

Comparing and Contrasting Louisiana and Arkansas

Name: _____

Louisiana

Louisiana, nicknamed the Pelican State, is located in the Southeastern United States, along the Gulf of Mexico. Not surprisingly, its state bird is the brown pelican. Louisiana is bordered by Texas, Mississippi, and Arkansas. The Mississippi River forms much of the eastern border of the state and flows out through the Louisiana to the Gulf of Mexico. Louisiana is well known for its many bayous - swampy outlets near lake and rivers filled with trees. Louisiana became America's 18th state on April 30, 1812. It was part of a huge parcel of land known as the Louisiana Territory, which was purchased from France in 1803. Its capital is Baton Rouge and its largest city is New Orleans. The historic city of New Orleans is famous for its Mardi Gras celebrations and French atmosphere. It is also considered the birthplace of jazz in America.

Arkansas

Arkansas, located in the southeastern portion of the United States, became America's 25th state on June 15, 1836. It borders Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Tennessee. Its entire eastern border is formed by the Mississippi River. Another large river, the Arkansas River, flows through the state capital of Little Rock. Little Rock is also the largest city in Arkansas. People from across the nation come to Hot Springs National Park. For centuries, people believed the natural springs could cure ailments. While much of Arkansas is considered plains and delta, northern and northwestern Arkansas feature low mountain ranges known as the Ozark Plateau and the Ouachita Mountains. The state bird of Arkansas is the Mockingbird.

Which facts belong in each category?

State bird is the mockingbird

Located along the Gulf of Mexico

Borders Texas

Became a state first

Borders another country

Capital is Little Rock

The Mississippi River flows through

Borders more states

Has mountains and hills

Its capital and largest city are different

Louisiana

Both

Arkansas

Neither

Answers:

Louisiana

Located along the Gulf of Mexico
Became a state first
Capital and largest city are different

Both

Borders Texas
The Mississippi River flows through

Arkansas

State bird is the mockingbird
Capital is Little Rock
Has mountains and hills
Borders more states

Neither

Borders another country