

# Unit 1a-US Regions

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies 5**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Independent Project and Notes**  
Status: **Published**

## Essential Questions

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- What are the features of the five regions in the United States?

## Big Ideas

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- Regions form and change as a result of unique physical/ecological conditions, economies, and cultures.
- Economic opportunities in New Jersey and other states are related to the availability of resources and technology.

## CRLKS- Career Education

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### 9.2 Career Awareness, Exploration, Preparation, and Training by the End of Grade 5

9.2.5.CAP.1: Evaluate personal likes and dislikes and identify careers that might be suited to personal likes.

9.2.5.CAP.3: Identify qualifications needed to pursue traditional and non-traditional careers and occupations

9.2.5.CAP.5: Identify various employee benefits, including income, medical, vacation time, and lifestyle benefits provided by different types of jobs and careers.

### Connection:

Discuss different economic opportunities in New Jersey as compared to other parts of the United States. Explore what types of jobs are available due to different regional conditions and needs.

## Cross-Curricular Integration

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Integration Area: Language Arts

W.5.7 Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different perspectives of a topic.

**Activity:**

Students will conduct a short research project on the United States regions using multiple sources.

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**Social Justice**

See Appendix C

Book 1: One by Kathryn Otoshi (CARES Book-Week 1)

Book 2: [Abuela's Weave by Omar S. Castaneda](#) (Hispanic Heritage Week

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**Social Studies Skills**

**Spatial Thinking** Select and use various geographic representations to compare information about people, places, regions, and environments

**Activity:**

Students compare the different regions in the United States and identify the ways the environments are the same and different. They will research the regions to learn about the people and the places in the region. Their research will be placed in a regions booklet. 6.1.4.B.6

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**CSDT Technology Integration**

8.1.5.DA.5: Propose cause and effect relationships, predict outcomes, or communicate ideas using data.

**Activity:**

Students will use the given information and data about each of the regions to answer questions about the relationships between the economy and resources in a given region.

## **Enduring Understandings**

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### **6.1 U.S. History: America in the World by the End of Grade 5**

#### **Geography, People, and the Environment: Human Population Patterns**

6.1.5.GeoPP.1[M]: Compare and contrast characteristics of regions in the United States based on culture, economics, and physical characteristics to understand the concept of regionalism

6.1.5.GeoPP.2 [M]: Describe how landforms, climate and weather, and availability of resources have impacted where and how people live and work in different regions of New Jersey and the United States.

#### **Economics, Innovation, and Technology: Exchange and Markets**

6.1.5.EconEM.4 [M]: Compare different regions of New Jersey to determine the role that geography, natural resources, climate, transportation, technology, and/or the labor force play in economic opportunities.

#### **Economics, Innovation, and Technology: National Economy**

6.1.5.EconNE.2 [M]: Use data to describe how the availability of resources in New Jersey and other regions in the United States have impacted economic opportunities.

6.1.5.EconNE.3 [M]: Describe how the development of different transportation systems impacted the economies of New Jersey and the United States

#### **Focus Areas**

- Compare the geography of the five regions in the US.
- Compare resources and economic differences.

#### **Activities and Assessments**

DBQ: Why do people move and settle where they do?

Region Slideshow

Graphic Organizers / Notes

## **Geography**

Oceans and continents

Hemispheres, prime meridian, equator

## **Climate Change**

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6.1.5.EconNM.2: Use data to describe how the resources and regions in New Jersey and other regions of the United States have impacted economic opportunities.

- Activity: Students will create a presentation with each group presenting on a different region to understand how natural resources and geographic regions influence economic opportunities in New Jersey and compare them with other regions in the United States that includes major natural resources available in their assigned region, how these resources have historically impacted the region's economy, and current economic opportunities based on these resources.

## **Document Based Activity**

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6.1.5.GeoPP.2: Describe how landforms, climate and weather, and availability of resources have impacted where and how people live and work in different regions of New Jersey and the United States.

### **DBQ Activity**

Why do people move and settle where they do?

Study various sources and write a story about why people move.

For the complete DBQ Plan, please refer to MP 1a - US Regions PDF.