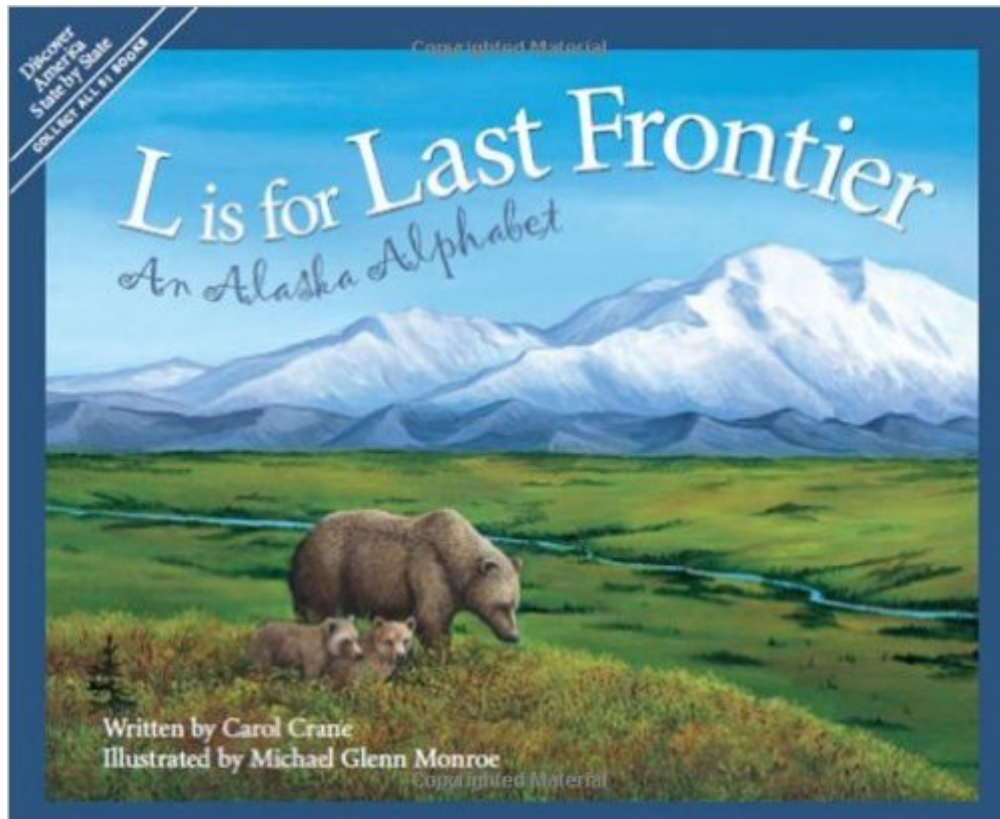


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L Is For Last Frontier: An Alaska Alphabet (Discover America State By State)



Synopsis

Unrivaled by any other state for sheer size, Alaska is a land of mystery and wonder to many Americans. Bordered by water on three sides, it remains a remote and last frontier...until now. *L is for Last Frontier*: an alphabet book written by Carol Crane, takes readers on an informative adventure through the "land of the midnight sun." Lecturer and book reviewer Carol Crane was recently described as "A walking, talking bibliography of children's books." Her twenty-five years in children's literature supply the essential experience to bring Alaska's vast wildlife and culture to children. Alaska's sheer size lends to its diversity, but Carol Crane employs a two-tiered approach and produces a seamless sampling of the state's culture and wildlife. Each letter of the alphabet is represented by a rhyme for younger readers: T is for Tundra, a treeless arctic plain. Short warm summers, in winter, a frozen terrain. On the same page, older students can read the sidebar text to gain a richer understanding of the same topic. About the Author: Carol Crane advocates education through reading. She travels extensively and speaks at state reading conventions across the United States. Her thematic approach to learning has been widely accepted and successfully used by many reading teachers. Eight years ago, she founded "Bed, Breakfast and Books," a summer institute for teachers and media specialists across the country. *L is for Last Frontier* is Carol's 4th book with Sleeping Bear Press. She lives with her husband, Conrad, in Bradenton, Florida. About the Illustrator: Renowned wildlife artist Michael Monroe was the winner of the 1997 Michigan Duck Stamp award.

Book Information

Series: Discover America State by State

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Writer Carol Crane and illustrator Michael Glenn Monroe produced a fabulous alphabet book of Alaska in the Discover America State by State Alphabet Series. As school librarian, I feel compelled now to get the entire set if all are as good as this one. One of our teachers requested this book for an Alaska unit and we are both delighted! The book is set up for two age groups: little ones, 4-8, with a little verse and beautiful illustrations that demonstrate the verse; and older children, 9-12, with the sidebars for more information pertaining to each letter and topic. "A is for Alaska Natives remembering their ancestor's way. Fishing, trapping, hunting, and whaling, living on a great land today." The double page spread shows two Natives, standing on ice floes, catching fish with spears. The side bars tell us that they have creation stories, what they make their canoes, spears, clothing out of. We learn about their artistic style, totem poles, spiritual symbols, and celebrations. Alaska is home to all three bears that live in the United States: brown/grizzly, black, and polar. Cranberries grow wild in Alaska!! That was a shocker!! The Alaska flag was created through a contest won by a 13-year-old Native American boy. Alaska has glaciers, King Salmon which can find their way to exactly the place they were born to lay/fertilize eggs and die, that Northern Lights are a "shimmering night time show," and that Ptarmigan (birds) can dive into the snow and be warm, cozy, and safe from enemies. Even though the tundra is full of life, it is a frozen terrain in the winter and considered a "cold desert." Another shocker is the size of vegetables that grow during growing season.

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