

## **Comparing and Contrasting Colorado and Arizona**

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

### **Colorado**

California, located in the western United States, became America's 38th state on August 1st, 1876. Because it became a state on America's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday year, it is nicknamed the Centennial State. It is also called the Rocky Mountain State. Nearly six million people live in Colorado. Colorado, which is shaped like a rectangle, borders Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Kansas. It is one of the Four Corner States. Its capital and largest city is Denver. Two great American landforms converge in Colorado: The Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. The eastern part of Colorado is made up mostly of plains and grasslands, whereas central and western Colorado feature the towering Rocky Mountain Range. Southwestern Colorado is mostly desert. Colorado is famous for its many ski resort towns including Vail, Aspen, and Breckenridge.

### **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 now has almost seven 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!

Which facts belong in each category?

<b>Borders Wyoming</b>
<b>Located in the southwestern United States</b>
<b>Has more people</b>
<b>Became a state first</b>
<b>Has famous ski resort towns</b>
<b>Has the Grand Canyon</b>
<b>The capital city and the largest city are different</b>
<b>Borders Mexico</b>
<b>Has two nicknames</b>
<b>Is one of the four corner states</b>

<b>Colorado</b>
<b>Both</b>
<b>Arizona</b>
<b>Neither</b>

**Answers:**

**Colorado**

**Borders Wyoming**  
**Became s state first**  
**Has famous ski resort towns**  
**Has two nicknames**

**Both**

**Is one of the four corner states**

**Arizona**

**Located in the southwestern United States**  
**Has more people**  
**Has the Grand Canyon**  
**Borders Mexico**

**Neither**

**The capital and largest city are different**