Who Lives in the American West?



INTRODUCTION – The Autry Museum of the American West is about the different people, animals, plants, land, and water in the American West. Learn more about where the American West is located by using the map of the United States of America and by following the directions below it.



PART 1 – Who lives in the American West? Do you? Find some colored pencils, crayons, or markers. Then follow the directions below to see if you live in the American West.

1) Find the state you live in. Color it red.

- 2) Find the Pacific Ocean. Color it blue.
- 3) Find the Atlantic Ocean. Color it blue.
- 4) Find the Gulf of Mexico. Color it blue.
- 5) Find the Mississippi River. Color it blue.

6) The Autry Museum of the American West describes the American West as everything west (to the left) of the Mississippi River including Alaska and Hawai'i. Find the states that are west (to the left) of the Mississippi River. Color them orange.

7) Find the states to the east (to the right) of the Mississippi River. Color them yellow.

8) Find the state you live in. Find the Mississippi River. Is your state to the west or east of the Mississippi River? Do you live in the American West? Complete the sentence below.

I (write *live in* or *don't live in*) ______ the American West because the state I live in is (write *west of* or *east of*) ______ the Mississippi River.

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PART 2 – The Autry Museum of the American West has art, artifacts, and objects that tell the stories about the different people, animals, plants, land, and water in the American West. Answer the questions in the chart about where you live and the people, animals, plants, and types of land and water that are important to you on a piece of paper or in the space below.

QUESTIONS	ANSWER EXAMPLES	YOUR ANSWERS
Who are some of the people from where you live that are important to you?	Classmates Doctors Family members Firefighters Friends Lifeguards Nurses Police officers Principals Teachers Other people	
What are some of the animals from where you live that are important to you?	Birds Cats Dogs Fish Frogs Insects Rabbits Snakes Squirrels Zoo animals Other animals	
What are some of the plants from where you live that are important to you?	Bushes Cacti Flowers Grasses Trees Other plants	
What are some types of land and water from where you live that are important to you?	Creeks Deserts Forests Hills Lakes Meadows Mountains Oceans Rivers Valleys Other types	

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PART 3 – Maps tell stories. Tell a story about where you live and the people, animals, plants, and types of land and water that are important to you. Make a map or a picture of where you live that includes some of the people, animals, plants, and types of land and water that are important to you on a piece of paper or in the space below. Then write a description of your map or picture below it.

My Map or Picture

Some of the people from where I live that are important to me are _____

Some of the animals from where I live that are important to me are ______

Some of the plants from where I live that are important to me are ______

Some types of land and water from where I live that are important to me are _____