



**2018 NEW JERSEY National Geographic State Bee
Semifinalist Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Local Student Named New Jersey National Geographic State Bee Semifinalist by
National Geographic Society**

Student's Name: Jack Rachinsky of Rahway, NJ

Parents' Names: John & Jennifer Rachinsky

School Name and Address: St. John Vianney, 420 Inman Avenue, Colonia, NJ

Grade Level: 7th

The above-named student has been notified by the National Geographic Society that he is one of the semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2018 New Jersey National Geographic State Bee. The contest will be held at Rowan University on Friday, April 6, 2018.

This is the second level of the National Geographic Bee competition, which is now in its 30th year. School Bees were held in schools with fourth- through eighth-grade students throughout the state to determine each school champion. School champions then took a qualifying test, which they submitted to the National Geographic Society. The National Geographic Society has invited up to 100 of the top-scoring students in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependents Schools and U.S. territories to compete in the State Bees.

To celebrate the 30th annual National Geographic Bee, the cash prize for the top three students in each state has doubled. Each state champion will receive \$200, the *National Geographic Visual Atlas of the World, 2nd Edition* and a trip to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship to be held at National Geographic Society headquarters, May 20-23, 2018. Students that come in second place will receive \$150 and those that come in third will receive \$100. The first-place national champion will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the Society, including a subscription to National Geographic magazine, and an all-expenses-paid Lindblad expedition to the Galápagos Islands aboard the new *National Geographic Endeavour II*. Travel for the trip is provided by Lindblad

Expeditions and National Geographic. Second- and third-place finishers will receive \$25,000 and \$10,000 college scholarships, respectively. Visit www.natgeobee.org for more information on the National Geographic Bee.

National Geographic will stream the final round of the National Geographic Bee Championship starting May 24, 2018, at www.natgeobee.org.

How would you fare as a National Geographic Bee contestant? At the school Bees this year, students had to answer questions like these:

1. The Appalachian Mountains run through which state—Georgia or Mississippi?
A. Georgia
2. The North Platte and South Platte Rivers meet in which state—New Mexico or Nebraska?
A. Nebraska
3. Which state straddles the Tropic of Cancer—Hawaii or Alaska?
A. Hawaii
4. Which form of mass production was used by Henry Ford to produce automobiles in large quantities in Detroit, Michigan—threshing machine or assembly line?
A. assembly line
5. What is the term for the physical location where a plant or animal lives—habitat or pattern?
A. habitat
6. Which country does *not* contain large areas of desert—Chad, Venezuela, or Iraq?
A. Venezuela
7. Public steam baths called *hammams* are part of the culture in cities such as Casablanca and Marrakech in which African country?
A. Morocco
8. The Delmarva Peninsula includes parts of Delaware, Virginia, and which other state?
A. Maryland

9. The easternmost part on the Horn of Africa is located in which country?

A. Somalia

10. Angkor Wat, built as a tribute to Hinduism, is located in which Southeast Asian country where Buddhism now predominates?

A. Cambodia

MEDIA NOTE: Prior to the state finals on April 6, press materials with additional information about the state- and national-level contests will be posted at natgeo.org/newsroom. To be notified when these materials are available, or for other inquiries, contact Lexie de los Santos (ldelossantos@ngs.org / (202) 807-3100) with the National Geographic Society Communications Department. You may also contact the State Bee coordinator, Katrinka Somdahl-Sands at somdahl-sands@rowan.edu, for additional information.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The [National Geographic Society](http://www.nationalgeographic.org) is a leading nonprofit that invests in bold people and transformative ideas in the fields of exploration, scientific research, storytelling and education. The Society aspires to create a community of change, advancing key insights about the planet and probing some of the most pressing scientific questions of our time, all while ensuring that the next generation is armed with geographic knowledge and global understanding. Its goal is measurable impact: furthering exploration and educating people around the world to inspire solutions for the greater good. For more information, visit www.nationalgeographic.org.

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