



The Mini Page

Next Week:
The Democratic Convention

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Founded by Betty Debnam

Racing to Indiana



photo by Joshua Cornelius

Indiana, a midwestern state, joined the Union in 1816 as our 19th state. The land was inhabited by native people for many centuries; the Shawnee, Miami, Illini and others were living in the area when Europeans arrived.



The Indiana flag

The first European to explore the area was probably Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle, in 1679. French fur traders were the first Europeans to settle in the area. The British claimed the area after the French and Indian Wars in 1763.

Indiana is known as the Hoosier State, a nickname that probably started with an 1833 poem by John Finley called "The Hoosier's Nest." Indiana adopted the nickname more than 150 years ago.

Indiana today

With about 6.7 million people, Indiana ranks 17th among the states in population. It is the 38th-largest state in area.

The capital, Indianapolis, is also the largest city. In the 20th century, Indiana became a leader in manufacturing, making automobiles and car parts, steel and pharmaceuticals. Farmers also raise corn, soybeans and egg-laying chickens.

Companies ship products through the Great Lakes' St. Lawrence Seaway and on the Ohio River.

The sporting life

Motorsports are huge in Indiana, the home of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Each year on Memorial Day, it hosts the Indianapolis 500, the largest single-day sporting event in the world.



Indiana's professional sports teams include:

- the NBA's Indiana Pacers
- the WNBA's Indiana Fever
- the NFL's Indianapolis Colts

Interestingly, more NBA players have come from Indiana, on average, than any other state.

Education

Indiana is home to many colleges and universities, including Indiana University, Purdue University, the University of Notre Dame and many technical and training schools.

Indiana Fact-a-Roonies

- Forests cover about 21% of the state.
- The Raggedy Ann Doll was first created in Indianapolis in 1914 by cartoonist Johnny Gruelle. He wrote stories about the doll for his daughter.
- The Indianapolis Zoo features thousands of animals such as tigers and elephants in cageless natural habitats.



Famous Hoosiers

• **William Henry Harrison**, who once was the governor of the Indiana Territory, was our ninth president. His grandson, **Benjamin Harrison**, was our 23rd president. He was born in Ohio but moved to Indiana to practice law. **Abraham Lincoln**, our 16th president, lived much of his childhood in the state.

• Pop artist **Michael Jackson** and his brothers and sisters were born in Gary, Indiana.

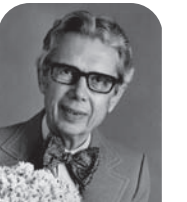


The Jackson 5 perform in 1972.

• **Charles "Chuck" Taylor**, born in Brown County, Indiana, in 1901, was a basketball player and worked for the Converse Rubber Shoe Co. He helped redesign and improve the basketball shoes that became known as Chuck Taylor All Stars, or "Chucks."



• **Orville Redenbacher** was an agricultural scientist whose hybrid popping corn was introduced in 1970 under his name. He was born in Brazil, Indiana. You can see a statue of him in Lincoln Park in Valparaiso, Indiana.



Orville Redenbacher

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPIndiana

At the library:

- "What's Great About Indiana?" by Candice Ransom
- "The Story of the Indiana Fever" by Jim Whiting

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Try 'n' Find

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



- BASKETBALL, CARS, CHUCK, EVENT, FORESTS, HARRISON, HOOSIER, INDIANA, JACKSON, LINCOLN, MIDWEST, POEM, POPCORN, RACING, RAGGEDY ANN, SPORTS, STEEL, ZOO.

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

Cook's Corner

Popcorn Pops

You'll need:

- 1 (3.3-ounce) microwave bag of popcorn, popped
- 1/2 stick butter
- 1/2 (16-ounce) bag large marshmallows

- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Popsicle or craft sticks



What to do:

1. Cook butter and marshmallows, covered, in microwave oven for 1 minute on low. Stir every 15 seconds.
2. Remove and then stir in the vanilla extract.
3. Pour mixture over popcorn. Stir until well-coated.
4. With buttered hands, form balls with popcorn mixture.
5. Stick a craft stick in each ball. Squeeze ball around the stick. Makes 8 popcorn pops.

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

1. Activities done for fun, exercise or competition (6-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

2. Traveling show with tents, clowns and trained animals (6-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

3. Things made from labor, growth or thought (8-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

4. Place where cars are driven fast in contests (8-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. _____ like car racing, basketball and football are popular.
2. The International _____ Hall of Fame is in Peru, Indiana.
3. Indiana has many food _____: eggs, pork and popcorn.
4. Every May, the Indy 500 runs at The Indianapolis _____.

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ROOTONYM®
by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Sports, Circus, Products, Speedway.

Mini Jokes



Isaac: What is Indiana Jones' least favorite band?
Iris: The Rolling Stones!

Eco Note



People in Italy within the highly populated caldera of an ancient supervolcano spent the night outdoors, in tents or in their cars after the strongest tremors on record jolted the volcanic area. Phlegraean Fields is located just west of Naples. The nearby city of Pozzuoli, home to more than 800,000 people, has seen the landscape changed during the past year by seismic activity brought on by magma flowing below. There have long been plans in place to swiftly evacuate the area should an eruption seem imminent.

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For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles about things happening in Indiana.

Teachers: Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



KidSpot™ by Dan Thompson

7-27

Fin words

The six words below contain a common word. Use the clues to complete the words.



1. To complete a task Fin _____
2. A type of small songbird Fin _____
3. A small cake _____ fin
4. A pointer on your hand Fin _____
5. A large black-and-white seabird _____ fin
6. Being very particular about something Fin _____

ANS: 1. FINISH, 2. FINCH, 3. FINCH, 4. FINGER, 5. PUFFIN, 6. FINICKY.

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