

Clarksville: A Special Hoosier Community

Soo Jin is proud of her town, **Clarksville**. It is a town on the Ohio River. It played an important role in the growth of Indiana.

A Coral Reef in Indiana

About 400 million years ago, during the Devonian (de-VO-nee-an) Period, Clarksville was actually under the ocean! It was home to a coral reef.

A **coral reef** is a ridge of coral found in the water. Many sea plants and animals lived in this reef. People have found many fossils of these living things in Clarksville at a place called the Falls of the Ohio.

MAIN IDEA

Clarksville has played an important role in Indiana history.

VOCABULARY

- Clarksville
- coral reef
- Falls of the Ohio



The **Falls of the Ohio** has one of the largest fossil beds you can visit. These fossils help us understand what life was like in Indiana millions of years ago.

A Growing Community

Clarksville played an important role in the growth of Indiana. As Earth changed over time, Clarksville was no longer under water. Millions of years later, it became home to American Indian tribes including the Shawnee, Miami, Potawatomi, and Wyandote. Later, French and English settlers came to Clarksville. Many people believe Clarksville was the first American settlement in Indiana. Clarksville grew as more people moved west.





In the early 1800s, steamboat travel helped Clarksville grow. Because it was on the river, it was an important stop for goods heading west. Later, the railroad came through Clarksville. It linked Clarksville with cities like Indianapolis and Chicago.

After a while, Clarksville stopped growing. There weren't very many people living there. The town could not compete with its bigger neighbors. After many slow years, a highway was built through Clarksville. It became easier to ship goods to and from Clarksville, so many companies came there. These companies brought jobs and Clarksville grew. Today, Clarksville is busy again!

1. Which of these is a heading in the lesson?
 - Clarksville: A Special Hoosier Community
 - Clarksville played a role in Indiana History
 - A Growing Community
 - Standards Addressed
2. Which of these is *least* important to understanding the lesson?
 - the Main Idea Box
 - the Vocabulary Box
 - the Clarksville map
 - the photo of Soo Jin
3. What is the lesson's main idea?
 - Soo Jin is proud of her community.
 - The people of Clarksville are proud of their town.
 - Clarksville has played an important role in Indiana history.
 - During the Devonian Period there was a coral reef in what is now Clarksville.
4. What is the main idea of the section titled "A Coral Reef in Indiana?"
 - The Falls of the Ohio is a special place to the people of Indiana.
 - Clarksville was home to a coral reef 400 million years ago.
 - People have found fossils at the Falls of the Ohio.
 - A coral reef is a ridge of coral found in water.
5. Why did companies come to Clarksville after its slow years?
 - Steamboats made travel easier.
 - A new highway was built.
 - The town had big neighbors.
 - Clarksville was busy again.
6. What was one problem that the town of Clarksville faced?
 - There were too many railroads coming through the town.
 - The homes and businesses in the town were under water.
 - There were not enough people living in the town.
 - The town did not have enough neighbors.
7. Which of these people do you think would be *most* likely to visit the Falls of the Ohio for work?
 - a fossil collector
 - a police officer
 - a fisherman
 - a car maker
8. Based on what you know, which of the following would be *most* likely to bring new businesses to a city?
 - airports
 - coral reefs
 - large fossil beds
 - American Indians
9. Which of these helps you understand the definition of *Devonian*?
 - Devonian* is pronounced de-VO-nee-an
 - Looking up Devonian in the table of contents.
 - Noticing that *Devonian* has eight letters.
 - Reading "400 million years ago, during the Devonian Period..."
10. How would you break the word settlement into word parts to understand it better?
 - sett-leme-nt
 - se-ttlement
 - settle-ment
 - set-tle-ment