Now that we’ve explored the great state of South Dakota, what do you think? I bet you didn’t know that so much exists right here. Even though many of the communities we explored are small in population, they still have a lot of character and culture. By learning about these communities, we can discover what each has to offer and connect with South Dakotans along the way. Only some of the highlights of the state have been outlined in this book. It’s up to you to discover the rest of what South Dakota has to offer. Take your own Hometown Snapshots to find excitement, adventure, and mystery all in this great state!
1.) These are the cities in South Dakota I would like to visit someday:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

2.) My favorite South Dakota city is:

_________________________________________________________________
because it has: __________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Fun Facts

- South Dakota became a state in 1889, making it the 40th state to be formed.

- Since the Sioux, or Dacotah, Indians lived in the area when the state was formed, South Dakota was named for the word “Dakota” or “friend.”

- The state seal was adopted four years before the state was even founded.

- The South Dakota State Fair is held in Huron every year and is the premier event for livestock, horticulture and art.

- South Dakota has 44 million acres of farmland!

- Day County—home of Webster—has more natural lakes than any other county in South Dakota.
• You can see an 1880s school and a 1912 opera house at Prairie Village in Madison.

• The weather in South Dakota changes quickly. In 1943, the temperature rose 49 degrees in less than two minutes in Spearfish, making a new world record!

• The needles of the Black Hills Spruce give the Black Hills their name; from far away, they make the hills appear black.

• Billy Mills, who grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation, is the only American ever to win the Olympic gold medal in the 10,000 meter run. Mills won the medal in 1964.

• Writer Laura Ingalls Wilder moved to De Smet in 1879 at the age of 12. That was the setting for several of her famous books.
Fun Facts

- The University of South Dakota’s National Music Museum in Vermillion is home to over 10,000 musical instruments from around the world.

- Two South Dakota State University professors started a company that supplies L.E.D. displays to sports arenas and businesses in nearly 100 countries.

- A Rapid City attraction houses more species of reptiles than any other park or zoo in the nation. That includes hundreds of species of snakes, amphibians, tortoises, and lizards.

- Artists Oscar Howe and Harvey Dunn were both born and raised in South Dakota.

(Photo: Eagle Dancer, Oscar Howe, South Dakota Art Museum, copyright Adelheid Howe, 1983)
• The famous motorcycle rally brings about 400,000 people to Sturgis every summer.

• The largest diamond saw in the world is located in Milbank.

• In South Dakota, you can hear the myth of the jackalope. This fictional rabbit looks like a jackrabbit combined with an antelope.

• Deadwood was a wild, but popular mining town in the 1800s. Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are just a couple of famous legends who called Deadwood home.

• Clear Lake is home to the first St. Patrick’s Day Parade in South Dakota.

• Gutzon Borglum didn’t start carving Mount Rushmore until he was 60 years old!
Fun Facts

- The Schmeckfest (Sh- mek- fest) in Freeman is a festival that celebrates the Russian Mennonite (German) heritage with traditional German food, music, and handicrafts. Schmeckfest stands for “festival of tasting.”

- Redfield boasts that it is the Pheasant Capital of the World because the state bird, the Chinese Ring-necked Pheasant, was first introduced there in 1908.

- Spearfish has presented The Black Hills Passion Play since 1939, making it one of America’s longest running theater productions.

- South Dakota’s Jewel Cave is the third longest cave in the world.
- South Dakota has six state public higher education universities:
  - South Dakota State University
  - Dakota State University
  - Black Hills State University
  - Northern State University
  - University of South Dakota
  - South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

- There is a secret chamber behind Mount Rushmore! It’s a 50-foot tunnel in a crevice that oringally was pictured as a hall of records where important documents and other artifacts were to be stored. But the hall was never finalized. There is a smaller version of the hall that was completed in 1998 by the Mount Rushmore Historical Society.
Fun Facts

- The first fast-food restaurant in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to serve french fries was the Barrell Drive Inn in 1939. It closed in the 1970’s.

- South Dakota’s capital wasn’t always in Pierre. Yankton had been the capital of the Dakota Territory, but Mitchell and Huron wanted to have the capital in their towns. In 1903, the capital was moved to Mitchell, but voters decided the capital should be in Pierre in 1904.

- The Black Hills was one of the sites considered for the permanent home of the United Nations.

- Clear Lake is known for being America’s Most Natural Rodeo Bowl because the Crystal Springs Ranch rodeo was built on a drained duck pond.
• Badlands National Park was originally going to be called Wonderland National Park.

• South Dakota is home to many famous people! Tom Brokaw, Daisy Duke (Catherine Bach), Mike Miller, Bob Barker, Vice President Hubert Humphrey and January Jones are just a few. You can research each of them see where they came from and what they do now!

• Perhaps South Dakota’s finest citizen, Joe Foss, was the leading fighter ace in World War II and a 1943 recipient of the Medal of Honor. He later became Governor of South Dakota and the first commissioner of the American Football League. The airport in Sioux Falls is named in honor of him.

List your own South Dakota fun fact:
Activities

South Dakota Matching

A. Yankton
B. Hot Springs
C. Brookings
D. Sioux Falls
E. Pine Ridge
F. De Smet
G. Pierre
H. Redfield
I. Rapid City
J. Harney Peak

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The capital of South Dakota
South Dakota’s largest city
Hometown of Laura Ingalls Wilder
The tallest point in South Dakota
South Dakota’s second largest city
The first capital of Dakota Territory
Home of South Dakota State University
The second largest reservation in the country
In this city, you can swim in natural, hot water springs
“The Pheasant Capital of the World”
South Dakota Word Search

2. coyote (state animal)  H D D C O Y O T E L L O A L P O R W
3. honeybee (state insect)  S R B Q D S H A K D Y S T Y U Y I A
4. kuchen (state dessert)  P W A L O S M Z I R U E Z K Y H C L
6. pasque (state flower)  S M C D R C T X U G J U B J S I R E
7. pheasant (state bird)  Q Z K S C Y K P O V N A V H W Q A Y
8. rodeo (state sport)  U X L S K I H H P X M R A T R W T E
9. rose quartz (state mineral)  E K Y H L J Y G I Z P T E G E X O P
10. triceratops (state fossil)  N B R U O K L Y T L L Z I F T C P O
11. walleye (state fish)  Q V G T K J K S R O L E I E T V S N

H O N E Y B E E J E B L R O D E O E
Activities

South Dakota Spelling Words

How many words can you make from the letters in the word SOUTH DAKOTA?

_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
_________________
Help the bison find his way through Custer State Park.

Custer State Park has 71,000 acres of fun! You can camp, fish, mountain bike, go on horseback trail rides, hike, rowboat, and watch 1,500 free-roaming bison.
Activities

South Dakota Word Scramble

Unscramble these mixed-up letters to make words found in My South Dakota Book.

ELISW & KCLRA

ORCN

ORISMSUI RRIEV

RYZAC ERHOS

EERRPI

DSABLND

GFRAMIN

HOSUT KDAOAT

APM
South Dakota Animal Tracking

Hunting is a year-round sport in South Dakota. There are nearly five million acres of public hunting land across the state, which attracts many visitors.

Match each set of tracks with the animal that made them:

1. __________  
2. __________  
3. __________  
4. __________

A. Cottontail Rabbit  
B. Coyote  
C. Deer  
D. Mountain Lion
Lewis & Clark Discoveries

Lewis & Clark kept a journal of their journey through South Dakota. They made a list of all the new animals they discovered. Make your own journal entry below by drawing the animals' pictures below the description.

The crew discovered prairie dogs near Gregory County. Lewis & Clark described them as “barking squirrels.”

They also came across many coyotes, which they described as “prairie wolves.”
**Lewis and Clark Journal Entry**

Use this code to decipher the story of the Lewis & Clark voyage up the Missouri River.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10| 11| 12| 13| 14| 15| 16| 17| 18| 19| 20| 21| 22| 23| 24| 25| 26|

**LEWIS AND**

| 13 | 5 | 18 | 9 | 23 | 5 | 20 | 8 | 5 | 18 | 23 | 9 | 12 | 12 | 9 | 1 | 13 |

**CLARK STARTED**

THEIR 8,000 MILE JOURNEY IN 1804. PRESIDENT THOMAS

| 10 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 18 | 19 | 15 | 14 |

SENT THE CREW UP THE **RIVER TO EXPLORE AMERICA.**

| 13 | 9 | 19 | 19 | 15 | 21 | 18 | 9 |

AMERICAN **HELPED LEWIS & CLARK NAVIGATE THROUGH**

| 9 | 14 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 14 | 19 |

SOUTH DAKOTA. IN 1806, LEWIS & CLARK JOURNALLED ABOUT THE GREAT

PLAINS LOOKING LIKE "**"
Many South Dakota ranchers label their cattle and horses with pictures that are called **brands**. Brands are applied with a hot iron onto the skin of an animal. This helps ranchers identify who the livestock belongs to since many look the same.

Here are the rules for reading a brand:
1. Read a brand from left to right
2. Read a brand from top to bottom
3. Read a brand from outside to inside when the brand has a picture inside another

Practice reading these brands:

- Lazy S
- Rising Sun
- Bar M
- Circle S
- Reverse R
- Half Circle

Now pick a name and create your own brand using your favorite letters and symbols.
South Dakota By The Numbers

Look in the book and answer each question with a number. Use the decoder key to match the circled digits with the corresponding letter. Then, fill in the letters you found to spell a word that honors South Dakota family traditions and history.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

1.) What year did South Dakota become a state? __ _ _ _

2.) How many state senators are there in South Dakota? __

3.) How many Indian Reservations are in South Dakota? _ _

4.) The construction of Mount Rushmore began in what year? _ _ _ _

5.) How high is Harney peak (in feet)? _ _ _ _

6.) What is the area of South Dakota in square miles? _ _ _ _

7.) Use the decoder to change circled numbers to letters. Put the letter you found from question #1 into the first circle below. The letter from question #2 goes into the second circle, etc.

Use the letters above to fill in the blanks in order. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ R _ T _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ 

R T
The connections we share in our lives are valuable. We are connected through city, state, culture, lifestyle, family, and values.

Use this page to explain how you have stayed connected over the years through traditions, activities, and heritage.

Czech Days in Tabor

Native American tradition

Photo by South Dakota Tourism
1.) What country or countries did your ancestors come from?
______________________________________________________________

2.) Which of these countries would you like to visit and why?
______________________________________________________________

3.) Do you know the origin and meaning of your last name?
______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

4.) Do you eat any traditional foods?
______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

5.) Do you or anyone you know do any traditional arts and crafts projects?
______________________________________________________________

6.) Do you have any special holiday traditions?
______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

7.) Is there a generational name passing in your family? (John Sr., John Jr., etc.)
______________________________________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acre</strong></td>
<td>(ay- ker) A measure of land area that is about the size of a football field, not counting the end zones (1/640 of a mile, or 43,560 sq. feet).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture</strong></td>
<td>(ag- rih- kul- cher) The science, art, and business of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arboretum</strong></td>
<td>(ar- bor- ee- tum) A place with a large variety of trees, shrubs, and other woody plant life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Artesian Wells</strong></td>
<td>(ar- tee- shun welz) Wells drilled into the earth to reach water beneath the ground. Because of underground pressure, this water flows upward to the surface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Butte</strong></td>
<td>(byoot) A hill with sloping sides and a flat top.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Canyon</strong></td>
<td>(kan- yun) A narrow ravine with steep cliff walls cut into the earth by running water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geologist</td>
<td>(jee- ol- oh- jist) A person who studies the origin, history, and structure of the earth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glacier</td>
<td>(glay- shur) A huge mass of ice over land that is formed from compacted snow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant</td>
<td>(im- uh- grent) A person who leaves one country to settle in another.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislature</td>
<td>(lej- is- lay- cher) An elected body of people with the responsibility and power to make laws for a state or country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meteorologist</td>
<td>(mee- tee- or- ol- oh- jist) A person who studies and predicts weather conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mural</td>
<td>(myur- el) A very large image that is designed on a surface of a building or wall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource</td>
<td>(nach- er- ul ree- sors) A resource supplied by nature, such as timber, fresh water, or a mineral deposit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paleontologist</td>
<td>(pay- lee- on- tol- oh- jist) A scientist who studies prehistoric life, including the fossils of plants and animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petrified Wood</td>
<td>(peh- tri- fyd wood) Aged wood that has become stony, stiff, and dead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Community</td>
<td>(pland kum- yoo- nih- tee) A town that is owned and developed by a private company before residents move in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powwow</td>
<td>(pow- wow) A ceremony, council, or meeting of Native Americans. Often powwows are associated with healing or hunting rituals and traditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reservation</td>
<td>(rez-er-vay-shun) A piece of land set apart by the federal government for a special purpose, such as for use by Native American people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalactite</td>
<td>(stah-lak-tyt) An icicle-shaped deposit hanging from the roof of a cave, formed from the dripping of mineral-rich water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalagmite</td>
<td>(stah-lag-mytyt) A cone-shaped deposit built up on the floor of a cave, formed from the dripping of mineral-rich water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tipi</td>
<td>(tee-pee) Native American tents made out of poles covered with animal skins or bark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind Energy</td>
<td>(wind en-er-jee) Energy created by capturing wind power and turning it into electricity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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