

Name _____

California Unveiled: Discovering the Golden State's Surprises

Short Answer Key

1. The Hollywood sign was originally erected as a real estate advertisement in the 1920s, reading "Hollywoodland." Over time, it became a symbol of the entertainment industry and was restored to its current form.
2. California earned its nickname, the "Golden State," during the Gold Rush of the 1800s when gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill. Prospectors from all over the world flocked to California in search of their fortunes.
3. The coast redwoods in Redwood National and State Parks are extraordinary due to their status as the tallest trees on Earth, with some exceeding 370 feet in height. They contribute to California's natural beauty by providing awe-inspiring landscapes and preserving ancient ecosystems.
4. Badwater Basin in Death Valley National Park is located at the lowest point in North America, sitting 282 feet below sea level. It is unique due to its extreme salt flats and being one of the hottest places on Earth.
5. Surfing made its way to California when Hawaiian princes introduced it in the late 1800s. Santa Cruz is considered the birthplace of mainland surfing in the United States due to its early adoption of the sport and ideal surfing conditions.

