

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____



North Carolina: People, Places, & Progress

Chapter 1: The Land Where We Live

Section 4: The Mountains Region

Focused Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. The _____ region begins at the Blue Ridge, which sometimes towers more than 1,000 feet over the nearby Piedmont hills.
2. The _____ forms the eastern boundary of the Appalachian Mountains, some of the oldest mountains in the world.
3. The Blue Ridge gets its name from the fact that, at a distance, the _____ evaporating off its slopes shimmers an aqua blue.
4. Like the _____, the Blue Ridge is really just one long _____, with peaks of various height and gaps that, like inlets, both allowed and discouraged travel back and forth.
5. Until the building of _____ in the late 1800s, travel over the Blue Ridge was expensive and laborious.
6. The _____ range runs from New York to Alabama but spreads out the most and has its _____ peaks in North Carolina.
7. The highest _____ (height above sea level) east of the Rocky Mountains is Mt. _____ at 6,684 feet, although a half dozen other peaks are just about as tall.
8. There are more than a _____ different mountain ranges with the Appalachians of North Carolina. Among the more notable are the _____, located just to the west of the Blue Ridge.
9. Even more notable are the world-famous _____. They get their name from the _____.

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- _____ of resin-filled dew off the needles of spruce and fir trees.
10. More varieties of plants are found in the _____ than almost anywhere else on earth.
 11. The Great Smokey Mountain National Park is the most _____ national park in the United States.
 12. _____ are places, usually above 6,000 feet in elevation, where few trees ever grow.
 13. The tributaries of the _____ River, in particular the Little Tennessee and the _____, form a river system that flows all the way to the _____ River.
 14. More than _____ lakes are to be found in the Mountains, but almost all of them are _____.
 15. The Mountains region historically was never as _____ or _____ as the other regions of the state. The first settlers generally lived in _____ (valleys where streams cut out swaths wide enough for farming).
 16. Because the mountains had a variety of _____, mountain families made money selling “_____, barks, berries, and _____,” plants with medicinal properties.