

Comparing and Contrasting Delaware and Pennsylvania

Name: _____

Delaware

Delaware, one of America's original 13 colonies, became America's first state on December 7, 1787. Hence, its nickname is simply the First State. It became the first state when it ratified, or accepted, the United States Constitution. Delaware is located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States, entirely within the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Its capital is Dover and its largest city is Wilmington. Delaware's land is mostly flat. Its east coast has many wetlands and popular beaches. Delaware is the second smallest state in America in terms of area, and fifth smallest in terms of population. There are less than a million people who live in Delaware. It borders three states: Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Delaware and New Jersey are separated by the wide Delaware River.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, one of the original 13 colonies, became America's second state on December 12, 1787. At the time, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was the capital of the United States. Millions of people flock to Philadelphia every year to see Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Independence Hall was the site of the drafting of both the Declaration of independence and the United States Constitution, two of the most important documents in American history. Gettysburg National Park, located in southern Pennsylvania, was the site of the largest battle ever fought on American soil. The majority of Pennsylvania is covered by the Appalachian Mountains and foothills. Pennsylvania is the only state in the Mid-Atlantic region without beaches. It borders five states: New York, New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia, and Ohio. Pennsylvania's capital is Harrisburg and Philadelphia is its largest city. The city of Pittsburgh is located in western Pennsylvania, where the Ohio River is formed. Nearly thirteen million people live in Pennsylvania, making it the fifth most populous state in America.

Which facts belong in each category?

Wilmington is its largest city
Was a state first
Has popular beaches
Has mountains
Has more people
Has important historical sites
One of the original 13 colonies
Borders New Jersey
Became a state in 1787
Is located in the southern United States

Delaware
Both
Pennsylvania
Neither

Answers:

Delaware

Wilmington is its largest city
Became a state first
Has popular beaches

Both

One of the original 13 colonies
Borders New Jersey
Became a state in 1787

Pennsylvania

Has mountains
Has more people
Has important historical sites

Neither

Is located in the southern United States