

Name _____ Date _____

Alcatraz



Alcatraz is located on Alcatraz island off the coast of San Francisco, California. It was a prison used from 1934 - 1963. Some of the most dangerous prisoners were housed there. Alcatraz was nicknamed, "The Rock" because no one was able to escape from

Alcatraz. There were more than a dozen attempts to escape from Alcatraz but none were successful. The criminals were so dangerous that there was one guard for every three prisoners. Each prisoner had their own cell. In 1963, the prison closed its doors. The salt water from San Francisco Bay began to make the buildings crumble. It was also very expensive to operate. All of the food and supplies had to be shipped in which was very expensive. Since it was more expensive to operate Alcatraz than other prisons, they closed the prison. In 1972, Alcatraz became a part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. A year later Alcatraz island opened to the public as a museum. Now there are more than one million tourists that visit the island every year.

1. What is Alcatraz?

- a. It was a hotel.
- b. It was a prison.
- c. It was a bridge.
- d. It was a house.

2. Where is Alcatraz?

- a. It is in Boston.
- b. It is in Golden Gate.
- c. It is in the National Recreation Area.
- d. It is off the coast of San Francisco.

3. Have any prisoners escaped from Alcatraz?

- a. Yes, a few prisoners escaped.
- b. No, prisoners have never escaped.

4. When did the prison close?

- a. It closed in 1972.
- b. It closed in 1934.
- c. It closed in 1963.
- d. It closed in 1988.

5. How many tourists visit Alcatraz every year?

- a. More than 1,000 people visit the island.
- b. More than 10,000 people visit the island.
- c. More than 100,000 people visit the island.
- d. More than 1,000,000 people visit the island.