9200-8000 BC Clovis culture
9100-8000 BC Sandia & Folsom cultures
8000-4500 BC Plano culture
5000-1000 BC Archaic culture
200 BC - 700 AD Hopewell mound builders
650-1400 Mississippian-Cahokia builders
1000-1002 Leif Eriksson explores
1492-1504 Christopher Columbus explores
1497-1498 John Cabot explores east coast
1513 Vasco Nunez de Balboa explores Panama
1513 Juan Ponce de Leon explores Florida
1519-1521 Hernan Cortez conquers Aztecs
1534-1542 Jacques Cartier explores Canada
1539-1543 Hernando de Soto explores southeast
1540-1542 Francisco de Coronado explores
1578-1579 Francis Drake explores west coast
1584-1587 Sir Walter Raleigh explores Carolina
1607 John Smith founds Jamestown
1609 Henry Hudson explores Hudson River
1620 Pilgrims settle Plymouth under Mayflower Compact
1634 Jean Nicolet explores Lake Michigan
1664 British troops seized New Netherland (NY)
1673 Marquette & Joliet explore Wisconsin
1679-1680 Daniel Duluth explores Minnesota
1680 Louis Hennepin explores Minnesota
1692 Salem witchcraft trials
1732 Benjamin Franklin publishes Poor Richard’s Almanack

1750
1752 Franklin flies kite during storm
1754-1763 French and Indian War

1760
1765 Stamp Act
1766-1768 Jonathan Carver explores MN
1767-1775 Daniel Boone explores Kentucky

1770
1770 Boston Massacre
1773 Boston Tea Party
1775 Midnight ride of William Dawes & Paul Revere
1775 Battle of Bunker Hill (actually Breed’s Hill)
1775-1782 American Revolutionary War
1776 Declaration of Independence
1776 General Washington crosses Delaware River
1777 Continental Congress adopts Stars & Stripes
1778 France signs treaty to aid U.S.

1780
1783 Noah Webster publishes Spelling Book
1787 Shay’s Rebellion
1787 Constitutional Convention meets
1787 John Fitch invents steamboat
1789 U.S. Constitution in effect
1789 George Washington 1st president under the Constitution
1790

- 1791 Bill of Rights adopted
- 1792 U.S. Mint established
- 1793 Eli Whitney invents cotton gin
- 1794 Whiskey Rebellion
- 1798 Alien & Sedition Act passed

1800

- 1800 Federal government moved to Washington DC
- 1801-1805 Tripoli War
- 1803 Louisiana Purchase a third of U.S. from France
- 1804 Aaron Burr shot Alexander Hamilton
- 1804-1806 Lewis, Clark, & Sacagawea explore northwest
- 1806 Noah Webster publishes Webster Dictionary
- 1807 Embargo Act bans trade with foreign countries

1801-1812 New Madrid, MO earthquakes
1812-1815 War of 1812
1814 Francis Scott Key wrote Star Spangled Banner
1816 year without summer
1819 Spain ceded Florida to U.S.

1820

- 1820 Missouri Compromise passed
- 1823 Monroe Doctrine established
- 1825 Erie Canal opened

1831 Nat Turner's rebellion
1831 Joseph Henry invents telegraph
1832 Black Hawk War
1836 Texans besieged at the Alamo
1838 Cherokee Trail of Tears march
1838 Samuel Morse invents Morse code
1840
- Wagon trails head to California
- Texas admitted into the union
- Mexican-American War
- Mormons settle in Utah
- California gold rush

1850
- Pony Express service starts & ends
- Transcontinental telegraph service begins
- Civil War
- Homestead Act
- Emancipation Proclamation
- USS Monitor & CSS Merimack ironclads
- Sand Creek massacre of Cheyenne & Arapaho
- President Lincoln assassinated
- Alaska bought from Russia
- Transcontinental railroad completed

1860
- Moby Dick by Herman Melville published
- New York Times newspaper begins
- San Francisco fire
- University of Minnesota founded
- Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe published
- Walden by Henry David Thoreau published
- Dred Scott decision - slaves did not become free in a free state
- First Atlantic cable completed
- Minnesota enters the union
- John Brown seized Harper's Ferry armory

1870
- Chicago fire
- Boston fire
- Yellowstone is 1st national park
- Levi's jeans invented
- Bell telephone begins
- Custer killed at Battle of Little Big Horn
- Heinz Ketchup begins
- Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain published
- Thomas Edison starts electric company

1880
- Electric power station
- Coca-cola invented
- Geronimo surrendered
- Haymarket Riot in Chicago
- Sears started in MN
- Statue of Liberty dedicated
- Eastman invents consumer camera
- Johnson, PA flood kills 2,200