

14-1 - Geography and Early Cultures - Pages 384-389

Essential Question:

How did the landforms and climate of the Americas affect farming and the development of early cultures?

Main Idea 1:

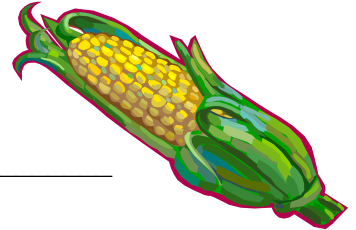
The geography of the Americas is varied with a wide range of landforms.

- Two continents— _____ and _____—make up the _____ called the Americas.
- These two continents have a wide range of _____ and _____.

The Americas

North America

- Mountains, desert plateaus, _____, and _____
- _____ and _____ in the northern part of the continent
- _____ toward the south
- The climate _____ in north America _____ from cold & icy in the _____ to warmer temperatures in the _____



South America

- **Mesoamerica** includes the southern part of what is now _____ and the _____ countries of _____.
- _____ forests
- Very _____ soil for _____ plants
- Andes _____, deserts, and rich _____ waters

Main Idea 2:

The first people to arrive in the Americas were hunter-gatherers.

- Most scientists believe the first _____ came to America across the _____ Strait from _____.
 - This strait probably _____ during the _____ Ages.
- Some _____ they arrived earlier by _____.
- They were _____-gatherers.
 - Hunters hunted for their _____.
 - _____ gathered fruit, _____, & grains.
 - Both _____ of people were constantly _____, looking for food
- Some eventually _____ down along the _____ to _____ and gather _____.

Main Idea 3:

The development of farming led to early settlements in the Americas.

- From their experiments with seeds, _____ learned how to _____.
- _____ allowed them to stop following _____ herds and _____ in one place.

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

The First Farming Settlements

- Mesoamerican _____ were successful in _____ plants due to the warm _____ and _____ soil.
- People in Mesoamerica began growing _____, or _____.
- Maize became a reliable _____ source for these _____ people.
- By growing more _____, they could support _____ populations.
- Eventually _____ developed into _____ and cities.

The Olmec

- The Olmec formed the first _____ civilization in _____.
- They lived mostly in _____ that served as centers of _____ and religions.
- They built the first _____ in the _____ and made great sculptures.
- Some believe they developed the first _____ system in the _____.
- They _____ with other people and _____.
- The Olmec are a _____ civilization because they built _____, buildings, made _____, had a form of _____, and conducted scientific _____.

Farming and the Growth of Other Civilizations

- The development of farming was _____ in the growth of _____ all over the Americas.
- The first major civilization in the _____ was the _____ culture.
- People like the _____ began growing _____, beans, and _____.
- People learned to choose _____ soil to farm and to use rivers to _____ their _____.
- Steady _____ sources led to population _____ in these regions.

