

CALIFORNIA REGIONS PROJECT

Due: Friday, October 26, 2018

Objectives:

- We will be able to identify the characteristics and physical environments of the four distinct regions of California.
- We will be able to identify how the living and non-living components of the ecosystem of each region depend on one-another for survival.



Directions:

There are two parts to this project. The student's job will be to select a region (Mountain, Coast, Desert, or Central Valley) and create a travel guide, poster, or brochure that identifies the many characteristics of that region. In addition, the student will write their own research paper showing what they know about their region. Brochures that have been downloaded and/or reproduced from previously published travel brochures will not be acceptable. Students are encouraged to be creative and use their own talents to complete the assignment.

Part A - Project: Each project must include the following:

1. A Title (Name of Region)
2. Student's Name
3. A map of California with the region distinctly labeled.
4. A slogan advertising their region (example: Come taste what's growing in the Central Valley! You'll love the fresh flavor!)
5. Magazine cut-outs, illustrations, or words that evidence knowledge of the region's characteristics:
 - Vegetation (plants)
 - Wildlife (animals)
 - Natural Features (landforms)
 - Natural Resources (industry)
 - Recreation (fun activities)
 - Climate, Natural Hazards, Population Density

Part B - Research Paper: Each student is responsible for writing a multiple paragraph essay report that shows their knowledge of their region of California.

All reports are to be hand written on white lined paper or they may be typed. Below is an example format with guiding questions to help you get started.

1. Introduction:

- __What is the population density of the region? Is it packed with people or are the people spread out?
- __What is the climate of the region? Does it rain a lot or is it dry most of the year?
- __Are there any natural hazards (earthquakes, fires, mudslides etc...)?

2. Natural Features and Natural Resources:

- __What natural features are in the region (mountains, lakes, rivers, deserts)?
- __What natural resources and industries are in the region (fishing, mining, transportation, lumber, tourism, agriculture, oil)?

3. Vegetation and Wildlife:

- __What plant and animals live in the region?
- __How do plants and animals differ in their ability to survive that particular California Region?
- __How do plants depend on animals (pollination, seed dispersal, etc.) and how do animals depend on plants (food, shelter etc.) in that particular region?
- __What adaptations have organisms made for living in that region?

4. Recreation:

- What do people do in that region for fun?

5. Conclusion:

- __Why do people choose to live in the region?
- __How do the physical characteristics of the region affect human activity?
- Is there anything else that is unique or special about the region?

Social Studies Standard 4.1 - Students demonstrate an understanding of the physical and human geographic features that define places and regions in California.

Life Sciences Standard 4.3 - Living organisms depend on one another and on their environment for survival. As a basis for understanding this concept: Students know ecosystems can be characterized by their living and nonliving components. Students know that in any particular environment, some kinds of plants and animals survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.