the sick and wounded. One day, I will be a saint.

Graham
11. Hello, my name is Clark Kent and I landed in the fictional town of Smallville. I am best known as Superman.

Victoria
12. My name is Kate Spade. I changed the face of fashion with my bright colored handbags and am well known for my inspiring quotes. "She is quick and curious and playful and strong."

Bodie
13. Hi, I am actor and comedian Paul Rudd. I am from Lenexa and I went to Shawnee Mission West High School. You probably know me best as Ant Man in the Marvel movies.

Katie
14. Toto, I have a feeling we're in Kansas. Hello, I'm Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz. (Click heels together three times.) There's no place like home.