



# The Mini Page

**Next Week:**  
The Republican  
Convention

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Founded by Betty Debnam

## The Bayou State



photo by Pedro Szekely

Louisiana, our 31st-largest state, is bordered by Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. It is known for the Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans, the Mississippi River, its wetlands and seafood. More than 4.6 million people live in the state.

Robert de LaSalle, a French explorer, claimed the land drained by the Mississippi River for France in 1682, naming it "Louisiane" after King Louis XIV.

The state was a part of the Louisiana Purchase, western territory the U.S. bought from France in 1803 for \$15 million.



The Louisiana Purchase is shown in white.

French history is still strong there today, and French is the main language spoken in some regions of the state. More than 4.5% of the population speaks French.

Baton Rouge is Louisiana's capital. Its name means "red stick" in French. The capitol building is 450 feet high, the tallest capitol in the nation.

### Working in Louisiana

Louisiana is a top producer in the U.S. of salt, natural gas and petroleum. It is also a leader in crawfish, shrimp and oyster production. The top crop is soybeans.

Sugar is an important crop. The Domino Sugar refinery near New Orleans is the

largest in the country.

Tourism is important to the economy of Louisiana, bringing in about \$16.8 billion annually to the state.

### Living in Louisiana

The Bayou State has vibrant cities, prairies, woodlands and rivers. ("Bayou" comes from a Choctaw word meaning "river.") The Mississippi River, which continues to the Gulf of Mexico, was a major path of transportation until modern times. Today, the river is still used for moving manufactured and agricultural goods north and south.

New Orleans is the state's largest city and one of the busiest ports in the world. Its nicknames include "The Big Easy" and the "Cradle of Jazz."

Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday."



Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans.

It is a celebration filled with parades and balls. It attracts many visitors. Mardi Gras begins each year on the day before Ash Wednesday.

### Sports

The New Orleans Saints of the National Football League and the New Orleans Pelicans of the National Basketball Association draw many fans. The city has hosted the Super Bowl 10 times. It is scheduled to be played there again in 2025.

### Mini Fact:

The French Quarter in New Orleans is full of historic buildings, restaurants and jazz clubs.

### Famous Louisianans

• Actor and filmmaker **Tyler Perry** was born in New Orleans. He is famous for the films he has written about the character Madea, an older Black woman. He's also written books and plays.

• **Louis Armstrong** was a famous jazz cornet and trumpet player, singer and entertainer.

Armstrong was born in New Orleans on Aug. 4, 1901. He died in 1971.



Louis Armstrong

Armstrong moved to Chicago in 1922 and recorded his first solo in 1923. In 1926, he popularized a form of rhythmic singing without words called "scat singing." That was when he switched from playing the cornet to the trumpet.

• Former professional football quarterbacks **Peyton** and **Eli Manning** were born in New Orleans. Peyton played for the Indianapolis Colts and the Denver Broncos. Eli played for the New York Giants.

Along with their dad and brother Cooper, the Mannings run a five-day camp every summer to help offensive players improve their skills.

## Resources



### On the Web:

- [bit.ly/MPLouisiana](https://bit.ly/MPLouisiana)

### At the library:

- "Hello, My Name Is Louisiana Purchase O'Leary" by Jonathan Hickman
- "Boudreaux the Louisiana Mosquiteaux" by Stacy Bearden

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Louisiana are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ARMSTRONG, BATON ROUGE, BAYOU, FRENCH, GULF, JAZZ, LOUISIANA, MANNING, NEW ORLEANS, PERRY, PORT, PURCHASE, QUARTER, RIVER, SEAFOOD, SUPER BOWL, TOURISM, WETLANDS.

Z V E S A H C R U P W C Z K S  
Z D P O R T I T O U R I S M P  
A E B A Y O U M A N N I N G E  
J L W O B R E P U S C W X F R  
G N O R T S M R A R E V I R R  
F A Q K L O U I S I A N A E Y  
L U S J E G U O R N O T A B V  
U H C N E R F W E T L A N D S  
G K V Q C S N A E L R O W E N  
D O O F A E S O R E T R A U Q

## Cook's Corner

### Fried Shrimp Po-Boys

#### You'll need:

- 2 (8-ounce) packages frozen fried popcorn shrimp
- 1 loaf french bread

"Po-boys" are a popular type of sandwich in Louisiana. They can be made with any type of meat or fish.

- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 tomato, sliced
- 4 lettuce leaves



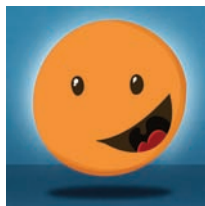
\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

#### What to do:

1. Cook shrimp in oven according to package directions.
2. Slice bread lengthwise and cut four pieces for sandwiches.
3. Divide 1 tablespoon of mayonnaise between the two sides of each sandwich.
4. Layer each with 1/4 of the shrimp, tomato slices and a lettuce leaf.
5. Fold and eat! Makes 4 po-boys.

## 7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



1. what a tree is made of (4) \_\_\_\_\_
2. striped horselike animal (5) \_\_\_\_\_
3. area under a house (6) \_\_\_\_\_
4. female child (8) \_\_\_\_\_
5. faithful (5) \_\_\_\_\_
6. symptom of a cold (5) \_\_\_\_\_
7. where sick people get help (8) \_\_\_\_\_

LOY	CEL	DA	OD
ZEB	COU	HOS	AL
TER	WO	GH	RA
LAR	PIT	UGH	AL

Answers: wood, zebra, cellar, cough, loyal, daughter, hospital.

## Mini Jokes



**Lily:** What's the quickest way to make soup taste really bad?  
**Lance:** Change the U to an A, and you'll have soap!

## Eco Note



Argentina's typically abundant corn crop is being ravaged by an invasion of leafhopper bugs, which are infesting fields that were once too cool for them to thrive. With climate change bringing less winter frost to curb their numbers and regular summertime heat waves for them to feed in, leafhopper populations in Argentina are now at 10 times the average level, according to agriculture experts. The hungry bugs are currently being found about 1,000 miles south of their traditional habitats.

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### For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles that mention Louisiana.

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