

Dane County's Teen Newspaper

Simpson Street Free Press

Sports Geography Quiz

Sports teams often adopt nicknames that reflect the history of their city or region or that area's local economy.

Match these teams to their cities and nicknames.

1. Detroit Pistons E
2. Seattle Mariners D
3. New England Patriots J
4. Houston Rockets A
5. San Francisco 49ers B
6. St. Louis Blues C
7. Pittsburgh Steelers G
8. Oklahoma Sooners F
9. Minnesota Vikings H
10. Milwaukee Brewers I

Answer Key

- A. NASA and many organizations associated with the space industry are located in this city.
- B. This nickname remembers the great California "Gold Rush." It began in the mid-eighteenth century and brought much new settlement to the area.
- C. Musical styles associated with Black Americans from the south traveled north along Highway 55 during a period known as the "Great Migration." This city's hockey team reflects this area's role in music history.
- D. This city is located near a large bay called Puget Sound. It is a natural port city. Fishing and ship building are major industries here.
- E. This city is known for making cars. Their basketball team is named after an important part of an automobile engine.
- F. This university's sports teams use a nickname that reflects their state's unusual history. For much of American history, this state was Indian territory, set aside by the US Government as a place to resettle native tribes. Some white settlers moved here before

- G. they were supposed to and were called by this name.
- G. For much of our country's history this city was at the center of America's industrial heartland. The city's football team reflects its major industry and its heritage.
- H. Some archaeologists and historians believe that daring explorers from Europe or Greenland sailed up the St. Lawrence River and through the Great Lakes hundreds of years before Columbus "discovered" America. This state's football team derives its nickname from one of history's greatest mysteries.
- I. Many German immigrants settled in this city. They brought with them a passion for making one of their favorite beverages.
- J. The first major clash of America's war for independence took place in this region. Its football team embraces this history.

Bonus Question: The nickname Lakers **does not** reflect the history, culture, or geography of southern California. The origin of the name is this:

- a. The team's first owner and coach, Samuel A. Laker, brought basketball to Los Angeles and won three straight NBA championships.
- b. The nickname "Lakers" actually doesn't refer to lakes at all. Lakers are a common species of fish found throughout California.
- c.** The Lakers franchise was originally located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Minnesota is a state that does have a lot of lakes. When the team moved to Los Angeles, it simply kept its original nickname.
- d. Lakers and Okies are names that refer to farmers from the Great Plains who moved to California during the dust bowl and Great Depression era.

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Sports Vocabulary Quiz

Match these words with their definition

1. Mariner **G**
2. Patriot **F**
3. Sound **I**
4. NASA **H**
5. Derive **C**
6. Era **J**
7. Okies **B**
8. Origin **E**
9. St. Lawrence River **A**
10. Clash **D**

- A. A large river that connects the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean
- B. A slang term for a historic group of migrant farm workers
- C. To obtain or receive from a source
- D. A battle, fight, or skirmish. The name also refers to a famous rock n roll band from England
- E. The cause or source of something
- F. Someone who loves and defends his or her country
- G. Sailor
- H. National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- I. A long, relatively wide body of water larger than a channel or strait that often connects larger bodies of water
- J. A time period reckoned from a specific date

Answer Key

