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What Indiana Means to Me

Do you smile when you hear the name "Indiana"? Well, I do. It means a lot to me. Indiana means home and good memories. It means all the things I love to do, places I love to visit, food I love to eat, and people I love to be with.

The memories that I have about Indiana are memories of going to the State Fair on long, hot, fun summer days. I can almost smell the yummy food and hear the sound of cows and pigs in the background. It means "campfires" like the ones we have at my grandparents lake cottage and at Mounds State Park. One of the things I like about campfires in Indiana are the "smores". They are the best, and making them and eating them with my cousins makes them taste even better.

Indiana also means getting to visit the Indianapolis Children's museum, the Indianapolis Zoo, Victory Field, walking along the Canal, and running all over White River State Park. Going to Indianapolis for these adventures is always worth the drive!

I love visiting other states and seeing what they have to offer, but coming *home* to Indiana always means the most to me. I have the best friends and family you could ever want. Indiana's citizens are friendly and good people. They know

how to say "please" and "thank you" and open the door for you when your hands are full.

Another one of my favorite things about Indiana is the beautiful outdoors. I love how beautiful the leaves are in the fall and seeing their color and watching them flutter down. When the harvest moon shines bright across the fields, it seems so big and close that you feel like you can reach out and touch it. On summer days, I love to lie down in the bright green grass and watch the clouds pass by. The fields of wheat my daddy grows are as pretty as any master picture I have ever seen.

Yes, Indiana means a "good life" to me. It makes me smile.