

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Sunny Florida: Where the Unusual is Usual

Welcome to the Sunshine State, where every corner holds a delightful surprise. While Florida is famous for its theme parks and beautiful beaches, it's also a land of quirky and unusual facts that make it stand out from the rest. Join us as we explore some of the fun and remarkable things about Florida.

### The Sinking Palace: Coral Castle

Located in Homestead, Florida, Coral Castle is an extraordinary structure carved entirely from coral rock. It was built by Edward Leedskałnin, a Latvian immigrant, over 28 years, starting in the early 1920s. The mystery surrounding how he moved massive stones, some weighing as much as 30 tons, remains unsolved to this day.

### Sunshine State with a Twist

Florida is famous for its sunshine, but it's also known for its sudden and heavy rain showers. In fact, Florida has a meteorological phenomenon known as "liquid sunshine," where you can experience rain even while the sun is shining brightly. Locals affectionately call these showers "sunshowers."

### Fountain of Youth?

St. Augustine, Florida, is home to the legendary Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park. According to legend, Spanish explorer Ponce de León sought the Fountain of Youth in Florida. While there is no magical water, visitors can explore the park, drink from a natural spring, and learn about the area's history.

### Hemingway's Six-Toed Cats

Key West, a picturesque island in Florida, was home to the famous American author Ernest Hemingway. What makes it even more interesting is the colony of six-toed cats that he kept. Today, many descendants of Hemingway's cats still roam the grounds of his former residence, known as the Hemingway Home and Museum.

### Gatorland: The Alligator Capital of the World

Gatorland, located in Orlando, proudly claims the title of the "Alligator Capital of the World." This 110-acre wildlife park is home to thousands of alligators and crocodiles. Visitors can watch thrilling shows, zip-line over gator-infested waters, and even hold a baby alligator.

