

## Comparing and Contrasting Idaho and Montana

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

### Idaho

Located in the western United States, Idaho is the nation's 14<sup>th</sup> largest state. It borders six other states: Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Oregon, and Washington. It borders Canada to the north. Idaho became America's 43<sup>rd</sup> state on July 3, 1890. It is nicknamed the Gem State but is sometimes called the Panhandle State. A panhandle is a narrow, rectangular strip of land that extends from the main part of a state into another. Idaho and Oklahoma are among states with panhandles. Idaho's capital and largest city is Boise. Idaho, however, is probably best known for its potatoes. The state is responsible for about a third of all potatoes produced in America. Much of Idaho is dominated by the Rocky Mountains, although a small part of southwestern Idaho is classified as desert. Idaho is home to about 1.7 million people. The mountain bluebird is its state bird.

### Montana

Montana, nicknamed the Big Sky State, is America's 4<sup>th</sup> largest state. It is located in the western United States and borders North and South Dakota, Wyoming, and Idaho. It borders Canada to the north. Montana became America's 41<sup>st</sup> state on November 8, 1889. It recently passed one million people for the first time in its history. While eastern Montana features prairies and badlands, western Montana is dominated by the Rocky Mountains. Montana's Glacier National Park is one of its most popular tourist attractions. A small portion of Yellowstone National Park, which is mostly in Wyoming, spills into Montana as well. Montana, and five other states, honor the western meadowlark as state birds.

Which facts belong in each category?

<b>Has more than one million people</b>
<b>Became a state first</b>
<b>Is known for potatoes</b>
<b>Has a national park</b>
<b>Has more people</b>
<b>Has beaches</b>
<b>Borders Washington</b>
<b>Has more people</b>
<b>Borders Canada</b>
<b>Borders more states</b>

<b>Idaho</b>
<b>Both</b>
<b>Montana</b>
<b>Neither</b>

**Answers:**

**Idaho**

**Is known for potatoes**

**Has more people**

**Borders Washington**

**Has more people**

**Borders more states**

**Both**

**Has more than one million people**

**Borders Canada**

**Montana**

**Became a state first**

**Has a national park**

**Neither**

**Has beaches**