

Comparing and Contrasting Illinois and Indiana

Name: _____

Illinois

Located in the Midwestern United States, Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln because Abraham Lincoln made the state capital, Springfield, his home for many years before he was president. Illinois became America's 21st state on December 3, 1818. It borders Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Kentucky. Its northeast coast borders Lake Michigan, making it one of the Great Lakes states as well. Illinois is largely grasslands and prairies. The Mississippi River forms its eastern border and the Ohio River forms its southern border. Chicago is the largest city in Illinois and the third largest city in the entire country. It is nicknamed the "Windy City" because of the harsh winds that form off of Lake Michigan and streak through the city in winter. Chicago's Sears Tower was once the tallest building in the world. With over 12.5 million people, Illinois is the nation's sixth largest state by population. Its state bird, the cardinal, is also the state bird of six other states.

Indiana

Indiana became America's 19th state on December 11, 1816. It is nicknamed the Hoosier State. The origin of the word "Hoosier" remains unknown, but today it refers to a citizen of Indiana and has been in use since as early as 1833. Indiana is located in the Midwestern United States and borders Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and Kentucky. Its northwestern coast borders Lake Michigan, thus, making it one of the Great Lakes states as well. The Ohio River forms its southern border between it and Kentucky. Its land is mostly rolling hills, farms, and grasslands. The state capital and largest city is Indianapolis - home of the Indianapolis 500 - one of the most important car racing events in the world. Over 6.8 million people live in Indiana, making it the nation's 17th most populous state. Its state bird is the cardinal.

Which facts belong in each category?

Once had the world's tallest building

Home of one of the most important car races

A Great Lakes state

Borders Missouri

The cardinal is the state bird

Located in the Midwestern United States

Its capital and largest city are the same

Has more people

Borders another country

Was a state first

Illinois

Both

Indiana

Neither

Answers:

Illinois

**Once had the world's tallest building
Borders Missouri
Has more people**

Both

**A Great Lakes state
The cardinal is the state bird
Located in the Midwestern United States**

Indiana

**Home to one of the most important car races
Its capital and largest city are the same
Became a state first**

Neither

Borders another country