



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

# A Place Called Mississippi

## Chapter 1: The Geography of Mississippi Internet Activity

In this lesson, you will explore websites to learn the location of your state and community using **absolute** and **relative location**. You will also check out information related to the climate of Mississippi.

**Instructions:** Click the links below and use the information from the websites to complete each item.

### Part I: Location

Click here: <http://mississippi.hometownlocator.com/maps>. Use this link to find **relative locations**.

1. What states border Mississippi? Use the + and - buttons to zoom in and out, as needed.

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2. Write a short paragraph to explain the location of Mississippi *relative* to places along its borders.

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Click the link for **Overview Map of Mississippi Counties**.

3. Find your county on the map. Write a sentence that expresses its location relative to another county. For example: *Wirt County is south of Wood County.*

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4. List the Mississippi counties that border your county.

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You have identified one location as it relates to another location; that's **relative location**.



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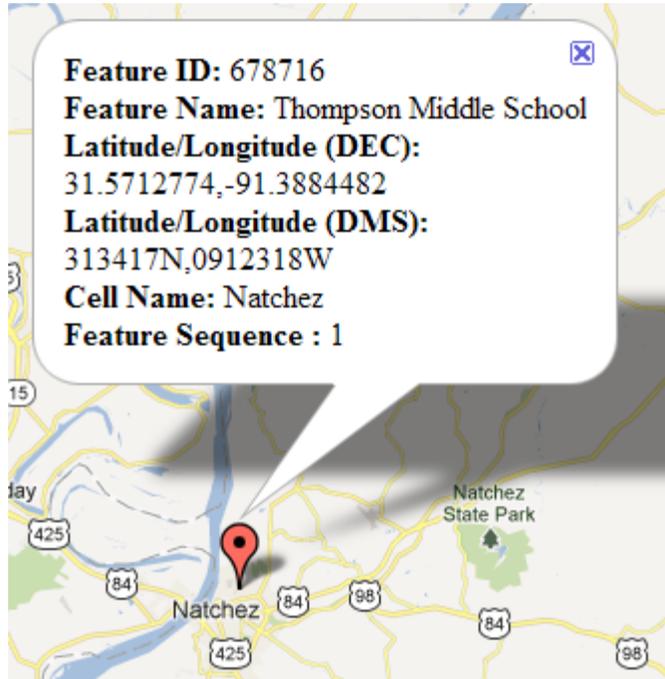
## Chapter 1: The Geography of Mississippi Internet Activity

Let's find some **absolute locations**. Click here: <http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnispublic>. Enter the name of your school in the Feature Name field. Enter the state and county. Click **Send Query**. Once your school is located, click its name. You will get additional information about your school's location. This will help make sure you've clicked the right thing!

Click the **GNIS in Google Maps** link on the right side of the screen.

After your map appears, click the location marker for your school. You will get information similar to that in the picture.

Latitude and longitude are given in decimal (DEC) form and (DMS) or degrees, minutes, seconds. For instance, in the example at right, the latitude is 31°34'17" N and longitude is 91°23'18" W.



5. Record the latitude and longitude of your school and three other cultural features in your community or state.

<b>Cultural Feature</b>	<b>Latitude (Degrees, Minutes, Seconds)</b>	<b>Longitude (Degrees, Minutes, Seconds)</b>
Our school		

Absolute locations don't depend on knowing what's nearby. When using absolute location, you'll always have a number of degrees *north* or *south* of the **equator** and a number of degrees *east* or *west* of the **prime meridian** to pinpoint an exact location.



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- 6. Give an example of when *absolute* location would be required and *relative* location would not be a good choice. Explain your thinking in your response.

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### Part II: Climate

- 7. Click the link below. Then, click **Mississippi** on the map. You will see several weather stations. Click the station closest to where you live. Use information from the link to complete the following chart.

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/usclimate/states.fast.html>

	<b>Weather Station Nearest My House: (list station)</b>	<b>Another Mississippi Weather Station: (list station)</b>
<b>Maximum Temperature (°F)</b>		
<b>Minimum Temperature (°F)</b>		
<b>Average Snowfall (in.)</b>		
<b>Average Rainfall (in.)</b>		
<b>Usual Coldest Month</b>		
<b>Usual Warmest Month</b>		

**Finished Early?** Go back to the link on #5. Relocate the map of your school. Use the buttons at the top of the map to explore the area using the various maps (Satellite, Hybrid, Topo, DOQ, Terrain). Can you find the area around your house using these maps?

Consider these questions: How do these maps differ? How might people use these maps? What advantage does one map have over another? Explain your thinking in your response.