

## Comparing and Contrasting Louisiana and Arkansas

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

### **Louisiana**

Louisiana, nicknamed the Pelican State, is located in Southeastern United States, along the Gulf of Mexico. Not surprisingly, its state bird is the brown pelican. Louisiana is bordered by Texas, Mississippi, and Arkansas. The Mississippi River forms much of the eastern border of the state and flows out through the Louisiana to the Gulf of Mexico. Louisiana is well known for its many bayous, swampy outlet nears lake and rivers filled with trees. Louisiana became America's 18<sup>th</sup> state on April 30, 1812. It was part of a huge parcel of land known as the Louisiana Territory, which was purchased from France in 1803. Its capital is Baton Rouge and its largest city is New Orleans. The historic city of New Orleans is famous for its Mardi Gras celebrations and French atmosphere. It is also considered the birthplace of jazz in America.

### **Arkansas**

Arkansas, located in the southeastern portion of the United States, became America's 25<sup>th</sup> state on June 15, 1836. It borders Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Tennessee. Its entire eastern border is formed by the Mississippi River. Another large river, the Arkansas River, flows through the state capital of Little Rock. Little Rock is also the largest city in Arkansas. People from across the nation come to Hot Springs National Park. For centuries, people believed the natural springs could cure ailments. While much of Arkansas is considered plains and delta, northern and northwestern Arkansas feature low mountain ranges known as the Ozark Plateau and the Ouachita Mountains. The state bird of Arkansas is the Mockingbird.

Which facts belong in each category?

<b>State bird is the mockingbird</b>
<b>Located along the Gulf of Mexico</b>
<b>Borders Texas</b>
<b>Became a state first</b>
<b>Borders another country</b>
<b>Capital is Little Rock</b>
<b>The Mississippi River flows through</b>
<b>Borders more states</b>
<b>Has mountains and hills</b>
<b>Its capital and largest city are different</b>

<b>Louisiana</b>
<b>Both</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>
<b>Neither</b>

**Answers:**

**Louisiana**

**Located along the Gulf of Mexico  
Became a state first  
Capital and largest city are different**

**Both**

**Borders Texas  
The Mississippi River flows through**

**Arkansas**

**State bird is the mockingbird  
Capital is Little Rock  
Has mountains and hills  
Borders more states**

**Neither**

**Borders another country**