I've been there and know that!

Middle School

La Traveler's

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The attached assignment is based on an idea I learned years ago. It has been modified to fit Louisiana history (you can modify it to fit your own needs). Divide the students into teams of 4-8. Let them sit on their desk, on the floor, or somewhere that is not normal for them but in small groups. They should have no books, no pencils, no maps, and no papers in front of them. It is a game of "team work". Have them select a "team spokesman" Tell them that you will only take an answer from the spokesman or you will move on to the next team. They only have _____ seconds to come up with the answer (use your judgment as to how much time to allow them). Then go around the room and begin asking a question. Each question is ONE POINT. Questions in the early going could range from the local state map or local area in which they live such as:

- Name the parish just south of Calcasieu
- Name the parish just north of Lafayette
- Name the parish just east of Caddo
- Name the parish just west of Evangeline
- What river divides Natchitoches and Winn parishes
- Cross Lake is in what parish
- Name four parishes along Louisiana western side
- Marsh Isand is in what parish
- Name the river on the southeast border of Louisiana
- Name the large lake on the western side of Louisiana
- Name the Refuge on the western side of Cameron parish
- Name the interstate that runs thru Madison parish
- Name the interstate that cuts through Tangipahoa parish
- Name four of Louisiana’s seven major cities

Come up with a list that should give every group two or three. These questions could be worth TWO points each. These questions are still from the state you are in or vicinity in which you live. Questions in the early going could range from:

- Name the four parishes that surround Jeff Davis parish
- Name the three parishes that surround Caddo parish
- Name the five parishes that surround Tangipahoa
- Name the two parishes that surround St. Bernard parish
- Name all five parishes along the 31st parallel
- Name all eight parishes along the 33rd parallel
- Name the six parishes around Lake Pontchartrain
- Name the parishes that Interstate 10 runs through
- Name the starting point and ending point of the Red River in Louisiana
- Name three parishes that you can find the Kisatchie National Forrest in
- Name the Natural Region in which the Atchafalaya flows through
- Jeff Davis parish is in what Natural region
- What states border Louisiana
Now that the questions move to outside the state, the questions will get even harder. These questions are now worth THREE points. Again come up with a list that should give each group two or three. Questions in this round should range from:

- Name the state that is to the southeast of Arkansas
- Name the state that is to the west of Colorado
- Name the four state that surround Texas
- Name the state just to the east of Washington state
- Name two sets of states that share a common name
- Name four of the five Great Lakes
- Name the smallest state in the United States
- The Mississippi River begins (forms) in what state
- Name the mountain range on both the east and west sides of the United States
- Name the three states that Michigan borders
- Which is farther west – Wyoming or Colorado
- Lake Ontario borders what state
- Spell “Arizona”
- Oklahoma borders what six states

When a team earns 20 points they will get a bonus round. In this round they may start getting extra credit points or a small bit of candy or whatever 'favor' you choose. Bonus round questions get much harder and take much more teamwork.

- Name the four states that border Mexico
- Name the border Canada
- Name the three states that border the Pacific Ocean
- Name the five states that border The Gulf of Mexico
- Name the states along the Missouri River
- Name the original 13 states
- What states border the Great Lakes
- Name the states that border EASTERN Canada

If you get to this point you can raise the stake even higher. Each team now gets FOUR POINTS if the team gets the answer right BUT loses SEVEN points if they get it wrong. This makes students THINK before they speak. The questions go up to the highest level now.

- What country is the largest in South America
- What country in just to the west of Sweden
- What country hosted the last Olympics
- What countries make up Great Britain
- What country largest in the middle east
- What two oceans surround Greenland
- What two oceans surround Australia
- What countries make up Central America
- What countries make up the Scandinavian Peninsula
- Name the five oceans
- Name the seven continents