



## Homeschool Learning Network

# The Louisiana Purchase Math Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*The Louisiana Purchase has often been described as the greatest real estate deal in history. In 1803 the United States government paid France \$15 million for the Louisiana Territory — a 828,000 square mile tract of land that stretched from the Mississippi River west to the Rocky Mountains and from the Gulf of Mexico north to the Canadian border. Thirteen states were carved from the vast Louisiana Territory, nearly doubling the size of the United States and making it one of the largest nations in the world.*

*For the following calculations, show the equation you used to find your answers, and round off long decimals as needed. Use scrap paper for figuring.*

1. 828,000 acres of land was purchased for \$15 million. How much did it cost per square mile?
2. 13 states were carved from the Louisiana Purchase. How much did it cost per state for the land?
3. There are 640 acres in a square mile. How many acres are there in 828,000 square miles?
4. How much did the Louisiana Purchase cost per acre?
5. What is the approximate value of one acre of land in your neighborhood? Call a realtor to find out.

*President Thomas Jefferson was concerned about the trade rights of U.S. citizens living along the Mississippi River. The river was used to transport their goods down to New Orleans. Spain had been blockading the Mississippi river mouth so that no trade ships could enter or leave, making it difficult for the settlers. Jefferson decided to buy the harbor at New Orleans from Napoleon Bonaparte of France. He sent James Monroe and Robert Livingston to France to buy New Orleans for \$10 million. To their surprise, Napoleon offered to sell them the entire Louisiana Territory for \$15 million!*

6. If New Orleans alone cost \$10 million, how much did the rest cost less New Orleans?
7. If we estimate that New Orleans was about 10 square miles in size, how much more land did Jefferson get than expected?
8. Subtracting the \$10 million for New Orleans, now how much did the rest of the Louisiana Territory (less New Orleans) cost per square mile? Per acre?