

GUIDED READING

Alabama: Our Beautiful Home

Chapter 2: The Land We Call Alabama

Section 1

Regions

Directions:

Use the information from pages 37- 49 to complete the following.

1. What was Alabama's _____ environment like?
2. The **natural** _____ is the things that are part of nature.
3. **Natural** _____ are things in the natural environment that people can use.
4. American _____ (Native Americans) came first.
5. Then later, _____ and _____ arrived.
6. They found a land rich in _____ and _____.
7. These people found an ideal place for _____ and _____.
8. The people living here found that Alabama has _____ distinct _____.
9. _____ is what is going on outside.
10. It [weather] includes how _____ or _____ it is, cloudiness, _____, snow, and wind.
11. _____ is the average weather over a long time.
12. Explorers and _____ (early settlers) were the first _____ to come to Alabama.
13. Alabama's land is divided into _____ based on the geology of rocks.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

14. _____ deals with the history of Earth, especially the history recorded in _____.
15. The _____ part of Alabama seems almost flat.
16. It lies in a region called the _____.
17. _____ and _____ are found in this region.
18. More than _____ of Alabama's land lies in the Coastal Plain.
19. Many settlers moved into this area because they _____
by river or over flat land.
20. The _____ Belt is an area with deep, rich _____ that is very dark.
21. This soil grew _____ than other soils.
22. Another region, the _____, begins in east-central Alabama and extends through Georgia and the Carolinas all the way to New Jersey.
23. Settlers moved into the Piedmont where there was good _____.
24. Some of the rocks in this area changed long ago to _____.
25. The _____ and _____ region begins just south of Birmingham.
26. The Ridge and Valley region is rich with natural _____ resources.
27. _____ are ores or other substances found naturally in the earth.
28. _____, _____, and _____
are found in this region.
29. North and west of the Ridge and Valley are two _____ regions.
30. A _____ is a higher area made of layers of rock that are nearly flat.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

31. The _____ Plateau region begins in Alabama around Jasper.
32. The _____ Plateau begins in northern Alabama.
33. Many farmers moved to the river valleys of the region to grow _____.

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Section 2 Mineral, Energy, and Water Resources

Directions: Use the information from pages 50 - 57 to complete the following.

1. The layers of _____ in Alabama contain many minerals that people use.
2. Some of these rocks give us clues about Alabama's _____ (before written history) environment.
3. _____ formed at the bottom of a saltwater sea.
4. _____ is made of plants and animals that once lived in a swampy environment.
5. So where you find coal, you know that there once was a _____ (flooded forest) in that area.
6. Rocks break down very slowly, forming _____.
7. So Alabama has _____ of soil.
8. Some soils are very _____; that is, they are good for growing things.
9. _____ is an important part of the natural environment.
10. Plants, animals, and people _____ without water.
11. A great amount of water is stored _____ the surface of the _____.
12. When it _____, some of the water soaks into the ground and fills up tiny spaces in _____ of gravel and rock.
13. These layers act like sponges and are called _____.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

14. Water stored in the aquifers is called _____.
15. _____ is found in rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands.
16. _____ are places that are wet all or part of the year.
17. The state has 6 _____ that are deep and wide enough for large boats.
18. Rivers used for transportation are called _____.
19. Indians, settlers, traders, farmers, miners, and others used the waterways to _____ and _____ supplies.
20. Three of Alabama's rivers form parts of the state's _____.
21. The most common type of wetland in Alabama is a _____.
22. Along the Gulf Coast are _____.
23. Salt marshes are _____ with saltwater each day when the sea level rises with the tide.
24. One of the most important _____ in Alabama is the Mobile-Tensaw Delta.
25. A _____ is an area where a river divides before flowing into a larger body of water.
26. Mobile Bay and the Delta form an area called an _____.
27. An **estuary** is a place where _____ from rivers _____ with _____ from the ocean.
28. This special mix of water is an ideal place for many _____ animals to live.
29. _____, blue crabs, and _____ need this kind of water when they are young.

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Section 3 Weather, Climate, and Natural Hazards

Directions: Use the information from pages 58 - 64 to complete the following.

1. The state's _____ is _____ or temperate.
2. Average monthly summer _____ (how hot or cold it is) are in the low-80s°F (Fahrenheit).
3. _____ here are short and mild with average temperatures in the mid-40s°F.
4. _____ is water in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or hail.
5. Certain kinds of weather can cause harm and are called _____.
6. _____ storms occur when drops of rain fall on frozen surfaces.
7. _____ is another frozen hazard.
8. _____ is necessary for life.
9. A _____ is a period of weeks or months with almost no rainfall.
10. _____ floods can happen when there is heavy rainfall.
11. _____ occur often in Alabama.
12. The biggest danger from thunderstorms is the _____ they produce.
13. _____ is electricity moving from cloud to cloud or from a cloud to Earth.
14. _____ are small balls of ice that can even fall in summer thunderstorms.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

15. _____ also begin in very bad thunderstorms.

16. A **tornado** is a storm with swirling winds and a _____ - _____ cloud.

17. Tornadoes are the most _____ and _____ storms in Alabama.

18. The National Weather Service gives _____ and _____ for flash floods, thunderstorms, and tornadoes.

19. _____ are powerful storms that form over warm seas.

20. Water _____ most of the _____ in a hurricane.

21. Because these storms move so _____, people have time to evacuate low coastal areas.

22. _____ means to leave the area because of danger.

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Section 4 Natural Vegetation and Wildlife

Directions: Use the information from pages 66 - 68 to complete the following.

1. Plants growing naturally in an area are called the **natural** _____.
2. _____ of evergreen trees grew across the southern two-thirds of the state.
3. _____ **trees** keep their leaves throughout the year.
4. Evergreen forests gradually gave way to _____ **trees** (trees that lose their leaves each winter).
5. Thousands of kinds of _____, _____ and _____ are also native to Alabama.
6. All of this _____ is part of Alabama's many ecosystems.
7. An _____ includes living things such as plants, animals, and insects.
8. It [ecosystem] also includes _____ things such as air, water, soil, and climate.
9. Alabama has more kinds of _____ than many other states.
10. Alabama is home to about 850 kinds of _____ (animals with backbones).
11. _____ are animals without backbones, such as insects and snails.

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Section 5

Culture

Directions:

Use the information from pages 69 - 71 to complete the following.

1. Culture is the _____ and _____ of a group of people.
2. Some things you were _____ with — such as the color of your eyes, hair, and skin.
3. Some things you were _____ — like what to eat, what to wear, and how to behave.
4. Each culture had ideas about how to _____ a _____.
They had _____ and knew how to use them to do various jobs.
5. These tools and skills are known as _____.
6. Sometimes your culture _____ from one year to the next.
7. Technology _____ too.
8. In the past, people used _____ tools.
9. Now they may use _____ tools and _____.
10. _____ are used in homes, schools, and business today.
11. Each way of making a living needs _____ resources.
12. Alabama's many _____ made it possible for people from different cultures to live well.