Family Trivia Packet

Can’t agree on a film for family movie night? Stuck in the house on a rainy day? Looking for an activity that will keep your kids entertained on a long car ride? Infoplease has the perfect remedy! Challenge your kids to a battle of the minds with Infoplease’s printable Family Trivia Packets.

Each packet includes several quizzes that cover a range of topics, such as history, entertainment, geography, and more. This packet is geared toward middle-school aged kids.

Tips

If your family tends to be competitive, you can break up into teams or go head-to-head and keep score. We’ve provided a hint for each quiz question. The opposing player or team should read each question aloud, and the person or a team member taking the quiz should circle a., b., or c. on the answer sheet.

If you correctly answer a question without the help of a hint, you receive 10 points. Earn five points for a correct answer with a hint. No points are awarded for a wrong answer. Tally your points for each quiz, then add up the total number of points for all the quizzes. Or, create your own scoring system. Just have fun and maybe learn a thing or two.
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Name the state that is mostly a peninsula.
   a. Florida
   b. Hawaii
   c. Louisiana
Hint: A peninsula is a portion of land nearly surrounded by water and connected with a larger body of land.

2. Name the 840-acre park that features an Egyptian obelisk, a skating rink, a zoo, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
   a. Golden Gate Park
   b. Central Park
   c. Lincoln Park
Hint: The park is located in Manhattan.

3. Name the longest cave in the world.
   a. Lechuguilla Cave, N.M.
   b. Altamira Cave, Spain
   c. Mammoth Cave, Ky.
Hint: You can get lost underground right here in the United States.

4. Name the state that is made up of islands.
   a. Alaska
   b. Puerto Rico
   c. Hawaii
Hint: The word “state” is important.

5. Name the smallest national park, which measures a mere .02 acres.
   a. Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial
   b. Acadia
   c. Badlands
Hint: The park is located in Pennsylvania.

6. Name the highest mountain in the U.S.
   a. Mount Hood, Ore.
   b. Mount McKinley, Alaska
   c. Pike’s Peak, Colo.
Hint: It is known locally as Denali, or “the Great One.”

7. Name the geographic center of the 48 conterminous (connected) states.
   a. Smith County, Kans.
   b. Butte County, S.D.
   c. Falls City, Nebr.
Hint: Don’t include Hawaii and Alaska
8. Name the southernmost point of the 50 states.
   a. Ka Lae, Hawaii
   b. Key West, Fla.
   c. Brownsville, Texas
   Hint: The point is on an island.

9. Name the place to see the best-preserved prehistoric cliff dwellings in the United States.
   a. Joshua Tree, Calif.
   b. Congaree, S.C.
   c. Mesa Verde, Colo.
   Hint: The name means “green table.”

10. This plantation on the banks of the Potomac River is home to more than a dozen outbuildings, including slave quarters, a kitchen, stables, a greenhouse, four different gardens, and a four-acre working farm. Name this place.
   a. the White House
   b. Mount Vernon
   c. Monticello
   Hint: This site also marks the final resting place of Martha and George Washington.

11. Name the 6,000 ft mountain that displays the likenesses of four American presidents.
    a. Mount Rushmore
    b. Monticello
    c. Mount Swarthmore

12. This feat of nature is 277 miles long and one mile deep, and was formed by the erosion of the Colorado River. Name it.
    a. Royal Gorge
    b. Red Rock Canyon
    c. Grand Canyon
    Hint: This gorge is in Arizona.

13. Name the only Great Lake that lies entirely within the U.S. borders.
    a. Superior
    b. Michigan
    c. Erie
    Hint: This lake is bordered by Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

14. Name the state that is second in mean elevation to Colorado.
    a. Wyoming
    b. Montana
    c. Utah
    Hint: This state is home to Yellowstone National Park.

15. Which official territory of the United States is located about 1,000 mi east-southeast of Miami, Fla.?
    a. Bermuda
    b. Haiti
    c. Puerto Rico
    Hint: The capital of this place is San Juan.
1. a. Florida
   b. Hawaii
   c. Louisiana

2. a. Golden Gate Park
   b. Central Park
   c. Lincoln Park

3. a. Lechuguilla Cave, N.M.
   b. Altamira Cave, Spain
   c. Mammoth Cave, Ky.

4. a. Alaska
   b. Puerto Rico
   c. Hawaii

5. a. Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial
   b. Acadia
   c. Badlands

   b. Mount McKinley, Alaska
   c. Pike’s Peak, Colo.

7. a. Smith County, Kans.
   b. Butte County, S.D.
   c. Falls City, Nebr.

8. a. Ka Lae, Hawaii
   b. Key West, Fla.
   c. Brownsville, Texas

   b. Congaree, S.C.
   c. Mesa Verde, Colo.

10. a. the White House
    b. Mount Vernon
    c. Monticello

11. a. Mount Rushmore
    b. Monticello
    c. Mount Swarthmore

12. a. Royal Gorge
    b. Red Rock Canyon
    c. Grand Canyon

13. a. Superior
    b. Michigan
    c. Erie

14. a. Wyoming
    b. Montana
    c. Utah

15. a. Bermuda
    b. Haiti
    c. Puerto Rico

Total Points: ____________________
Name That Place: United States

Answer Key

1. **Florida.** The Florida peninsula juts out into the Atlantic Ocean to the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the west.

2. **Central Park.** The city of New York acquired the land for Central Park in 1856, and it took 20 years to create the park.

3. **Mammoth Cave, Ky.** The Mammoth Cave system has 345 mi of subterranean passageways.

4. **Hawaii.** This 1,523-mile chain of islets and eight main islands became our 50th state on Aug. 21, 1959.

5. **Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial.** Thaddeus Kosciuszko was a Polish patriot and hero of the American Revolution.

6. **Mount McKinley, Alaska.** Standing at 20,320 ft high, Mount McKinley is mostly covered in permanent snowfields, which feed numerous glaciers.

7. **Smith County, Kans.** There is a spot near Lebanon, Kans., that marks the exact center of the mainland states—39°50'N lat. 98°35'W long.

8. **Kae Lae, Hawaii.** The spot 18°55' N 155°41' W lies on Hawaii's South Cape.

9. **Mesa Verde, Colo.** A visit to the 52,121.93 acres of Mesa Verde National Park allows a peek into the ancient culture of the Pueblo people who made it their home from A.D. 600 to A.D. 1300.

10. **Mount Vernon.** Located 16 miles south of Washington, D.C., Mount Vernon is the most popular historic estate in America.

11. **Mount Rushmore.** South Dakota's Mount Rushmore was begun by sculptor Gutzon Borglum in 1927 and finished by his son Lincoln in 1941.

12. **Grand Canyon.** Using uranium-lead dating in 2008, geologists found that the Grand Canyon is at least 16 million years old.

13. **Michigan.** The third largest Great Lake, Michigan was discovered in 1634 by the French explorer Jean Nicolet.

14. **Wyoming.** Rectangular in shape, Wyoming is traversed by the Rocky Mountains, which angle south across the state from the northwest.

15. **Puerto Rico.** Spain ceded Puerto Rico to the U.S. during the Spanish-American War of 1898.
1. The ocean east of the United States is:
   a. the Pacific
   b. the Atlantic
   c. the Indian
   Hint: The Pacific borders California.

2. The U.S. and its territories cover how many time zones?
   a. 4
   b. 9
   c. 12
   Hint: Don’t forget Hawaii, Alaska, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

3. Which of these islands is NOT an island off the eastern coast of the U.S.?
   a. Bermuda
   b. Nantucket
   c. Catalina
   Hint: You can take a one-hour boat ride from Long Beach, Calif. to get to this island.

4. Which geographical area receives the most average rainfall each year?
   a. Mt. Washington, New Hampshire
   b. Juneau, Alaska
   c. Seattle, Washington
   Hint: This site is in the eastern part of the U.S.

5. What share of the world’s land area does the U.S. hold?
   a. 6.2%
   b. 25%
   c. 1%
   Hint: Russia is the world’s largest country and covers about 12.5% of the world’s land area.

6. Which of the following states does not share its name with a U.S. river?
   a. Arkansas
   b. Nevada
   c. Delaware
   Hint: The capital of this state is Carson City.

7. Where is the geographic center of the 50 states?
   a. Kansas City, Kans.
   b. Jefferson City, Mo.
   c. Butte County, S.D.
   Hint: Don’t forget to consider Hawaii and Alaska.
8. If you wanted to stand at the northernmost point of the United States, where would you go?
   a. Point Barrow, Alaska
   b. Caribou, Maine
   c. Hallock, Minn.
   Hint: Next stop: North Pole.

9. What state has the highest average elevation?
   a. Alaska
   b. Colorado
   c. New Mexico
   Hint: The Rocky Mountains live here.

10. There is a spot in the U.S. that lies 282 ft below sea level, the lowest point in all the states. Where is this spot?
    a. Death Valley, Calif.
    b. Atlanta, Ga.
    c. New Orleans, La.
    Hint: This place is landlocked.

11. What 27-acre island is home to an important place in American immigration history?
    a. Alcatraz
    b. Ellis Island
    c. Bermuda
    Hint: This piece of land is owned jointly by New York and New Jersey.

12. What six states comprise New England?
    b. Maine, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware
    c. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island
    Hint: The nation’s smallest state is in New England.

13. Which landlocked harbor is one of the largest and best natural harbors in the East Pacific Ocean?
    a. Valdez Harbor, Alaska
    b. Honolulu Harbor, Hawaii
    c. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
    Hint: This harbor was the site of a surprise attack by the Japanese during WWII.

14. The Lechuguilla Cave is part of what series of underground chambers?
    a. Carlsbad Caverns
    b. Luray Caverns
    c. Jenolan Caves
    Hint: You must travel to southeast New Mexico to visit.

15. Which of the following territory, colony, or dependency is NOT under U.S. jurisdiction?
    a. Guam
    b. Puerto Rico
    c. Cayman Islands
    Hint: A popular vacation spot, this overseas territory consists of three islands.
1. a. the Pacific
   b. the Atlantic
   c. the Indian

2. a. 4
   b. 9
   c. 12

3. a. Bermuda
   b. Nantucket
   c. Catalina

   b. Juneau, Alaska
   c. Seattle, Washington

5. a. 6.2%
   b. 25%
   c. 1%

6. a. Arkansas
   b. Nevada
   c. Delaware

7. a. Kansas City, Kans.
   b. Jefferson City, Mo.
   c. Butte County, S.D.

8. a. Point Barrow, Alaska
   b. Caribou, Maine
   c. Hallock, Minn.

9. a. Alaska
   b. Colorado
   c. New Mexico

10. a. Death Valley, Calif.
    b. Atlanta, Ga.
    c. New Orleans, La.

11. a. Alcatraz
    b. Ellis Island
    c. Bermuda

    b. Maine, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware
    c. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island

13. a. Valdez Harbor, Alaska
    b. Honolulu Harbor, Hawaii
    c. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

14. a. Carlsbad Caverns
    b. Luray Caverns
    c. Jenolan Caves

15. a. Guam
    b. Puerto Rico
    c. Cayman Islands

Total Points: ____________________
1. **The Atlantic.** The continental United States are bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the Pacific Ocean to the west, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.


3. **Catalina.** Bermuda and Nantucket are both accessible from the eastern seaboard, while Catalina is off the coast of California.

4. **Mt. Washington, New Hampshire.** Mt. Washington’s wettest month is November, with an average 10.49 in. of rain, compared with Juneau’s October with 8.3 in., and Seattle’s December with 6.06 in.

5. **6.2%.** The world’s total land area is 57,393,000 sq mi, and the U.S. land area is 3,537,438 sq. mi.

6. **Nevada.** The Delaware River originates in the Catskill Mountains and empties in the Delaware Bay, while the Arkansas River begins in the Rocky Mountains and joins the Mississippi River in Arkansas.

7. **Butte County, S.D.** If you travel to Butte County, S.D., just west of Castle Rock, you will be at the geographic center of the United States (44° 58' N lat., 103° 46' W long.)

8. **Point Barrow, Alaska.** Bring your mukluks, it’s cold in Alaska.

9. **Colorado.** Colorado and its Rockies boast the nation’s highest average elevation: 6,800 ft/2,073 m.

10. **Death Valley, Calif.** New Orleans is 4 ft below sea level, and Atlanta is 940 ft above sea level.

11. **Ellis Island.** Government-controlled since 1808, Ellis Island was long the site of an arsenal and a fort, but most famously served (1892–1954) as the chief immigration station of the United States.

12. **Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island.** The region is thought to have been so named by Capt. John Smith because of its resemblance to the English coast.

13. **Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.** Nineteen naval vessels, including eight battleships, were sunk or severely damaged during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

14. **Carlsbad Caverns.** The Carlsbad Caverns contain some of the largest and most impressive stalactites and stalagmites in the U.S.

15. **Cayman Islands.** The Caymans are a British dependency.
1. Name the highest mountain in the Western Hemisphere.
   a. Mt. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania
   b. Sierra Nevada, Argentina/Chile
   c. Aconcagua, Argentina
   Hint: This peak is part of the Andes mountain range.

2. Name the capital of Ukraine.
   a. Kiev
   b. Riga
   c. Kishinev
   Hint: There is a chicken dish with the same name.

3. Name the highest waterfall in the world.
   a. Espelands, Norway
   b. Yosemite, U.S.
   c. Angel Falls, Venezuela
   Hint: These falls spring from the Auyán-Tepuí Mesa.

4. Name the capital of Northern Ireland.
   a. Belfast
   b. Bucharest
   c. Dublin
   Hint: The city's Gaelic form is Béal Feirste.

5. The ancient land of Mesopotamia, encompassing the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, is today part of which country?
   a. Iran
   b. India
   c. Iraq
   Hint: Baghdad is the capital.

6. Name the country that is home to Mount Fuji.
   a. Japan
   b. Peru
   c. North Korea
   Hint: The peak rises from the island of Honshu.

7. In Marco Polo's day, Cipango was the name for Japan, and Cathay was the name for:
   a. China
   b. Mongolia
   c. Turkey
   Hint: The Gobi Desert is in this country.
8. If you wanted to visit the Black Forest, name the country you would visit.
   a. Russia
   b. Austria
   c. Germany
   Hint: Where the Danube and Rhine rivers (among others) flow.

9. Name the river that flows north.
   a. Mississippi
   b. Danube
   c. Nile
   Hint: It empties into the Mediterranean Sea.

10. Name the invisible line at latitude 0° that intersects South America, central Africa, and Indonesia.
    a. prime meridian
    b. equator
    c. longitudinal axis
    Hint: This line is everywhere equidistant from the North and South poles.

11. Name the home of the only ancient wonder still standing.
    a. Giza
    b. Babylon
    c. Olympia
    Hint: These structures were built to house a monarch’s mummified body.

12. Portuguese is the main language of which of the following countries?
    a. Laos
    b. Brazil
    c. Honduras
    Hint: This country is the home of the Amazon River.

13. Name the place that includes all the water and land between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
    a. tropics
    b. Southern Hemisphere
    c. equator
    Hint: This area is also called the torrid zone.

14. Name the volcanic island off the coast of Iceland that was born in 1963.
    a. Surrey
    b. Surtsey
    c. Sierra
    Hint: This name rhymes with the word describing what you would do if you met the queen of England.

15. Two hundred million years ago most of the Earth’s land was one huge continent named:
    a. Panthalassa
    b. Pandora
    c. Pangaea
    Hint: This word means “all lands.”
Name That Place: World

Answer Sheet

1. a. Mt. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania  
   b. Sierra Nevada, Argentina/Chile  
   c. Aconcagua, Argentina  
   9. a. Mississippi  
      b. Danube  
      c. Nile  

2. a. Kiev  
   b. Riga  
   c. Kishinev  
   10. a. prime meridian  
       b. equator  
       c. longitudinal axis  

3. a. Espelands, Norway  
   b. Yosemite, U.S.  
   c. Angel Falls, Venezuela  
   11. a. Giza  
       b. Babylon  
       c. Olympia  

4. a. Belfast  
   b. Bucharest  
   c. Dublin  
   12. a. Laos  
       b. Brazil  
       c. Honduras  

5. a. Iran  
   b. India  
   c. Iraq  
   13. a. tropics  
       b. Southern Hemisphere  
       c. equator  

6. a. Japan  
   b. Peru  
   c. North Korea  
   14. a. Surrey  
       b. Surtsey  
       c. Sierra  

7. a. China  
   b. Mongolia  
   c. Turkey  
   15. a. Panthalassa  
       b. Pandora  
       c. Pangaea  

8. a. Russia  
   b. Austria  
   c. Germany  

Total Points: _______________
1. **Aconcagua, Argentina.** The snowcapped Aconcagua, at 22,835 ft (6,960 m) high, was first scaled in 1897.

2. **Kiev.** The largest city in Ukraine, the port of Kiev, is located on the Dnieper River and is a leading industrial, commercial, and cultural center.

3. **Angel Falls, Venezuela.** The Salto Ángel (Angel Falls) plunge 3,212 ft (979 m) in the Guiana Highlands.

4. **Belfast.** The city of Belfast is located on Belfast Lough, an inlet of the North Channel of the Irish Sea, and at the mouth of the Lagan River.

5. **Iraq.** Iraq, a triangle of mountains, desert, and fertile river valley, is bounded on the east by Iran, on the north by Turkey, on the west by Syria and Jordan, and on the south by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

6. **Japan.** Also called Fujiyama or Fuji-san, Mount Fuji—the highest mountain in Japan—is a sacred mountain and the traditional goal of pilgrimage.

7. **China.** The greater part of China is mountainous, with three great river systems: the Yellow, Yangtze, and the Pearl.

8. **Germany.** Germany’s Black Forest is covered by dark pine forests and cut by deep valleys and small lakes.

9. **Nile.** The longest river in the world, the Nile flows northward and provides the water for much of the agricultural activity in Egypt and about 20% in Sudan.

10. **Equator.** The equator, which measures c.24,902 mi (40,076 km), forms the baseline from which latitude is determined.

11. **Giza.** The only ancient wonder that still stands, the Pyramids of Egypt consist of three pyramids at Giza, located outside modern Cairo.

12. **Brazil.** Brazil covers nearly half of South America and is the continent's largest nation.

13. **Tropics.** The tropics experience at least one day per year in which the Sun passes directly overhead.

14. **Surtsey.** The island was formed by the November 1963 eruption of Sutur, an underwater volcano.

15. **Pangaea.** Through the centuries, continental drift has broken Pangaea up into the continents we know today.
1. Which explorer first reached the South Pole?
   a. Robert Peary
   b. Ernest Shackleton
   c. Roald Amundsen
   Hint: This Arctic explorer was born in Borge, Norway

2. I conquered the world in less than 80 days. Who am I?
   a. Phileas Fogg
   b. Nellie Bly
   c. Harriet Quimby
   Hint: This adventurer was a woman.

3. Since my death, my home welcomes more than 600,000 visitors a year, making it the second most
   visited private residence behind the White House. Who am I?
   a. Elvis Presley
   b. Thomas Jefferson
   c. Michael Jackson
   Hint: Graceland was purchased in 1957 for $100,000.

4. In my native Brazil, I am a national hero, and in the larger world, I am considered by many to be the
   greatest soccer player of all time. Who am I?
   a. David Beckham
   b. Diego Maradona
   c. Pelé
   Hint: This standout athlete played on four Brazilian World Cup teams.

5. On May 29, 1953, I became the first person to summit Mt. Everest. Who am I?
   a. Edmund Hillary
   b. Steven Everest
   c. James Whittaker
   Hint: This mountain climber was born in New Zealand.

6. During an attempt to fly around the world, my plane disappeared somewhere between New Guinea and
   Howland Island. Who am I?
   a. Beryl Markham
   b. Harriet Quimby
   c. Amelia Earhart
   Hint: She was the first woman to cross the Atlantic by airplane in 1928.

7. I was one half of a famous duo who explored and mapped the new territory added to the U.S. by the
   Louisiana Purchase. Who am I?
   a. Louis Armstrong
   b. Meriwether Lewis
   c. Francis Drake
   Hint: The Shoshone guide Sacajawea helped to navigate the expedition.
8. I have a river, bay, and strait named in my honor. Who am I?
   a. Henry Hudson
   b. William Baffin
   c. Leif Eriksson
   Hint: This explorer led ships named Hopewell, Half Moon, and Discovery.

9. I created a fictitious wonderland where children coexist with talking animals, Father Christmas, and an evil witch. Who am I?
   a. J.R.R. Tolkien
   b. C. S. Lewis
   c. J. K. Rowling
   Hint: The place is called Narnia.

10. I earned my fame at Wimbledon in 1985 when I became the youngest men’s singles champion ever. Who am I?
    a. Bjorn Borg
    b. Fred Perry
    c. Boris Becker
    Hint: This powerful tennis player won again in 1986 and 1989.

11. I settled Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. Who am I?
    a. James Cook
    b. John Smith
    c. King James
    Hint: This adventurer/explorer is famously linked with Pocahontas.

12. My place is space. Who am I?
    a. Sally Ride
    b. Amelia Earhart
    c. Geraldine Ferraro
    Hint: This Californian became the first American woman in space in 1983.

13. I discovered Florida. Who am I?
    a. Vitus Bering
    b. Ponce de León
    c. Hernando de Soto
    This explorer was Spanish.

14. I was the first to round the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa. Who am I?
    a. Bartholomeu Dias
    b. Marco Polo
    c. Vasco da Gama
    Hint: This explorer hailed from Portugal.

15. I grew up in De Smet, S.D., and the beloved children’s books I wrote are also set there. Who am I?
    a. L. M. Montgomery
    b. C. S. Lewis
    c. Laura Ingalls Wilder
    Hint: In De Smet, you can find a little house on the prairie and a big house in the woods.
### Who Am I? Answer Sheet

1. a. Robert Peary  
b. Ernest Shackleton  
c. Roald Amundsen

2. a. Phileas Fogg  
b. Nellie Bly  
c. Harriet Quimby

3. a. Elvis Presley  
b. Thomas Jefferson  
c. Michael Jackson

4. a. David Beckham  
b. Diego Maradona  
c. Pelé

5. a. Edmund Hillary  
b. Steven Everest  
c. James Whittaker

6. a. Beryl Markham  
b. Harriet Quimby  
c. Amelia Earhart

7. a. Louis Armstrong  
b. Meriwether Lewis  
c. Francis Drake

8. a. Henry Hudson  
b. William Baffin  
c. Leif Eriksson

9. a. J.R.R. Tolkien  
b. C. S. Lewis  
c. J. K. Rowling

10. a. Bjorn Borg  
b. Fred Perry  
c. Boris Becker

11. a. James Cook  
b. John Smith  
c. King James

12. a. Sally Ride  
b. Amelia Earhart  
c. Geraldine Ferraro

13. a. Vitus Bering  
b. Ponce de León  
c. Hernando de Soto

14. a. Bartholomeu Dias  
b. Marco Polo  
c. Vasco da Gama

15. a. L. M. Montgomery  
b. C. S. Lewis  
c. Laura Ingalls Wilder

Total Points: ____________
1. **Roald Amundsen.** After failing to beat Robert Peary to the North Pole, Roald Amundsen set his sights on the South Pole, arriving on December 14, 1911.

2. **Nellie Bly.** Phileas Fogg was an imaginary character from a Jules Verne novel; Nellie Bly was an American journalist who circled the world in 1889 in 72 days.

3. **Elvis Presley.** Although more than 30 years have passed since his death on August 16, 1977, Elvis Presley’s popularity shows no signs of fading.

4. **Pelé.** Pelé was named Athlete of the Century by the world’s combined National Olympic Committees in 1999, though he never played in the Olympics himself.

5. **Edmund Hillary.** Edmund Hillary, a beekeeper, and Tenzing Norgay, an acclaimed Sherpa climber, were the first to successfully climb to “roof of the world.”

6. **Amelia Earhart.** Earhart’s fate remains a mystery.

7. **Meriwether Lewis.** Although Lewis and Clark’s expedition was not the first transcontinental crossing in the north, it opened vast new territories to the United States.

8. **Henry Hudson.** Henry Hudson, along with eight others including his son, was put adrift on a small boat and left to die by mutineers during his fourth voyage in June 1611.

9. **C. S. Lewis.** C. S. Lewis’s Narnia books have sold more than 100 million copies and are among the most beloved books in classic children’s literature.

10. **Boris Becker.** The young German Becker won the first of his three titles in 1985 at the age of 17 years and 227 days.

11. **John Smith.** John Smith lived an adventurous life, traveling, fighting in wars against the Turks in Transylvania and Hungary, surviving a period of slavery in Turkey, and travelling to the New World.

12. **Sally Ride.** American astrophysicist and astronaut, Sally Ride joined NASA in 1978, where she was an astronaut (1979–87) and helped design the robot arm for the space shuttle.

13. **Ponce de León.** In April 1513, probably because his arrival in Florida occurred at the time of the Easter feast (Pascua Florida), Ponce de León named the land (which he claimed for Spain) La Florida.

14. **Bartholomeu Dias.** In 1488, Dias became the first European to round what he called Cabo Tormentoso (Cape of Storms), a feat that opened the road to India.

15. **Laura Ingalls Wilder.** Visitors to Laura Ingalls Wilder’s birthplace can tour her family’s first Dakota house, their final home in town, and a replica of Laura’s school.