



# Peak Performance

## Inquiry Guide: Middle School

1. What does IHSA stand for?

---

2. What is the purpose of IHSA?

---

---

---

3. Name as many IHSA activities as you can.

---

---

---

---

4. One of the IHSA activities you can participate in is music. What are the six major categories of instruments?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Mascot Matching!** Pay attention to the mascot banners displayed in the gallery.

- a. Name a mascot that is an animal: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Which high school has a mascot of something you can wear, and what is the name of that high school? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Which is your favorite mascot? \_\_\_\_\_

6. When playing chess, how does a rook move?

---

---

7. Which student do you think has the heaviest equipment?

- a. Tuba player
- b. Football player
- c. Golf player

**8. Peak Performance Challenge!** Working in teams, visit each of the stations listed below. At each station, have each team member perform the challenge, and write down their score. After everyone has participated, average your scores for a cumulative group score. Is your team's cumulative score higher than other teams at your school?

*(For a 50 point bonus, correctly determine the median, mode and range for your data at each station.)*

Vertical Leap	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Reaction Time	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Balance Test	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Strength Test	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Kickin' It	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Triple Dribble	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Pivot Hoop	
Median = ____	Group Score:
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	



# Peak Performance

## Inquiry Guide: Middle School

### 1. What does IHSA stand for?

Illinois High School Association

### 2. What is the purpose of IHSA?

IHSA is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to recognizing the academic and interscholastic achievements by high school students in Illinois. The IHSA gives opportunities for boys and girls to represent their school and community in interscholastic athletics and activities that enrich the educational experience.

### 3. Name as many IHSA activities as you can.

Boys Baseball  
Boys Basketball  
Boys Bowling  
Boys Cross Country  
Boys Football  
Boys Golf  
Boys Gymnastics  
Boys Soccer  
Boys Swimming & Diving  
Boys Tennis  
Boys Track & Field  
Boys Volleyball  
Boys Water Polo  
Boys Wrestling  
Boys Lacrosse

Girls Badminton  
Girls Basketball  
Girls Bowling  
Competitive Cheerleading  
Girls Cross Country  
Girls Golf  
Girls Gymnastics  
Girls Soccer  
Girls Softball  
Girls Swimming & Diving  
Girls Tennis  
Girls Track & Field  
Girls Volleyball  
Girls Water Polo  
Competitive Dance  
Girls Lacrosse

Bass Fishing  
Chess  
Debate  
Drama & Group Interpretation  
Individual Events  
Journalism  
Music  
Scholastic Bowl  
Spirit  
Three-Point Showdown  
Wheel Chair Basketball

### 4. One of the IHSA activities you can participate in is music. What are the six major categories of instruments?

a. Bowed strings  
b. Woodwind  
c. Brass

d. Percussion  
e. Keyboard  
f. Guitar family

5. **Mascot Matching!** Pay attention to the mascot banners displayed in the gallery.
- Name a mascot that is an animal: Havana Ducks, Zion-Benton Fighting Bees, and Fisher Bunnies
  - Which high school has a mascot of something you can wear, and what is the name of that high school? Teutopolis Wooden Shoes (mascot), Teutopolis High School
  - Which is your favorite mascot? \_\_\_\_\_

6. **When playing chess, how does a rook move?**

The rook can move straight right or left on the chessboard, or straight up and down.

7. **Which student do you think has the heaviest equipment?**

- Tuba player
- Football player
- Golf player

8. **Peak Performance Challenge!** Working in teams, visit each of the stations listed below. At each station, have each team member perform the challenge, and write down their score. After everyone has participated, average your scores for a cumulative group score. Is your team's cumulative score higher than other teams at your school?

*(For a 50 point bonus, correctly determine the median, mode and range for your data at each station.)*

Vertical Leap	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Reaction Time	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Balance Test	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Strength Test	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Kickin' It	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Triple Dribble	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	

Pivot Hoop	
Median = ____	Group Score: _____
Mode = ____	_____
Range = ____	



# Inquiry Guide: Middle School

1. Give one example of how the Illinois River has been used as a highway.

---

---

2. Give one example of how humans have changed the Illinois River so that it could be used as a highway.

---

---

3. There are many kinds of dams (barriers that retain water). Circle the type of dam that is depicted below:



Wicket Dam or Tainter Dam



Wicket Dam or Tainter Dam

4. What was the Kankakee Torrent?

---

---

5. The Illinois River is filled with native and invasive species of fish. What does it mean to be:

a. An *invasive* species =

---

b. A *native* species =

---

6. Of the following fish which can be found in the Illinois River, circle whether the species is *invasive* or *native*:



Round Goby

*Invasive* or *Native*



Snake Head

*Invasive* or *Native*



Channel Catfish

*Invasive* or *Native*



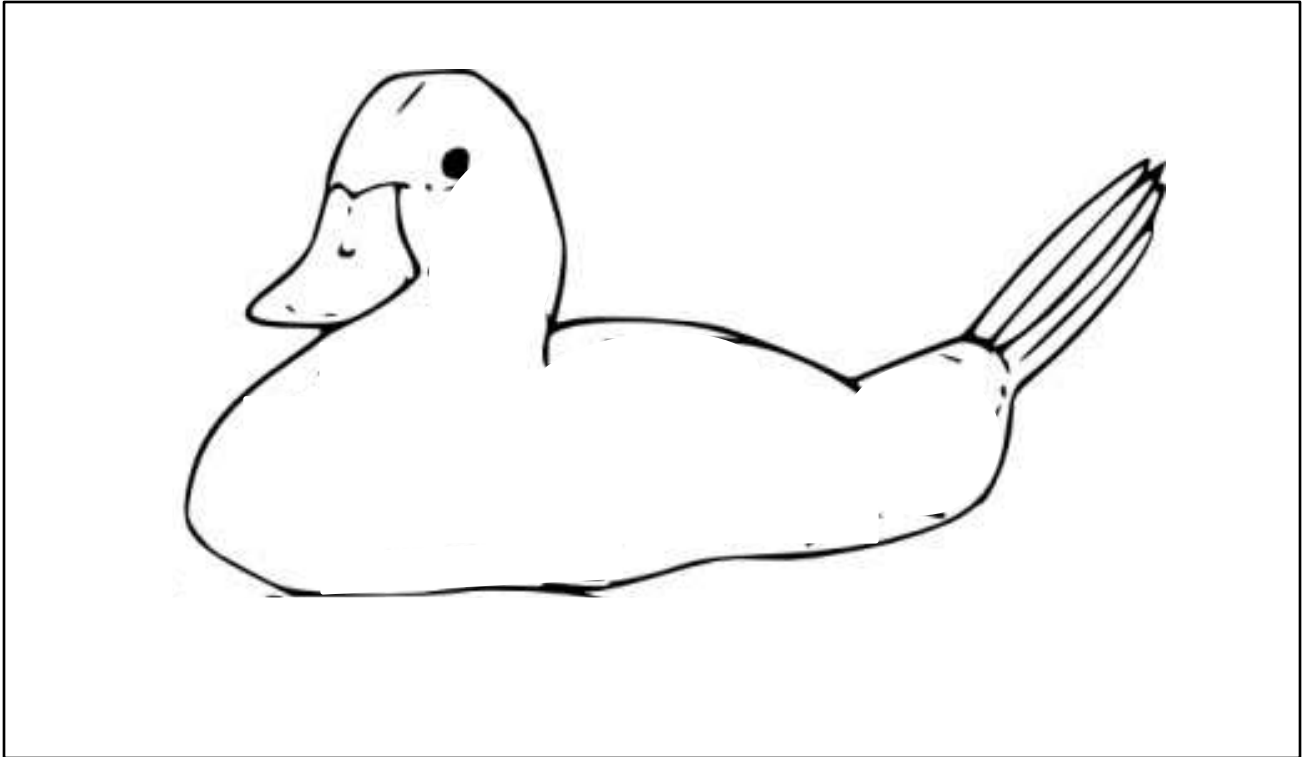
Bluegill

*Invasive* or *Native*

**7. What is a “river rat?”**

- a. A large rodent of the genus *Rattus* that hunts small fish and other river wildlife
- b. A person who makes their living from the river, harvesting various plants and animals throughout the year
- c. A term used to describe non-native species to the Illinois River

**8. Duck decoys are manmade objects which resemble real ducks, and were often made for hunting to attract live ducks. Design your own duck decoy by filling in the details in the duck outline below:**



**9. Humans have made their living off the river. Can you name at least one negative way that humans have impacted the river and the animals that live there?**

---

---

---

---

**10. Name at least three things humans can do to preserve the river.**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

**11. What is Emiquon, and what is it doing to help the environment?**

---

---



# Inquiry Guide: Middle School

1. Give one example of how the Illinois River has been used as a highway.

Barges, paddleboats, canoes and other boats have been used to transport people and products up and down the river for thousands of years.

2. Give one example of how humans have changed the Illinois River so that it could be used as a highway.

Possible answers: Humans have built levees, locks and dams. Humans have dug channels to make the Illinois River deep enough for big boats to travel through. Humans have pumped water out of wetlands.

3. There are many kinds of dams (barriers that retain water). Circle the type of dam that is depicted below:



Wicket Dam or Tainter Dam



Wicket Dam or Tainter Dam

4. What was the Kankakee Torrent?

The Kankakee Torrent was a catastrophic flood that occurred between 14,000 and 18,000 years ago in the Midwestern United States. The Kankakee Torrent was responsible for the rapid creation of the Illinois River.

5. The Illinois River is filled with native and invasive species of fish. What does it mean to be:

- An *invasive* species = Flora or fauna that have been introduced into an environment to which they are not originally from.
- A *native* species = Flora or fauna that are naturally present and characteristic of an environment.

6. Of the following fish which can be found in the Illinois River, circle whether the species is *invasive* or *native*:



Round Goby

Invasive or Native



Snake Head

Invasive or Native



Channel Catfish

Invasive or Native



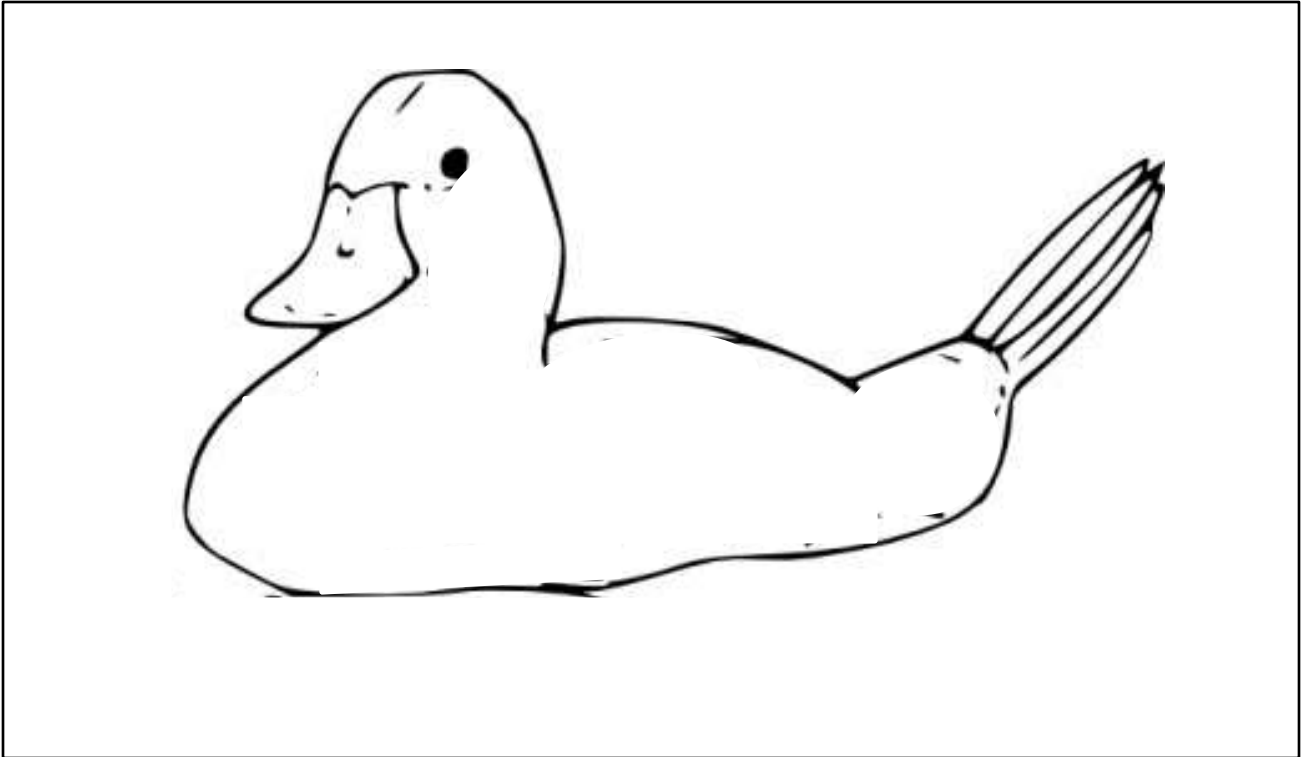
Bluegill

Invasive or Native

**7. What is a “river rat?”**

- a. A large rodent of the genus *Rattus* that hunts small fish and other river wildlife
- b.** A person who makes their living from the river, harvesting various plants and animals throughout the year
- c. A term used to describe non-native species to the Illinois River

**8. Duck decoys are manmade objects which resemble real ducks, and were often made for hunting to attract live ducks. Design your own duck decoy by filling in the details in the duck outline below:**



**9. Humans have made their living off the river. Can you name at least one negative way that humans have impacted the river and the animals that live there?**

Possible answers: Overhunting and overfishing has led to a huge decrease in the amount of wildlife supported by the Illinois River. Humans changing the river to make it easier to navigate (locks and dams, levees) has led to loss of habitat for these animals, and further reduction of their numbers. Pollution and sedimentation has greatly impacted the amount and variety of fish the river can support.

**10. Name at least three things humans can do to preserve the river. (Possible Answers Below)**

- a. Do not overhunt or over fish
- b. Do not pollute the river
- c. Do not introduce invasive species

**11. What is Emiquon, and what is it doing to help the environment?**

“Emiquon” is short for the Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge, and it seeks to protect, restore and manage migratory bird, fish and resident wildlife habitat in the Illinois River Valley.