



Jacksonville, Florida.

Florida

The story you are going to read takes place in the state of Florida, USA. About 21 million people live there. Florida is called “The Sunshine State” because the weather is warm and sunny all year. It is famous for its long beaches, aquariums, theme parks and national parks.



track 02



The city of Tallahassee is the capital of Florida, but the largest city is Jacksonville. Other interesting cities are Miami, Tampa, St. Petersburg and Orlando. St. Augustine is the oldest city in Florida and in the United States.

Florida is a beautiful peninsula with water on three sides.

Cape Florida Lighthouse.

The Atlantic Ocean is on the east coast, and the Gulf of Mexico is on the south and west coast.

The city of Orlando is famous for its wonderful theme parks, aquariums and the Walt Disney World Resort. Millions of tourists visit Orlando every year.

Juan Ponce de León was the first European explorer to land in Florida on April 2, 1513. He called this new land Florida because it means “land of flowers” in Spanish.

State flag:			
State animal:	alligator		
State bird:	northern mockingbird		
State salt water mammal:	porpoise		
State flower:	orange blossom		

1 COMPREHENSION CHECK

Answer the following questions.

- 1 How many people live in Florida?
- 2 Why is Florida called “The Sunshine State”?
- 3 What city is the capital of Florida?
- 4 Why is the city of St. Augustine important?
- 5 Why is the city of Orlando famous?
- 6 Who was Juan Ponce de León?