



# Hello, Nevada!

A story-based geography unit

Please enjoy these sample pages from *Hello, Nevada*. Included in this sample, you'll find an excerpt of one of Thaddeus's journal entries, an activity sheet, and a reflection sheet.

STARRING  
THADDEUS

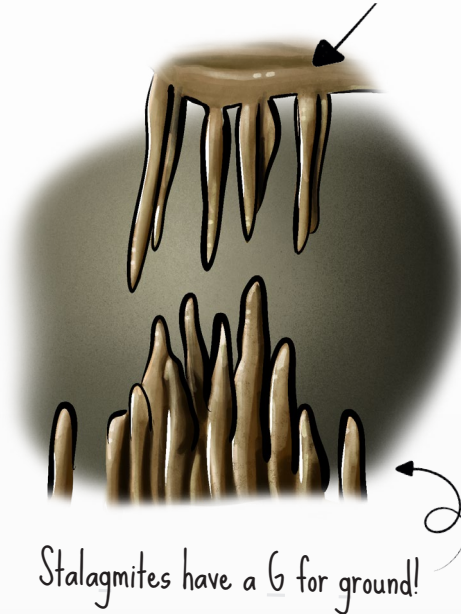


wildflowers. Even higher beyond the **treeline** we came nose to nose with bighorn sheep and mountain goats clacking on the rocks. How incredible it was to witness all those changing habitats as we climbed toward the sky!

★★★★

**11:00 a.m.** — Meow, I'm *UNDER THE GROUND*! That's right—we descended from the heights of a mountain trail to the depths of the ancient **Lehman Caves**. Craybella loves the cool, damp air and the scent of earth and minerals, and I love the dazzling maze of limestone passageways, not to mention the shimmering **stalactites** and **stalagmites**. Right now I am writing to you from beneath the **Parachute Shield**, a circular formation that hangs from the ceiling like a delicate umbrella. We saw a big-eared bat and some cave crickets, too!

Here's an easy way to remember which is which... stalactites have a C for ceiling!



Compared to the hot, dry air above, these cool caves are like being on the inside of an air conditioner. But it's time to leave this magical place because Craybella is jangling her climbing gear at me. That can only mean one thing ...

★★★★

**5:00 p.m.** — What a trek, Meow! After cruising thousands of feet up a scenic road and looking out over a sea of sagebrush on the desert flats below, we arrived at the base of **Wheeler Peak**, the highest mountain in the Snake Range. Craybella led the way as we continued our journey on foot, the air growing thinner and colder as we rose above the clouds—yes, I was walking on a cloud! When we reached the summit at 13,065 feet (3,982 meters) above sea level, I perched on a ledge and surveyed the astonishing landscape of valleys, forests, and the **Wheeler Cirque Glacier**, the last glacier in the state. With the cold wind ruffling my fur, I puffed out my chest and felt like the king of the world!



## ? Did You Know?

The caves in Great Basin National Park are home to several species that only exist in these caves. Life forms that spend their entire life cycle in caves are called **troglobites** and include cave crickets, cave springtails, harvestman spiders, and the Great Basin Pseudoscorpion. This cool “false scorpion” doesn’t have a stinging tail. Troglobites are able to thrive in dark cave environments due to their unique traits such as the absence of eyes, loss of pigment, and longer appendages. These characteristics help them navigate and thrive in environments where light is limited and touch is crucial for survival.

## ★ DAY 1 ACTIVITY — THE ANIMALS OF NEVADA

### INSTRUCTIONS

If you haven't done so already, print pages 17-18 back-to-back.

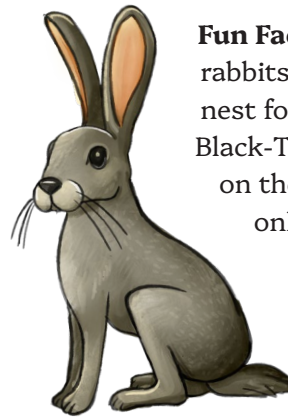
1. Cut out the booklet along the dotted lines.
2. Put the pages in order and staple where indicated to create a booklet.
3. Read through the booklet and discuss the animals and information with your student.

# The Animals of Nevada



## BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT

Here's something surprising about the Black-Tailed Jackrabbit: it isn't a rabbit at all! The Black-Tailed Jackrabbit is actually a hare. And it's **FAST**—it can reach speeds of over 30 MPH when frightened.



**Fun Fact:** Unlike baby rabbits, which stay in their nest for a few weeks, baby Black-Tailed Jackrabbits are on the go when they're only a few days old.

3

## DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

The Desert Bighorn Sheep is the state mammal of Nevada and feels right at home on mountainous terrain. As you might guess from their name, Desert Bighorn

Sheep have horns, which can be *very* heavy!

Both male and female Desert Bighorn Sheep have horns.



5

## BOBCAT

Bobcats are named for their short “bobbed” tails. These wild felines love the varied terrain of Nevada and are attracted to rocky areas as well as grasslands and forests. They are mostly *nocturnal*, which means that they are most active at night.



7

## ★ DAY 2 REFLECTIONS

### SPEAKING

Thaddeus is dazzled by the night sky in the Great Basin. Can you see a lot of stars where you live? Have you ever been to an observatory or looked through a telescope? Describe your experiences in observing the night sky.

### LISTENING AND COMPREHENSION

1. Name some of the animals Thaddeus meets in the Great Basin. Where in the park do these animals live?
2. Thaddeus thinks about the history the bristlecone pines have seen. Can you name something that happened in history during the lifetime of these old trees?
3. Thaddeus says he feels like the “king of the world” at the top of Wheeler Peak. What does Thaddeus mean by this? Why do you think he feels that way?

### WRITING

A *lune* poem is a three-line poem that is a simple observation. It is formed like this:

**Title/Topic**  
**Line 1:** 3 words  
**Line 2:** 5 words  
**Line 3:** 3 words

*Lune* means *moon*. The poem is called a lune because the shape of the finished poem is like a moon.

#### Example

**Marmot**  
 erect, eyes wide,  
 whistles through long front teeth  
 alerting to danger

Write one or more *lune poems* about things Thaddeus sees in the Great Basin. Choose from the topics below or find a different topic in the journal entry. Read the example to see how it's done.

**caves**  
**creek**

**stars**  
**bristlecone pine**

**long-eared bat**  
**glacier**

**trail**  
**meadow**

**mountain**  
**lake**

(Topic / Title)

(Topic / Title)



# STORYLARK ROAD



## Did you enjoy this sample?

Here at Storylark Road, we believe that the power of storytelling makes learning fun and memorable. That's why we've made it our mission to help you enrich your child's education through story-based learning that brings knowledge to life.

If you and your student would like to continue Thaddeus's journey through the beautiful state of Nevada be sure to check out the complete *Hello, Nevada!* unit with over 30 pages of educational fun that makes geography exciting and memorable.

Ready to purchase the full unit and unlock all of Thaddeus's Nevada adventures?

[Click Here to Purchase!](#)

## What's Coming in 2024

- United States geography enrichment units
- early reader books for emerging readers
- fun freebie activity packs
- and more!



**STORYLARK ROAD**  
where story-based learning lives

### Keep in Touch!



[contact@storylarkroad.com](mailto:contact@storylarkroad.com)



[facebook.com/storylarkroad](https://facebook.com/storylarkroad)



[instagram.com/storylarkroad](https://instagram.com/storylarkroad)

**StorylarkRoad.com**