

Comparing and Contrasting Kansas and Nebraska

Name: _____

Kansas

Kansas, located in the Great Plains section of the Midwestern United States, became the 34th state on January 29, 1861. It was the last state admitted before the Civil War. Kansas borders four states: Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Colorado. It is known as the Sunflower State. The Missouri River forms part of its border with Missouri, and the Arkansas River flows through the center and western parts of the state. Topeka is the capital of Kansas and Wichita is its largest city. Kansas is well-known as the setting for the timeless class *The Wizard of Oz*, and is in the center of what is known as Tornado Alley, a region of the United States that is prone to powerful tornadoes. The western meadowlark is the state bird of Kansas.

Nebraska

Known as the Cornhusker State, Nebraska is located in center of the Great Plains, a region of the United States characterized by few trees, grasslands, prairies, dry weather, and powerful storms. As its nickname implies, Nebraska is famous for its productive farmlands and corn production. Nebraska became America's 37th state on March 1, 1867. It borders five states: Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, South Dakota, and Wyoming. The Missouri River forms its border with Kansas and the Platte River flows through the center of the state. Its capital, Lincoln, is named after America's 16th president, Abraham Lincoln. Its largest city is Omaha. Nebraska's state bird is the western meadowlark.

Which facts belong in each category?

Located in the Great Plains
Capital is named after a president
Omaha is the largest city
Became a state first
State bird is the western meadowlark
Borders another country
At least one of its borders is formed by the Missouri River
Borders more states
<i>The Wizard of Oz</i> took place here
Famous for its production of corn

Kansas
Both
Nebraska
Neither

Answers:

Kansas

Became a state first

The Wizard of Oz took place here

Both

Located in the Great Plains

State bird is the western meadowlark

At least one of its borders is formed by the Missouri River

Nebraska

Capital is named after a president

Omaha is the largest city

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Neither

Borders another country