

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

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?

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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?

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

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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?

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

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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?

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

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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?

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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?

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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?

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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?

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

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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 that are raised across the state. How could you find the number of cattle in your county?

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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?

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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?

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

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

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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?

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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?

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

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

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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?

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