

Comparing and Contrasting Kansas and Missouri

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 classic *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.

Missouri

Known as the Show-me State, Missouri is located in the Midwestern United States. It became America's 24th state on August 10, 1821. Missouri borders eight states: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky. The great Mississippi River forms the eastern border of Missouri. The Missouri River, the longest in America, is a large tributary of the Mississippi River that flows west through the state. Jefferson City is the capital of Missouri – named after America's third president, Thomas Jefferson. With a population approaching 500,000 people, Kansas City is the state's largest city. The Gateway Arch, a memorial to America's westward expansion is located in St. Louis, and is one of the state's most popular attractions. Most of northern and western Missouri are characterized by plains, whereas southern Missouri features hills, highlands, and the Ozark Plateau. The state bird of Missouri is the Eastern Bluebird.

Which facts belong in each category?

Its largest city is Wichita

Capital is named after a president

Part of the state is filled with hills and highlands

Nicknamed the Sunflower State

State bird is the western meadowlark

Borders Nebraska

The Missouri River flows through

Borders more states

Part of Tornado Alley

Became a state after the Civil War

Kansas

Both

Missouri

Neither

Answers:

Kansas

**Its largest city is Wichita
Nicknamed the Sunflower State
Part of Tornado Alley**

Both

**State bird is the western meadowlark
Borders Nebraska
The Missouri River flows through**

Missouri

**Capital is named after a president
Part of the state is filled with hills and highlands
Borders more states**

Neither

Became a state after the Civil War.