

FOCUS on the NEWS

October 3, 2011

Weekly Current Events Quiz Game

Vol. 41/5

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New Anti-Illegal Immigration Law

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○ Scorecard ○									
CATEGORY:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
TEAM 1 —									
TEAM 2 __									
WEEK No. _____					WINNING TEAM: _____				

HOW TO CONDUCT QUIZ MATCHES WITH **FOCUS on the NEWS**:

PREPARATION:

ENCOURAGE your students to read newspapers and watch TV newscasts. All questions used in **FOCUS on the news** are about events covered in wire service newspaper reports, on TV news shows and on the Internet.

FOR BEST RESULTS, divide the class into teams—usually three to five on each team—with two teams competing weekly. Your students will enjoy and learn from quiz matches whether they are competing or observing.

LOOK OVER each week's issue when it arrives, choosing the questions most appropriate for your course and grade level. Junior high teacher may prefer not to use 15 or 20 point questions.

RULES below are offered as a guideline, but can be easily modified.

RULES OF PLAY:

1. The teacher/moderator asks all questions and determines which team is first to answer the **Headline Questions** and all tossup questions.
2. The moderator is the sole judge of whether or not a question is answered correctly. If it conforms to the answer given, it need not be verbatim.
3. The game is over when all questions have been asked, or at the end of a time period established before the game by the moderator.

ORDER OF PLAY:

Headline Question — Read the Headline Question to both teams (tossup). Team first to answer correctly is eligible to try to answer Point Value Questions in that category.

Point Value Questions — Ask the Point Value Questions in order. Team members may confer, but must agree upon a single answer within ten seconds. If the answer is correct, the team earns the number of points specified and goes on to the next question. If an incorrect or no answer is given, the opposing team has an opportunity to answer. (The question should be repeated.) The team answering correctly continues in that category. If neither team can answer, the question is discarded and the next question is used as a tie-breaker (tossup). When Point Value Questions are completed in one category, the next Headline Question is read to both teams.

Bonus Question — When a question followed by an asterisk (*) is answered correctly, that team is eligible to try immediately for the Bonus Question at the bottom of the page. Because it is a bonus, play does not revert to the other team if it is missed.

Roundup Questions are ALL tossups. The first team to answer correctly earns the number of points specified.

ALL questions should be marked as they are answered to indicate which team earns the points. Points can then be totaled on the Scorecard inside the front cover of each week's booklet.

To address learning style diversity, a special student edition of **FOCUS on the NEWS™** is available with a separate answer key—enabling teachers to hand out copies of the quiz questions to visual learners to give them an equal chance against audio learner students in the quiz match. Please contact Key Publications if you wish to sign up for this special format.

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FOCUS on the World

Al Qaeda Leader Slain

Anwar al-Awlaki, a U.S.-born cleric linked to al Qaeda, was killed in: Pakistan, Yemen, or Afghanistan?
Yemen--- Eloquent in English and Arabic, Awlaki encouraged attacks on the United States and was seen as a man who could draw in more al Qaeda recruits from Western countries.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

Back-to-back typhoons left at least 55 people dead and rescuers scrambling to deliver food and water to hundreds of villagers stuck on rooftops for four days because of flooding in: India, Vietnam, or the Philippines?*

The Philippines--- In the last four months, prolonged monsoon flooding, typhoons and storms across Southeast Asia, China, Japan and South Asia has left more than 600 people dead or missing.

[] 5 points

An ultra-light plane crashed into a Ferris wheel at a rural festival in: Japan, Spain, or Australia?

Australia---Two children were trapped on the ride and two people in the aircraft for hours. There were no serious injuries.

[] 5 points

Which country accepted a call by international mediators to resume peace talks with the Palestinians, who quickly reaffirmed their refusal to negotiate until settlement-building stops on land they seek for state?

Israel--- Israel considers all of Jerusalem, including the eastern areas captured in 1967 as its capital, a claim that is not recognized internationally.

[] 10 points

In the second attack on foreign visitors in less than a month, an armed gang kidnapped a wheelchair-bound French woman in: Kenya, Ethiopia, or Somali?

Kenya--- The incident occurred at one of Kenya's most popular tourist destinations. Analysts and diplomats in the region said that Somali pirates were likely to turn to softer targets, such as tourists in Kenya, in response to much more robust defense of merchant vessels by private security guards.

[] 10 points

At least 150 people in Cambodia and southern Vietnam have died in the worst flooding along which river: The Mekong River, the Black River, or the Bach Dang River?

The Mekong River--- In Cambodia, 141 people have died since August 13 due to Mekong flooding and flash floods

[] 15 points

A clinic in which country, the only safe-injection site for drug addicts in North America, can stay open, after the country's Supreme Court ruled in a landmark defeat for the federal government's tough-on-crime agenda?

Canada---The clinic, located in Vancouver, was set up in 2003 to allow intravenous drug users to shoot up in a place that had medical supervision. Statistics show that overdose deaths went down 35% in the area. Police and local officials had campaigned for it to stay open.

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

Which three counties do typhoons occur most often?
China, Japan, and the Philippines

FOCUS on the Nation

Terrorist Plot Foiled

A man from which state was arrested and accused of plotting an assault on the Pentagon and U.S. Capitol using remote-controlled aircraft armed with explosives: Massachusetts, Nevada, or Oregon?
Massachusetts--- The incident is the latest of several terrorism cases to spring from federal sting operations.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

A college student from which state was paid between \$1,500 and \$2,500 to stand in for at least a half dozen high school students: New Jersey, New York, or Delaware?*

New York---Between 2010 and 2011, six students paid the college student to take the SAT in hopes of achieving a higher score.

[] 5 points

A federal drug bust on a Boeing plant that makes military aircraft resulted in charges against 37 people in: Ohio, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania?

Pennsylvania--- The sweep took place in the plant located in Ridley Park, a suburb of Philadelphia. 23 people were charged with selling the prescription painkiller Oxycontin and other illegal drugs and 14 were charged with attempted possession of various drugs for trying to buy them.

[] 5 points

Police have arrested two dozen protesters for trespassing during a demonstration against Bank of America's foreclosure practices at the banking giant's headquarters located in: Philadelphia, Boston, or New York?

Boston--- There was no mention of Bank of America's planned debit card fees, which recently have generated headlines and frustrated customers nationwide.

[] 10 points

More than 700 protesters demonstrating against corporate greed, global warming and social inequality, among other grievances, were arrested after they swarmed which famous bridge?

The Brooklyn Bridge---The demonstrators shut down a lane of traffic for several hours in a tense confrontation with police.

[] 10 points

A man suspected in the fatal shootings of councilman and a county land trust official was shot and killed after a massive manhunt in which state?

California---The incident occurred in the redwood forests of Northern California. He was cultivating some 400 poppy plants and was holed up in a makeshift bunker.

[] 15 points

West Hollywood is poised to become the first U.S. city to ban what?
The sale of fur clothing within its boundaries. The bill cites as explicit examples furs made from a fox, mink, rabbit, bear, seal or chinchilla. Supporters said the council is considering an exemption for "vintage" garments containing fur.

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

Besides the SAT, which other test is widely used to assess high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work?

The ACT---The American College Testing Assessment

FOCUS on Government

New Anti-Illegal Immigration Law

The Obama administration has asked a federal appeals court to block which state's strict new anti-illegal immigration law after a federal judge allowed key portions to take effect: New Mexico, Alabama, or Missouri?

Alabama--- The federal appeals court backed the law authorizing police to detain people suspected of being in the country illegally if they cannot produce proper documentation when stopped for any reason.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

Which state plans to ask the Supreme Court to overturn a recent decision in its challenge to the federal healthcare reform law: Texas, Utah, or Virginia?

Virginia--- The announcement comes after President Obama asked the country's highest court to rule on the law he championed in appealing a decision made in a lawsuit filed by 26 states and a major business group.

[] 5 points

Which state has decided to hold its Republican presidential primary on Jan. 31, snubbing a party rule against fast-track delegate-selection for 2012: Florida, Nebraska, or Iowa?*

Florida--- The decision has triggered angry responses from traditional early voting states which will now likely adjust their calendars to stay ahead.

[] 5 points

Mexico's government says nearly 9,000 Mexicans caught as illegal migrants in which state have been flown to Mexico City during the past two months under a voluntary repatriation program?

Arizona--- The Interior Department said in a statement that the migrants returned in daily flights from Tucson between July 11 and Sept. 26th.

[] 10 points

The Senate is expected to take up legislation to impose higher U.S. duties on which country's products: Mexico, Singapore, or China? *China---* Many believe the action is necessary to end Chinese manipulation of its currency to make its exports to the United States cheaper and U.S. exports more expensive.

[] 10 points

Which U.S. governor is reconsidering his decision to stay out of the race for the White House in 2012 and is expected to make a decision soon?

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie --- A decision will have to be made quickly. Filing deadlines in primary states are weeks away.

[] 15 points

What federal body convenes on the first Monday in October following its summer recess?

The Supreme Court--- The first case that the Supreme Court will hear addresses whether people with limited income and resources can sue states that enact laws which conflict with federal Medicaid requirements.

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

Which state holds the first presidential primary?

New Hampshire--- Iowa holds the first caucus, which is held earlier.

FOCUS on Science & Health

Deadly Foodborne Disease

Cantaloupes infected with what bacterium have sparked the deadliest US foodborne disease outbreak in more than a decade and are likely to claim more victims in the weeks ahead: e-Coli, Listeria, or Arsenic?

Listeria--- Thirteen people have died and 72 have fallen ill after eating cantaloupe from Colorado-based Jensen Farms in the first-ever outbreak of the pathogen in whole melons.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

A new study suggests that women who drink four or more cups of caffeinated coffee daily have a lower risk of: strokes, depression, or headaches?*

Depression--- Researchers have probed caffeine's effect on heart health, and cancer, but there's been relatively little research into its effects on mood.

[] 5 points

NASA's Messenger probe has discovered that which planet is covered with dried lava, enough to bury the state of Texas under 4 miles of lava?

Mercury--- These and other strange discoveries about Mercury were announced in seven papers released in the Sept. 30 issue of the journal Science.

[] 5 points

Seniors who take which of the following on a daily basis are twice as likely to have late stage macular degeneration: aspirin, high-blood pressure medication, or beta blockers?

Aspirin--- The data do not show conclusively that aspirin causes vision loss, but the findings are of concern if aspirin somehow exacerbates the eye disorder.

[] 10 points

According to a new study, what phenomenon is expected to send many species on one-way migrations in search of new homes as their old ranges become inhospitable?

Climate change--- They found that gaps in the animals' treks to new homes were caused when local climate became too hot, too dry or otherwise inhospitable to a species for too long a period. These gaps formed barriers preventing species from migrating.

[] 10 points

What were once present in abundance before Canada was settled by Europeans, but now has diminished significantly this summer, with one nearly disappearing altogether?

Ice shelves--- Floating icebergs that have broken free as a result pose a risk to offshore oil facilities and potentially to shipping lanes. The breaking apart of the ice shelves also reduces the environment that supports microbial life and changes the look of Canada's coastline.

[] 15 points

What are the Ig Nobel Prizes?

It honors scientists from around the world who have made important, but also completely off-the-wall, contributions to their fields. This year's winners of the dubious distinction included a team of Japanese scientists who invented a fire alarm that smells like wasabi. The name is a play on the word ignoble ("characterized by baseness, lowness, or meanness") and the name "Nobel" after Alfred Nobel.

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

What is the most prescribed drug in the U.S.?

Hydrocodone--- It is a scheduled 2 drug that is used to treat moderate to severe pain. Since this is a schedule 2 drug it has a high tolerance for dependency.

Focus on Sports

Lockout Continues

With a month until the season begins, which league's players and owners do not sound much closer to a labor deal than they did when the lockout began?

The NBA--- The sides will meet again this week though time is getting short to save the start of the regular season, scheduled for Nov. 1.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

Which team launched their MLB playoffs campaign, coming from behind to defeat the St. Louis Cardinals 11-6 in the opening game of their National League division series: Milwaukee Brewers, Philadelphia Phillies, or the Texas Rangers?*

Phillies--- The Phillies posted the best record of any MLB team during the regular season.

[] 5 points

Devin Hester, of which NFL team, set a record with his 11th career punt return for a touchdown: Carolina Panthers, the Buffalo Bills, or the Chicago Bears?

The Bears--- A three-time Pro Bowl pick, Hester is the league's all-time leader for combined touchdowns on kick returns with 15.

[] 5 points

Curtis Painter will make his first NFL start at quarterback for which team at Tampa as Peyton Manning remains out until at least December as he recovers from neck surgery?

The Indianapolis Colts--- Kerry Collins, who is the back-up to Manning, is still recovering after suffering concussion-like symptoms last week. The winless Colts had been preparing Painter to replace Collins if necessary.

[] 10 points

Which college football team made their Big Ten debut playing against Wisconsin?

Nebraska--- No. 7 Wisconsin wended up defeating No. 8 Nebraska 48-17.

[] 10 points

Before the start of which team's opening playoff game, did 50,000 fans watch as 6-year-old Cooper Stone tossed the ceremonial first pitch of the playoffs to his favorite player, Josh Hamilton.

Texas Rangers--- Cooper is the boy who saw his firefighter father fall to his death while trying to catch a ball thrown to him by Hamilton during a Texas game on July 7.

[] 15 points

Why has Serbian tennis player David Savic received a life ban? Attempting to fix matches. He's the second player to get a lifetime ban. In May, Austrian player Daniel Koellner was the first to be banned for match-fixing.

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

Name all of the MLB play-off teams.

Tigers, Yankees, Rays, Rangers, Cardinals, Phillies, Diamondbacks, and Brewers.

FOCUS on Entertainment

Rooney Signs Off

On which television show did Andy Rooney make his last regular appearance on Sunday, Oct. 2nd: Dateline, 60 Minutes, or Meet the Press?

"60 Minutes"--- Rooney, 92, delivered his 1,097th original essay for the broadcast.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

The trial of Conrad Murray for involuntary manslaughter has begun in Los Angeles. He is accused of giving a lethal dose of the sedative propofol to which singer?

Michael Jackson---Murray's defense team argues that the singer had given himself too much of the drug.

[] 5 points

The nominations for induction into which of the following have been released: the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Academy Awards, or the Baseball Hall of Fame?*

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame--- Some of the nominees include the Beastie Boys, Donovan, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Heart. Winners will be announced on April 14, 2012, at the 27th Annual Induction Ceremony, held in Cleveland, Ohio.

[] 5 points

British comedian Russell Brand has been booked as the first guest on which person's new talk show: Anderson Cooper, Rosie O'Donnell, or Madonna?

O'Donnell---The new weekday talk show series starring Rosie O'Donnell is to begin airing Oct. 10. on OWN.

[] 10 points

Which social networking site began rolling out "Timeline" profiles? Facebook--- There is now a literal timeline embedded on your profile that will let anyone viewing it click back to any year where there are updates or content and view them. As someone goes back further in time on your profile, fewer updates appear; eventually, only major events and ones that you've specifically picked for inclusion are highlighted.

[] 10 points

Which singer opened their new Las Vegas act at Caesars Palace, tickling the ivories on a "million dollar piano" nicknamed Blossom: Cher, Elton John, or Celine Dion?

Elton John---The show marks the beginning of John's three-year residency at Caesar's theater.

[] 15 points

Which former Secretary of State has penned a book on leadership skills with the advice "get mad, then get over it?"

Colin Powell---"It Worked For Me: Lessons in Leadership and Life" will arrive in book stores in May 2012

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

Name two of the first inductees to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

The first group of inductees, inducted on January 23, 1986, included James Brown, Little Richard, Elvis Presley, Fats Domino, Ray Charles, Chuck Berry, Sam Cooke, The Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, and Jerry Lee Lewis.

FOCUS on History

The Space Race Begins

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched which satellite: Sputnik, Glasnost, or Perestroika?*

Sputnik--- President Eisenhower responded by speeding up the U.S. space program, which resulted in the launching of the satellite, Explorer I, on January 31, 1958. The "space race" had begun.

Point Value Questions:

[] 5 points

In 1981, Anwar Sadat, the president of which country, was assassinated by Islamic extremists: Egypt, Iran, or Saudi Arabia?*

Egypt--- Sadat, who was shot four times, died two hours later. Ten other people also died in the attack.

[] 5 points

In 2006 a gunman entered an Amish school and fatally shot five female students and wounded five more before turning his gun on himself. The incident occurred in which state: Iowa, Ohio, or Pennsylvania?

Pennsylvania---Ten days after the shootings, the Amish tore down the schoolhouse and eventually built a new one nearby.

[] 5 points

In 1932, which country became independent after 17 years of British rule and centuries of Ottoman rule: Turkey, Iraq, or India?

Iraq---In 1979, General Saddam Hussein would become dictator of the country.

[] 10 points

In 2003, which actor was elected governor of California?

Arnold Schwarzenegger--- He replaced Gray Davis, who had earlier become the first United States governor to be recalled by the people since 1921.

[] 10 points

In 1967, who did Chief Justice Earl Warren swear in, making him the first African-American justice of the U.S. Supreme Court?

Thurgood Marshall--- As chief counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in the 1940s and '50s, Marshall was the architect and executor of the legal strategy that ended the era of official racial segregation.

[] 15 points

Who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989?

The Dalai Lama--- The exiled religious and political leader of Tibet, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his nonviolent campaign to end the Chinese domination of Tibet.

* Bonus Question:

[] 20 points

Sadat and which Israeli Prime Minister shared the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize?

Menachem Begin--- He was PM from 1977 to 1983.

Roundup

The following items made the news last week:

[] 5 points

A woman who owns a reptile farm noticed that her 8-foot crocodile: was orange, was sleeping in her bed, or was walking on its hind legs?

It was orange--- the crocodile turned a bright orange color after making a meal out of the water filter and causing the pH levels in its water to shift.

[] 5 points

The U.S. Postal Service says it is aiming to boost stamp sales by: asking children to design stamps, waiving the rule requiring stamp honorees to be deceased for at least five years, or designing stamps after current NFL football players?

Waiving the rule---The Postal Service said it plans to have living people appear on stamps provided they have "made enduring contributions to the United States of America."

[] 5 points

A Wisconsin billboard is warning people of the dangers of: swimming with a full stomach, cheese, or burritos?

Cheese--- The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine said the billboard is aimed at educating the public about the harmful effects of cheese. Cheese is the No. 1 source of saturated fat in American diet.

[] 5 points

A New York state native living in Germany said he has obtained a U.S. patent for an invention designed to make which of the following easier: eating corn on the cob, building a snowman or, washing dishes?

Snowman building---His beach ball-like spheres create "the perfect snowman" when a small generator gives them an electric charge, causing snow to cling to the surface of the spheres.

[] 5 points

Utah State University announced students set a world record for: kissing, studying, or eating?

Kissing---They formed the "longest kissing chain" when 1,450 people locked lips in the school's quad.

[] 10 points

A Louisiana woman now holds the Guinness World Record for: the smallest shoe size, largest Barbie collection, or having the largest afro?

Having the largest afro--- She has been growing her hair out for 12 years.

[] 10 points

A Canadian radio station is running a contest with the prize being: a baby, \$1 million dollars, or a trip around the world?

A baby---The winner will get three free in vitro fertilization treatments.

[] 10 points

Authorities in Florida have spotted which of the following in the St. Cloud region: a hippopotamus, monkey, or a koala bear?

A monkey---The 4-ft. tall monkey may have been an abandoned pet.

[] 15 points

What will the man credited with creating Doritos be buried with?

Doritos---The family requested that friends and relatives who attend the grave-side service be allowed to toss Doritos around the box that holds his cremated remains.

[] 15 points

Why has Frank and Louie, the name of an actual cat, made it into the 2012 edition of Guinness World Records?

He was born with two faces--- He also has two mouths, two noses, and three eyes.

MAPmaster

October 3, 2011

Weekly World Geography News Vol. 41/5



Syria

Area—71,479 sq mi
Population—22,457,763 (2011 est.)
Capital—Damascus
Government Type—Dominant-party system

Syria borders Lebanon and the Mediterranean Sea to the west, Turkey to the north, Iraq to the east, Jordan to the south, and Israel to the southwest.

Following World War I, France acquired a mandate over the northern portion of the former Ottoman Empire province of Syria. The French administered the area as Syria until granting it independence in 1946.

The new country lacked political stability, however, and experienced a series of military coups during its first decades. Syria united with Egypt in February 1958 to form the United Arab Republic. In September 1961, the two entities separated, and the Syrian Arab Republic was reestablished.

In November 1970, Hafiz al-Asad, a member of the Socialist Ba'th Party and the minority Alawite sect, seized power in a bloodless coup and brought political stability to the country. In the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, Syria lost the Golan Heights to Israel. During the 1990s, Syria and Israel held occasional peace talks over its return.

Following the death of President al-Asad, his son, Bashar al-Asad, was approved as president by popular referendum in July 2000. Syrian troops - stationed in Lebanon since 1976 in an ostensible peacekeeping role - were withdrawn in April 2005. During the July-August 2006 conflict between Israel and Hizballah, Syria placed its military forces on alert but did not intervene directly on behalf of its ally Hizballah.

In May 2007 Bashar al-Asad was elected to his second term as president. Influenced by major uprisings that began elsewhere in the region, antigovernment protests broke out in

the southern province of Da'ra in March 2011 and spread to other Syrian cities. Protesters called for the repeal of the restrictive Emergency Law allowing arrests without charge, the legalization of political parties, and the removal of corrupt local officials.

The government responded with a mix of force and concessions, including the repeal of the Emergency Law, but as of mid-April 2011 had not succeeded in quelling protests.

1. What is Syria's most important river, which crosses the country in the east?
2. When did Syria gain independence from French control?
3. What is the largest city in Syria?
4. In ancient times Syria used to be a part of which area, known for its area of fertile soil and important rivers?
5. Which city is the oldest the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world?
6. Over 74% of the population practice which form of Islam?
7. Two-thirds of which plateau and mountainous region in southwestern Syria is currently occupied by Israel?

MAPmaster USA

October 3, 2011

Weekly US Geography Quiz

Vol. 41/5

Idaho



Area—83,570 sq mi
Population—1,567,582 (2010 Census)
Capital—Boise
Famous Idahoans—Sacagawea, Ernest Hemingway,
Picabo Street
Motto—"*Let it be perpetual*"

Idaho borders the states of Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Montana and the Canadian province of British Columbia.

The region was explored by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in 1805–1806. It was then a part of the Oregon country, held jointly by the United States and Great Britain. Boundary disputes with Great Britain were settled by the Oregon Treaty in 1846, and the first permanent U.S. settlement in Idaho was established by the Mormons at Franklin in 1860.

After gold was discovered at Orofino Creek in 1860, prospectors swarmed into the territory, but they left little more than a number of ghost towns. In the 1870s, growing white occupation of Indian lands led to a series of battles between U.S. forces and the Nez Percé, Bannock, and Sheepeater tribes.

Mining and lumbering have been important for years. Idaho ranks high among the states in silver, antimony, lead, cobalt, garnet, phosphate rock, vanadium, zinc, and mercury. Agriculture is a major industry: The state produces about one fourth of the nation's potato crop, as well as wheat, apples, corn, barley, sugar beets, and hops.

The 1990s saw a remarkable growth in the high technology industries, concentrated in the metropolitan Boise area. With the growth of winter sports, tourism now outranks other industries in revenue. Idaho's many streams and lakes provide fishing, camping, and boating sites. The nation's largest elk herds draw hunters from all over the world, and the famed Sun Valley resort attracts thousands of visitors to its swimming, golfing, and skiing facilities.

Points of interest are the Craters of the Moon National Monument; Nez Percé National Historic Park, which includes many sites visited by Lewis and Clark; and the State Historical Museum in Boise. Other attractions are the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area south of Boise, Hells Canyon on the Idaho-Oregon border, and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in south-central Idaho.

"Idaho: History, Geography, Population, and State Facts." Infoplease.
© 2000–2007 Pearson Education, publishing as Infoplease.
26 Sep. 2011

1. When did Idaho become a state?
2. What is Idaho's nickname?
3. What crop contributes more than 2.5 billion to the state's economy each year?
4. Which falls, near Twin Falls, drops 52 feet further than Nigeria Falls?
5. Among the U.S. states, what does Idaho rank in size?
6. True or False: Idaho has 3,100 miles of rivers, more than any other state.
7. True or False: The Great Seal of Idaho was designed in 1890 by Mrs. Emma Edwards Green. It is the only Great Seal in the 50 states to be designed by a woman.
8. What are the three largest cities in Idaho?

Fun Facts Word Search

October 3, 2011

Weekly Current Events Puzzle

Vol. 41/5



Aleppo
Arab Spring
Boise
Caffeine
Cantaloupe
Cardinals
China
Dalai Lama
Damascus
Euphrates

Fertile Crescent
Gem State
Golan Heights
Hemingway
Hurricane
Marshall
Medicaid
Nampa
October
Palestine

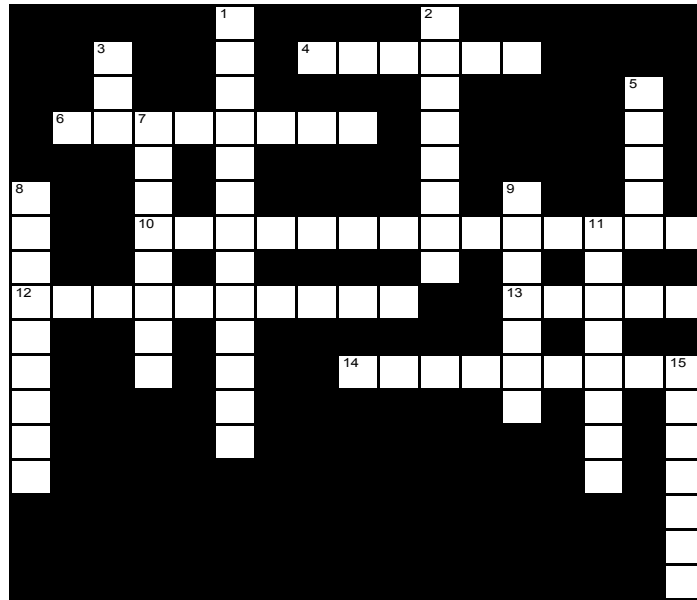
Pentagon
Pocatello
Potatoes
Rays
Rooney
Sacagawea
Sadat
Sputnik
Sunni
Typhoon

Fun Facts Crossword

October 3, 2011

Weekly Current Events Puzzle

Vol. 41/5



Across

- 4 At least 150 people in Cambodia and southern Vietnam have died in the worst flooding along this river. (6)
- 6 Capital of Syria (8)
- 10 Movie star that became the governor of California. (14)
- 12 In 1981, this Egyptian president was assassinated. (5,5)
- 13 Country in which Anwar al-Awlaki was slain. (5)
- 14 Important river in Syria. (9)

Down

- 1 A plot to destroy the Pentagon with remote controlled armed aircraft was uncovered in this state. (13)
- 2 Famous Idaho vegetable. (8)
- 3 Sports league still in a walk-out. (3)
- 5 Capital of Idaho. (5)
- 7 First African-American on the Supreme Court. (8)
- 8 Won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989. (5,4)
- 9 SAT scandal occurred in this state. (3,4)
- 11 Idaho's nickname. (3,5)
- 15 Russian satellite that started the space race. (7)

Answer Page

October 3, 2011

Weekly Current Events Puzzle

Vol. 41/5

MAPmaster—Syria

1. The Euphrates
2. Syria gained independence, on 17th April 1946.
3. Aleppo--- the city is said to be as much as five thousand years old.
4. The Fertile Crescent--- It covers Israel, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq.
5. Damascus
6. Sunni
7. Golan Heights

MAPmaster—Idaho

1. July 3, 1890 (43rd)
2. Gem State---Idaho produces 72 types of precious and semi-precious stones. Some of these stones can be found nowhere else in the world, which is why our great state is known as The Gem State.
3. Potatoes
4. Shoshone Falls
5. Idaho is the 13th largest U.S. state.
6. True
7. True
8. Boise (185,787), Pocatello (51,466), Nampa (51,867)

