



A TRIP THROUGH ILLINOIS

Grade Level

4-8

Length of Lesson

15 minutes

Objective

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to identify multiple counties of Illinois.

Materials Needed

- Copies of “A Trip Through Illinois” student worksheet
- Copies of Illinois Counties map

Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.7; RH.6-8.7; W.4.8

Social Studies

SS.G.1.4.

*Adapted from a lesson created by FCAE.

Lesson Summary

This lesson is designed to increase student interest about Illinois and learn the names of the counties within the state in a fun way! Students will use clues to try to figure out the name of the counties. Have students work individually or with a partner in this fun activity!

Suggested Sequence of Events:

1. Set Up: Make enough copies of the student worksheet and Illinois Counties map for each student.
2. Read through AITC IL History Ag Mag to learn about Illinois. Interactive online versions can be found on our website.
3. Complete the activity following the procedures:
 - Give each student a copy of the student worksheet and an Illinois Counties map. Have students work individually or with a partner.
6. Whole class discussion, share answers, and reflection of activity.
7. Extension Activities:
 - Read about the [Illinois State Symbols](#)
 - Put students into small groups and assign them an IL State Symbol to research and present to the class.
 - Read more about the IL State Soil-Drummer Silty Clay Loam. Why is this soil beneficial for agriculture in Illinois? Go to <https://www.soils4teachers.org/state-soils> for information about our state soil and soils around the country.
 - Look more into soils around the country and compare the type of commodities grown and raised in that state.
 - Read “[The Superlative A. Lincoln](#): Poems About Our 16th President” by Eileen R. Meyer.

Answers:

1. Bureau; 2. Lake; 3. Will, Henry, Scott, Warren (and more); 4. Jersey; 5. Greene, Brown, White; 6. Mason; 7. Cook; 8. Washington; 9. Sangamon; 10. Masaac, Iroquis; 11. Adams; 12. Jackson; 13. Union; 14. Jefferson; 15. Shelby, Carroll, Morgan (and more); 16. Clinton; 17. Scott; 18. (will vary); 19. Ford; 20. Bond; 21. Cumberland; 22. Pike



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STUDENT WORKSHEET

The left column is a list of clues that describe Illinois County names! Use your Illinois County Map to help you figure out what county or counties are being described by the clue. When you think you've figured out the clue, write the county name on the line to the right of the clue.

1.	A piece of furniture	
2.	A fishing place	
3.	A boy's name	
4.	Breed of dairy cattle	
5.	Colorful county	
6.	Well know fruit jar	
7.	Person who prepares food	
8.	A state or variety of apple	
9.	Our state capital is here	
10.	Indian tribe	
11.	Two presidents with this last name	
12.	President on the \$20 bill	
13.	Railroad	
14.	First signer of the Declaration of Independence	
15.	A girl's name	
16.	42nd President of the U.S.	
17.	Brand of tissue	
18.	County you live in	
19.	Brand of car	
20.	Form of money or interest	
21.	Mountain range	
22.	A famous mountain	



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ILLINOIS COUNTIES

