

EXPLORING THE STATES

Wisconsin

THE BADGER STATE





Note to Librarians, Teachers, and Parents:

Blastoff! Readers are carefully developed by literacy experts and combine standards-based content with developmentally appropriate text.

Level 1 provides the most support through repetition of high-frequency words, light text, predictable sentence patterns, and strong visual support.

Level 2 offers early readers a bit more challenge through varied simple sentences, increased text load, and less repetition of high-frequency words.

Level 3 advances early-fluent readers toward fluency through increased text and concept load, less reliance on visuals, longer sentences, and more literary language.

Level 4 builds reading stamina by providing more text per page, increased use of punctuation, greater variation in sentence patterns, and increasingly challenging vocabulary.

Level 5 encourages children to move from “learning to read” to “reading to learn” by providing even more text, varied writing styles, and less familiar topics.

Whichever book is right for your reader, Blastoff! Readers are the perfect books to build confidence and encourage a love of reading that will last a lifetime!

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Where Is Wisconsin?

Wisconsin sits in the middle of the **Great Lakes** region of the **Midwest**. Minnesota and Iowa are its neighbors to the west. The Mississippi River forms part of the western border. To the north lie Lake Superior and Michigan's Upper **Peninsula**. Lake Michigan borders the state to the east. To the south is Illinois.

Most of Wisconsin's population lives in the southern part of the state. Madison, the state capital, is in the south. The major cities of Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha cluster in the southeastern corner.

Minnesota

fun fact !

Wisconsin is nicknamed the Badger State. In the 1800s, miners in the state were called badgers because they lived in carved-out caves like badger dens.



Lake Superior

W

N

E

S

Michigan

Wisconsin

Green Bay

Mississippi River

Wisconsin Dells

Lake Michigan



Madison

Milwaukee

Racine

Kenosha

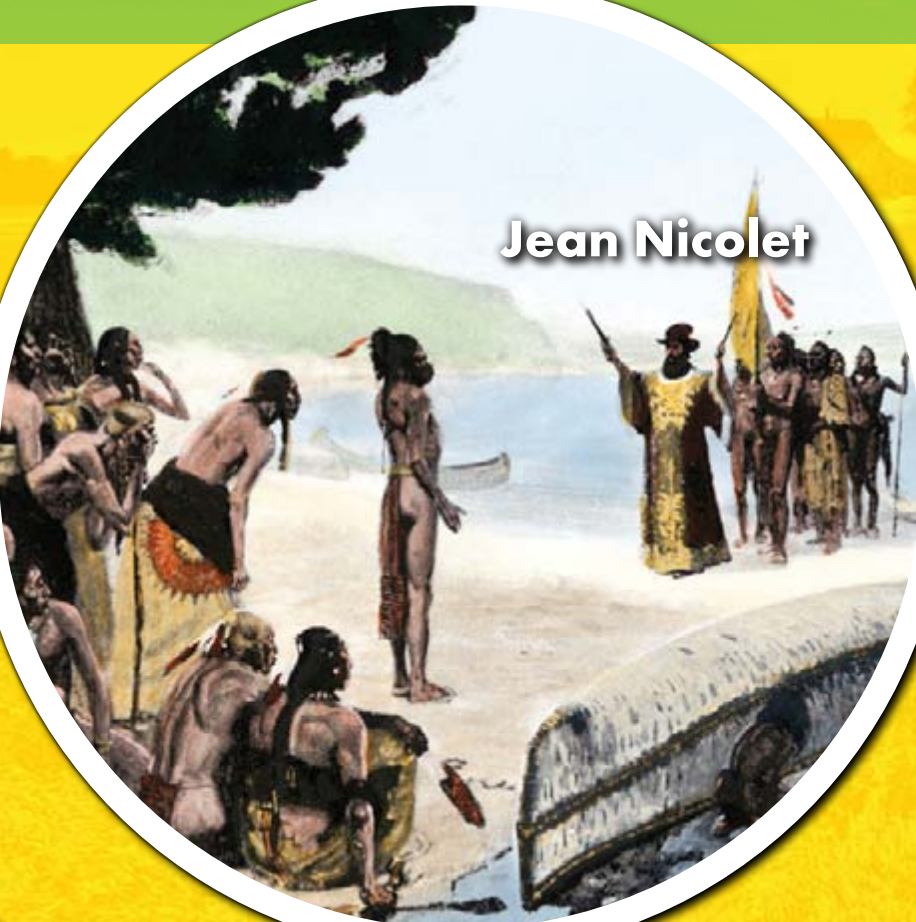
Iowa

Illinois

History

Native American tribes shared Wisconsin's forests, lakes, and streams for about 12,000 years. In 1634, French explorer Jean Nicolet arrived from Canada. French traders and **missionaries** soon followed. In 1763, the British gained control of Wisconsin. They lost it to the United States after the **Revolutionary War**. Wisconsin became a state in 1848.

Jean Nicolet

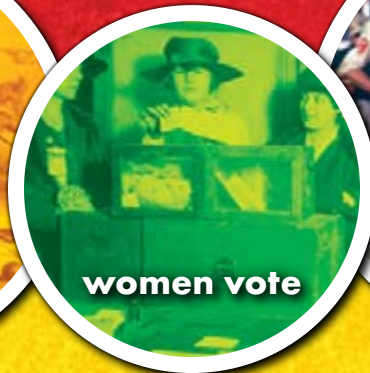


Wisconsin Timeline!

- 1634:** French explorer Jean Nicolet lands near what is now Green Bay.
- 1763:** England wins the French and Indian War. The British take land that includes Wisconsin from the French.
- 1783:** The British lose Wisconsin when the American colonies win the Revolutionary War.
- 1848:** Wisconsin becomes the thirtieth state.
- 1884:** The Ringling Brothers give their first circus performance in Baraboo.
- 1919:** Wisconsin is the first state to approve the Nineteenth Amendment, which gives women the right to vote.
- 1967:** The Green Bay Packers win the first Super Bowl. They go on to win the second Super Bowl in 1968.
- 2008:** Heavy rainfall causes Lake Delton in the Wisconsin Dells to overflow its banks. The lake empties completely and destroys surrounding homes.



**French and
Indian War**



women vote



Super Bowl I

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