

## **Comparing and Contrasting Arizona and New Mexico**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Arizona**

Arizona, located in the southwestern portion of the United States, became a state on February 14, 1912. It was America's 48<sup>th</sup> state! It is one of the four corner states, and shares borders with California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado. It shares its southern border with Mexico. Arizona's capital and largest city is Phoenix, which has more than two million people. Arizona is home to the Grand Canyon, which is one of the nation's most popular natural attractions. The Grand Canyon was carved by the ancient Colorado River, which flows through the northern part of Arizona. Much of southern Arizona is covered by the Sonoran Desert, which includes groves of giant Saguaro cacti!

### **New Mexico**

New Mexico is located in the southwestern part of the United States. It became America's 47<sup>th</sup> state on January 6, 1912. New Mexico borders Texas, Oklahoma, and Arizona. As one of the four corner states, it also borders Utah and Colorado. It shares its southern border with Mexico. New Mexico's largest city is Albuquerque and its capital is Santa Fe. Santa Fe is one of the oldest cities in America. Much of New Mexico is covered by desert. The Rio Grande, the nation's fourth longest river, flows through the center of New Mexico. New Mexico is home to Carlsbad Caverns National Park, one of the largest cave systems in the world.

Which facts belong in each category?

<b>Borders Mexico</b>
<b>Borders California</b>
<b>Is one of the four corner states</b>
<b>Is home to the Grand Canyon</b>
<b>Its capital and largest city are the same</b>
<b>Has deserts</b>
<b>Is a southwestern state</b>
<b>Was a state first!</b>
<b>The Rio Grande flows through</b>

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>New Mexico</b>

**Answers:**

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>New Mexico</b>
<b>Its capital and largest city are the same</b>	<b>Borders Mexico</b>	<b>Was a state first!</b>
<b>Borders California</b>	<b>Is one of the four corner states</b>	<b>The Rio Grande flows through</b>
	<b>Has deserts</b>	
	<b>Is a southwestern state</b>	