Indiana Beyond Borders

How protected places connect local history and landscapes to the wider world

IS.5.8 "Identify Indiana's various state parks, national parks, historical sites, and their influence worldwide."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the names of protected places, circle words that show what kind of place each one is, and number three ways an Indiana place connects to ideas or challenges beyond the state.

Places Where Ideas Travel

1. On the southern shore of Lake Michigan, Indiana Dunes National Park protects beaches, dunes, wetlands, and woods. The National Park Service manages this national park, which was designated in 2019. More than a century earlier, botanist Henry Chandler Cowles studied how plant communities change on these dunes. His research helped develop the scientific idea of ecological succession, now used by ecologists around the world. A park's worldwide influence need not mean that every visitor crosses a border. Knowledge gathered in one Indiana landscape can travel through research, teaching, and conservation work on other continents.

2. Indiana Dunes State Park is managed by Indiana, not the National Park Service. Its beach and dunes sit along the same lake shore as the national park, but it is a separate protected area. Farther south, Turkey Run State Park protects wooded trails and sandstone ravines carved by streams. These two state parks let visitors explore natural places while helping protect them. Parks worldwide face that same challenge, though each must make choices suited to its own landscape and visitors. Indiana's state parks offer examples that people elsewhere can compare with their own conservation decisions.

3. The worldwide story also includes places shaped by human choices. At New Harmony State Historic Site, visitors encounter the history of an Indiana town where reformers tried new ways of living together in the 1820s. Robert Owen's community experiment there lasted only a short time, but it raised questions about shared work, education, and cooperation. Owen's wider ideas about cooperative communities reached audiences beyond the United States. New Harmony offers a specific case for comparing the hopes and difficulties of social experiments across countries. A historical site can preserve evidence of an idea, not just an old building.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How can you tell Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Park are different kinds of protected places, despite sharing a shoreline?

2. Identify another Indiana state park in the passage. How does its preservation connect to a challenge parks face worldwide?

3. Which national park is linked to science used worldwide? Explain how knowledge from that place traveled beyond Indiana.

4. What makes New Harmony State Historic Site a place with a connection beyond the United States?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five-sentence exhibit label pairing two places from different categories in the passage. Identify each category, connect the places through your own idea about worldwide influence, and end with a question for visitors.

ANSWER KEY

Indiana Beyond Borders

HIGH SCHOOL · IS.5.8

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the names of protected places, circle words that show what kind of place each one is, and number three ways an Indiana place connects to ideas or challenges beyond the state. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How can you tell Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Park are different kinds of protected places, despite sharing a shoreline?	**Indiana manages the state park, while the National Park Service manages the national park. They are separate protected areas.**
2	Identify another Indiana state park in the passage. How does its preservation connect to a challenge parks face worldwide?	**Turkey Run State Park protects wooded trails and sandstone ravines. Like parks worldwide, it must allow exploration while protecting the landscape.**
3	Which national park is linked to science used worldwide? Explain how knowledge from that place traveled beyond Indiana.	**Indiana Dunes National Park is linked to Henry Chandler Cowles's research on changing plant communities. That research helped develop the idea of ecological succession, which ecologists use worldwide.**
4	What makes New Harmony State Historic Site a place with a connection beyond the United States?	**It preserves the site of Robert Owen's community experiment. Owen's wider ideas about cooperative communities reached audiences beyond the United States.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

An exhibit called "Ideas That Travel" pairs Indiana Dunes National Park, a national park, with New Harmony State Historic Site, a historical site. At the dunes, research on changing plant communities helped develop an idea ecologists use worldwide. At New Harmony, a short-lived community experiment raised questions about cooperation, while Robert Owen's wider ideas reached audiences abroad. Together, these places show how people outside Indiana can learn from local experiments, whether they study nature or society. What can an unfinished experiment teach people in another country?

Accept accurate explanations of worldwide influence that distinguish a documented connection, such as Cowles's research or Owen's ideas, from a comparison students propose. For the exhibit label, look for two correctly categorized places and an original connection supported by the passage.