Arizona Historical Society 3rd Grade Postcard Contest 2023
Help the Arizona Historical Society wish Arizona Happy Birthday!

Here at the Arizona Historical Society we are dedicated to education through our historic museums, field trips, tours, lessons and activities to help students understand how important Arizona history is to them.

Help us celebrate Arizona’s 111 birthday this year by participating in a Postcard Design Contest. This is offered to 3rd grade students only around the State of Arizona to let you show us what you have learned about Arizona in social studies and use your creativity to create a work of art.
This is an old postcard. Front of card below. Back of postcard to the right. Be prepared to share what you notice.
After looking at the postcard what did you notice?

As a group write down everything you noticed about the front of the postcard. Now what did you notice about the back of the postcard?

Postcards were very popular around the time that Arizona became a state. You will see various kinds of postcards with different types of fronts in this powerpoint. The backside of a postcard is where a person would write a short message (they would be the sender) and mail it to the person they wanted to get it delivered by a mailman in the mail (the recipient).

You will have opportunities to learn more about postcards. You are already learning about Arizona in your class and you will be creating a front to a postcard that you think represents Arizona. Your artwork can be anything that you feel says…THIS IS ARIZONA! It could be anything from prehistoric times to present day. It may show one of the many cultures here in Arizona or highlight one of the 22 Indian nations here in Arizona. Your postcard may represent one of the 5 Cs (Cotton, Cattle, Citrus, Climate or Copper).
Your postcard may show Arizona’s state flag, bird, state fossil, state gemstone, state flower, state stamp, state mammal. It may showcase one of many amazing places here in Arizona like the Grand Canyon, Colorado River, or our state capitol. You may want to share the many types of things you can do around here in Arizona.

You may want to focus science in Arizona like water conservation, what types of foods grow here, or maybe a little bit about our climate.

We have many fun things to do here in Arizona, what could someone see or do if they came to visit Arizona?

You have learned a lot about Arizona as a 3rd grader so be creative!
Lessons and Activities

Your teacher has activities, lessons, and a reading assignment to help you develop a really good idea of what a postcard is, when it was invented, what it did to help people communicate, and why postcards were important around the time that Arizona became a state.

The lessons and activities are designed to get you thinking about what your artwork will show people that may have never been to Arizona what it is like, what we can do, where we can go, what we see here in Arizona.

If your artwork is selected, you can win your class a PIZZA PARTY! You will also receive prizes and your artwork will be showcased in a set of postcards that will be sold at our museums! Look carefully at the next few slides. They are old postcards that were actually sent in the mail to people around the time that Arizona became a state. What type of stories about Arizona were they telling?
Sample Postcard
Sample Postcard
Sample Postcard

The Round-Up
Sample Postcard
Sample Postcard

THE KISS OF THE WAVE
Sample Postcard

Sedona

CATHEDRAL ROCK
Resources and Support for this project:

The postcards used for this presentation are Postcards which represent Arizona subjects or were posted from Arizona post offices up until the year 1920. Also included were two modern postcards that can be purchased at one of our museums. They are a visual demonstration of how Arizona has changed since the territorial period and many of the cards show towns, buildings, and ways of life which no longer exist. Messages on the reverse of these postcards comment on the experiences of inhabitants and visitors, and as a whole, this collection demonstrates how the postal service provided a vital means of communication for those wanting to stay in touch with people "back home."

Resources:
Also many of the activities for this contest offered to help build a better understanding of Arizona to help has been made available to you by The Postal History Foundation
Contest Rules
(See complete list of rules on our website)

- Your postcard should be created by you. *No photos or graphics.* Student artwork.
- Create your postcard on an 8 ½” X 11” piece of white copier paper.
- Your teacher may send 5 entries per class.
- All submissions must be postmarked by February 6, 2023.
- If you can incorporate the Arizona Historical Society logo in your artwork, and it is selected, you will receive a BONUS prize.