

## ***Student Atlas of Nebraska Scavenger Hunt-KEY***

Browse through your *Student Atlas of Nebraska* after skimming the Table of Contents on page ii. Decide where you might find useful information in each of these situations. Underline the key word(s) that helped you make your decision.

1. A family is going to canoe on the **Niobrara River** next summer. Where is this **river**?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 11 or 12 (northern/northwestern Nebraska)

2. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark **explored** part of Nebraska on their famous **journey** to the Pacific coast. In what part of our state did they **travel**?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 19 (east/northeastern Nebraska along the Missouri River)

3. Nebraska's nickname is the **Cornhusker** State. What part of the state grows most of this important **crop**?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 37 (eastern)

4. Some football fans say that Memorial Stadium becomes **Nebraska's third largest city** on football game days. What city is really the third largest in our state?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 48 (Bellevue)

5. Nebraska is far from the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. How many **states** actually **border** Nebraska?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 4 (6—South Dakota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming)

6. The Nebraska History Museum in Lincoln has an exhibit called "The First Nebraskans" that displays artifacts from several **Native American tribes**. **Tribes** in the eastern and western parts of Nebraska had different ways of life. What was one main difference?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 17 (Eastern tribes were typically farmers and western tribes were hunters/nomads.)

7. Most people in Nebraska have **relatives** who emigrated from countries in Europe. What is the most common **ancestry** claimed by Nebraskans?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 29 (German)

8. Many Nebraska Native American farming tribes built earth lodges from **thick grass and soil**, supported by several heavy **posts**. Early settlers in Nebraska often built their homes from **sod (layers of grass, roots, and soil)** instead of **logs**. Why did these early people use so little **wood** for their homes?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 14 (Nebraska was covered mostly by grasses and had only small areas of forest.)

9. Nebraska does not experience hurricanes like coastal states might. Instead **tornadoes** are a dangerous type of storm in this area. Where in Nebraska are **tornadoes** the most common?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 16 (eastern Nebraska)

10. We use a scale to weigh ourselves, food, packages, and other things. A different type of scale is used to **measure distance**. How might we find the **distance** across our state? What unit of **measurement** will we use?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 6 (Use the scale bar to find the distance in miles.)

11. When we think of degrees, we usually think of temperature. But, this word has other meanings. On a map, degrees can be used to measure distance and location with a grid of lines called **latitude and longitude**. Which lines of **latitude** mark most of the northern border and the entire southern border of Nebraska?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 5 (43° N, 40° N)

12. Nebraska is known as the **Cornhusker** State. However, **corn** is not the only important crop that grows here. What are two others?

Page \_\_\_\_\_ 38-40 (soybeans, wheat) AND/OR sugar beets, dry beans, popcorn

13. During some years in the 1950s and 1960s Nebraska's license plates used "The **Beef State**" as a motto, but it was not an official state nickname. However, **beef** comes from cattle, which are raised across the state. How could you find the number of cattle in your county?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 42 (Use the map key and find the size of the symbol for your county.)

14. The Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense **Highways** was created by an act signed in 1956. What part of this system crosses Nebraska?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 54 (I-80)

15. Nebraska has 93 counties but not every county has its own **legislator** (or lawmaker) known as a state senator. How many **legislative districts** are there? In what **district** do you live?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 52 (49-Answers will vary. Students living in the Omaha and Lincoln areas will not be able to determine their districts by using the map. Students may have to use the maps on pages 43, 49, or 50 to be able to locate their county and identify it on the Legislative Districts map.)

16. Many Nebraskans live in small **towns** across the state. About how many people live in Oshkosh, a **town** near the North Platte River?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 47 (Between 500-999 people) \*\*\*Students may need to use the map on page 11 to locate the North Platte River before finding Oshkosh.

17. How many **counties** in Nebraska have over 500,000 **people**?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 45 (one)

18. Sometimes it is difficult to compare the areas (amount of land) of states on a map because they look so similar, like Wyoming and Colorado. Many of Nebraska's **counties** also appear to be the same size and shape. But, Nebraska's largest **county** is easy to identify. What is it?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 43 (Cherry)

19. President Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act in 1862. This meant that the transcontinental **railroad** would be built so people could travel across the U.S. by **train**. What are some cities on the original route of the Union Pacific **railroad** across Nebraska?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 24 (Kimball, Sidney, North Platte, Kearney, Grand Island, Central City, Columbus, Fremont, Omaha)

20. The Mormon **Trail** and Oregon **Trail** crossed Nebraska on the opposite sides of what river?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 21 (Platte River, North Platte River)

21. One mile is equal to 5,280 feet. Name a place in Nebraska that is more than one mile **above sea level**.

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 7 (Panorama Point)

22. Water is an essential resource for plants and animals. Besides having rivers to provide water, Nebraska has a lot of **water beneath its surface**. How do we access this water?

Page\_\_\_\_\_ 13 (Wells are drilled into the aquifer.)

### **Level of Difficulty**

Easy 1, 3, 4, 9, 14, 17

Average 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

Difficult 8, 15, 16