

COMMON CORE
Lessons & Activities

LANDFORMS

Reading for Information

Higher-Order Thinking

Writing Prompts

Current Events Analysis

Vocabulary

Cause & Effect

Graphic Organizers

& More!

SAMPLE

REPRODUCIBLE

One teacher is allowed to make copies for use in her/his classroom!



About this Book

This Common Core Lessons and Activities Book allows you to immediately meet new Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, as well as Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies. It is designed to supplement your Social Studies resources, adding new Common Core rigor, analysis, writing, inference, text-dependent questions, and more into your daily instruction.

How to Use this Book:

- Work through the lessons and activities as a class to teach your students higher-order thinking, analysis, and 21st century skills necessary to meet new Common Core expectations.
- Allow students to work through the lessons independently to build and practice these new skills.
- Include technology, collaboration, presentation, and discussion in the activities as you desire—you can decide how in-depth to go.
- Watch your class develop new abilities to meet the rigor of Common Core State Standards, right before your eyes!

Tips:

- Use some of the pages—or use them all—based on your grade, your students, your curriculum, and your needs.
- Use the pages at their current size, or if you prefer them to be 8-1/2" x 11", enlarge them 125% on your copy machine.
- Download graphic organizers labeled “GO” in the Table of Contents by going to: www.gallopade.com/client/go
- Use the correlations grid to easily see which Common Core standards are covered in each lesson.

Common Core Lessons & Activities: Landforms

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Published by Gallopade International, Inc.

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Printed in the U.S.A. (Peachtree City, Georgia)

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G: Includes Graphic Organizer

GO: Graphic Organizer is also available 8½" x 11" online
download at www.gallopade.com/client/go

(numbers above correspond to the graphic organizer numbers online)

CLASSIFYING INFORMATION

Continents & Oceans

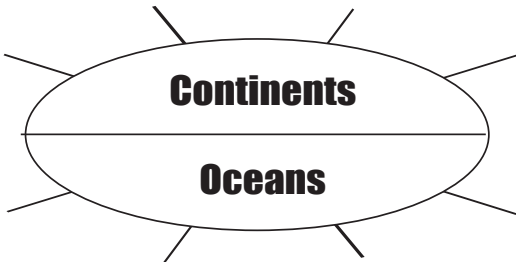
Read the text and answer the questions.

Continents are the largest continuous areas of land above sea level. There are seven continents on Earth: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America. Continents contain many familiar smaller landforms such as mountains, valleys, canyons, plains, and many others. Despite how large they are, continents only cover roughly 30% of the Earth's surface.

The Earth's continents are surrounded and separated by the Earth's oceans. The oceans are not truly "landforms," but they can be considered landforms because they are shaped by the land that surrounds them. The five oceans of the world are the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Antarctic Oceans. Together, these oceans form one "World Ocean" that covers about 70% of the Earth's surface.

The ocean might also be considered a landform because ocean water rests on top of land. The land underneath the ocean is called the ocean floor. Between continents, the ocean floor swoops downward in a bowl-shaped landform known as an ocean basin. Like continents above water, ocean basins contain many smaller landforms, called ocean floor formations, such as ocean plains, mountain ridges, trenches, and many others.

1. List the seven continents and the five oceans on the Earth's surface.
2. Use information from the text to complete the description wheel for continents and oceans.



3. Describe the relationship between continents and oceans.

READING INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Bumps and Dips

Read the text and answer the questions.

The Earth's surface is far from flat. The rise and fall of the Earth's surface creates many of the most familiar landforms, including mountains, valleys, plains, and plateaus.

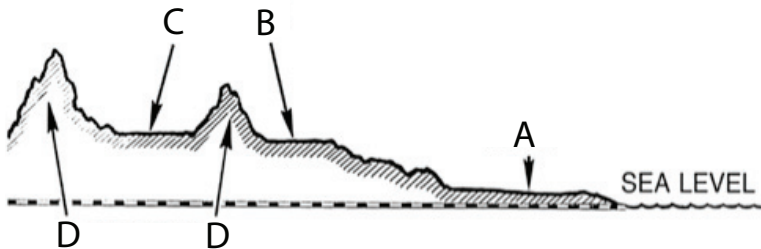
As land rises or falls, it increases or decreases in elevation. Elevation is like height, but elevation is a landform's height above sea level.

Plains are usually flat lands that have a very low elevation. Coastal plains are found near the coasts and often support a wide variety of plant and animal life.

Plateaus are similar to plains. However, plateaus are typically raised above the surrounding land and have a higher elevation. Most plateaus have moderate elevation, but some plateaus are so high, they are too cold for most living things to survive.

Mountains typically have the highest elevations. Mt. McKinley in Alaska has an elevation of 29,020 ft. above sea level—the highest point in the United States. In contrast, a valley is a dip in elevation between two mountains. The lowest point in the United States is found in Death Valley—282 ft. below sea level!

- Use the text to define elevation.
 - Explain how “bumps and dips” are changes in elevation.
- Explain how a landform, such as Death Valley can be below sea level.
- With what you just read about elevation, identify each of the landforms on the image below:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____



RESEARCH & PRESENTATION

Landforms

Follow the instructions in parts A, B, C, and D.

PART A: Choose one landform to research. Then use online and classroom resources to gather information and images of your landform. Complete the graphic organizer for your landform.

archipelago canyon plain gulf isthmus
trench butte plateau bay peninsula
valley desert delta river lake
volcano basin cave inlet strait

Landform	Characteristics
Definition	Examples

PART B: Organize the information into a digital presentation about your landform. Include details about its shape, size, and distinguishing characteristics. Explain how the landform was formed and where it might be found in the United States.

PART C: Proofread and edit your work. Practice using formal language in your presentation.

PART D: Share your presentation with the class. As a class, categorize these landforms as either land features or water features.

CLASSIFYING INFORMATION

Landform Regions of North America

Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1. Appalachian Mountains**—west of the Coastal Plain, from eastern Canada to Alabama; low-lying eroded mountains; North America's oldest mountain range
- 2. Basin and Range**—west of the Rocky Mountains and east of the Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountain ranges; includes varying elevations, and isolated mountain ranges, and Death Valley—the lowest point in North America
- 3. Canadian Shield**—horseshoe-shaped area wrapping around Hudson Bay; hills worn by erosion and hundreds of glacier-carved lakes; some of the oldest rock formations in North America
- 4. Coastal Plain**—along the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico; broad flat land with many excellent harbors on the coast
- 5. Coastal Range**—Pacific Coast stretching from Mexico to Canada; rugged mountains and fertile valleys; several excellent harbors
- 6. Great Plains**—west of Interior Lowlands and east of the Rocky Mountains; flat lands that slightly increase in elevation westward; known as grasslands
- 7. Interior Lowlands**—west of the Appalachian Mountains and east of the Great Plains; lowlands with rolling flatlands, broad river valleys, and grassy hills
- 8. Rocky Mountains**—West of the Great Plains and east of the Basin and Range region; rugged, young mountains with high elevation stretching from Alaska to Mexico; includes Continental Divide

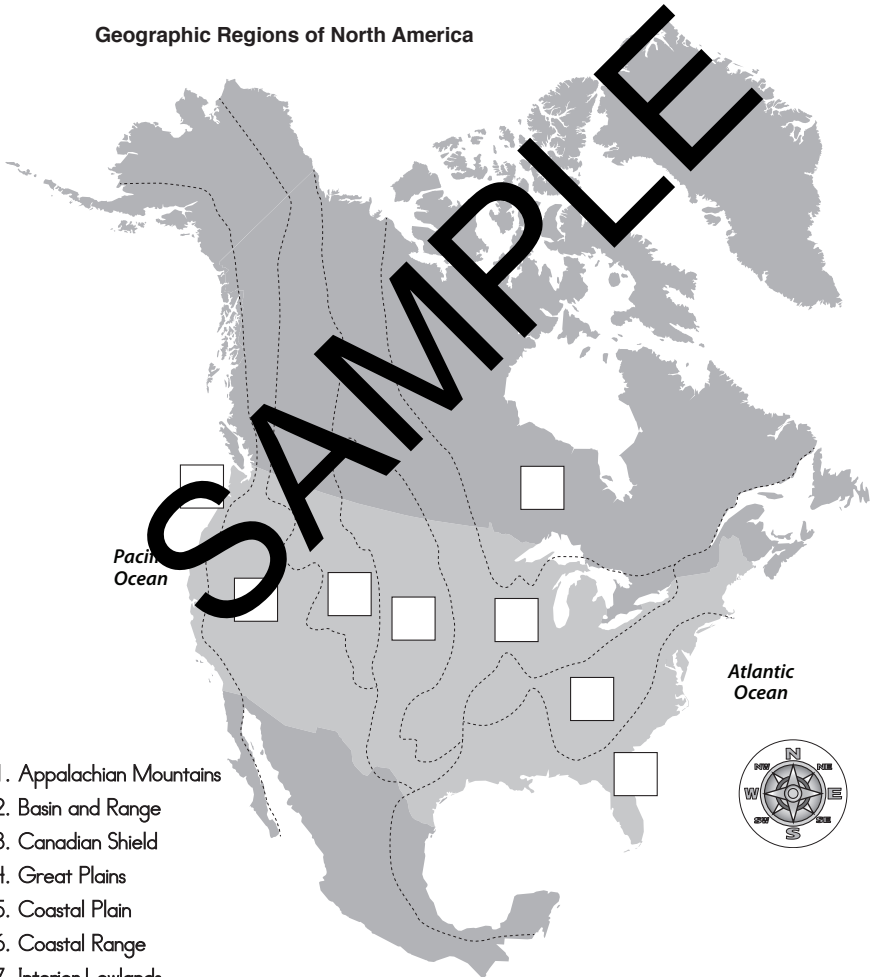
PART A: Use information from the text to answer the questions.

1. Compare and contrast the Coastal Plains and Great Plains.
2. Compare and contrast the Rocky Mountains and Appalachian Mountains in terms of age, location, and physical features.
3. How are the landform regions of the east coast different from the landform regions of the west coast?
4. What makes plains different from lowlands?

5. What can you infer about the climate in the Canadian Shield region? Cite evidence from the text to support your answer.
6. Which regions are most likely suitable for agriculture? Cite evidence from the text to support your answer.
7. When American settlers moved westward, which regions do you think proved the most difficult to cross? Explain your answer with logical reasoning.

PART B: Use the text to identify each region on the map as it is described in the text. Place the number of the region in the correct location on the map.

Geographic Regions of North America



1. Appalachian Mountains
2. Basin and Range
3. Canadian Shield
4. Great Plains
5. Coastal Plain
6. Coastal Range
7. Interior Lowlands
8. Rocky Mountains

Correlations to Common Core State Standards

For your convenience, correlations are listed page-by-page, and for the entire book!

This book is correlated to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts grades 3-8, and to Common Core State Standards for Literacy in History, Science, & Technological Subjects grades 6-8.

Correlations are highlighted in gray.

PAGE #	READING										WRITING										LANGUAGE						SPEAKING & LISTENING									
	Includes: RI: Reading Informational Text RST: Reading Science & Technical Subjects										Includes: W: Writing WHST: Writing History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects										Includes: L: Language LF: Language Functional Skills						Includes: SL: Speaking & Listening									
2	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	L	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
8-9	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
10-11	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
12-13	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
14-15	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
16	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
17	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
18	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
19	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
20-21	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
22	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
23	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6
COMPLETE BOOK	RI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	W	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LF	1	2	3	4	5	6	SL	1	2	3	4	5	6

For the complete Common Core standard identifier, combine your grade + "." + letter code above + "." + number code above.

In addition to the correlations indicated here, the activities may be adapted or expanded to align to additional standards and to meet the diverse needs of your unique students!

Common Core Lessons & Activities Books

Social Studies Titles:

- Declaration of Independence
- U.S. Constitution
- Bill of Rights
- Road to the Civil War
- The Civil War: Key Battles & Events
- Jamestown
- Key Events of World War II
- Civil Rights Movement
- Branches of Government
- Basic Economic Concepts
- Women's Suffrage and the 19th Amendment
- The American Revolution
- Explorers
- The Olympics
- Underground Railroad
- Forms of Government: Democracy, Monarchy, & Oligarchy & More
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Egypt
- Native Americans
- Indian Removal & the Trail of Tears
- Inventors & Inventions
- Map Skills
- Westward Expansion
- Communities

Science Titles:

- Habitats
- States of Matter
- Cell Structure
- Weather
- Water Cycle
- Energy
- Solar System
- Sound
- Mammals
- Light
- Rocks and Minerals
- Oceans
- Heredity & Genetics
- Magnetism
- Natural Resources
- Ecosystems
- Force & Motion
- History of the Earth
- Life Cycles
- Wave Properties
- Landforms
- Classification of Organisms
- Electricity
- The Scientific Method

COMMON CORE Lessons & Activities

Are you expected to change how you teach because of new CCSS for English Language Arts & new CCSS for Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies and Science?

Are you expected to continue to meet existing science and social studies standards, AND integrate new, more rigorous expectations for reading, writing, analysis, inference, and more into your daily instruction?

This series of 48+ little books is a **HUGE** help!

Common
Core at an
Uncommon
Value

Supplement the resources you already have by choosing the books in this series that meet the science and social studies topics you teach. Each book will provide you with ready-to-use reproducible pages that are the exact kinds of Common Core lessons and activities you need to meet the new added requirements of Common Core!

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State Standards for ELA + Common Core State Standards for Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies and Science!

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-Amy Johnson, Common Core Specialist