

Welcome to...

Thinking Like a  
Geographer!





**Billy-Joe was great on sport but lousy on geography.**

# Hey, what's the BIG idea?!

- Geography is the study of the Earth and the ways we interact with Earth.



- Geographers came up with five different ways to study the Earth and its people. **THE FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY** are five big ideas that help people understand geography.



# The Five Themes of Geography!



- 1. Location – The geographic theme that answers the question WHERE is it?**
- 2. Place – The geographic theme that answers the question WHAT is it like there?**
- 3. Human/Environment Interaction – The geographic theme that explains ways in which people use, adapt, or modify the Earth. It helps us understand how people interact with the environment**



# The Five Themes of Geography!



- 4. Movement – The geographic theme that explains how and why people goods, and ideas move. It helps us understand how places are connected to other places.**
- 5. Region – The geographic theme that identifies an area by one or more common features. common features help us understand a place?**

# Location, Location, Location!

- Absolute Location is the exact location of a place.
- How do you identify the absolute location of your house?



# Where Are YOU?!

- What is the absolute location of your desk in our room?
- Can you think of another way to describe your location in the classroom?





# It's all Relative, my Dear!

- Relative location is when places are described in relation to other objects, items, people or places.

- What items or objects might you use to help guide someone to your home?

To your school?

To the grocery store?



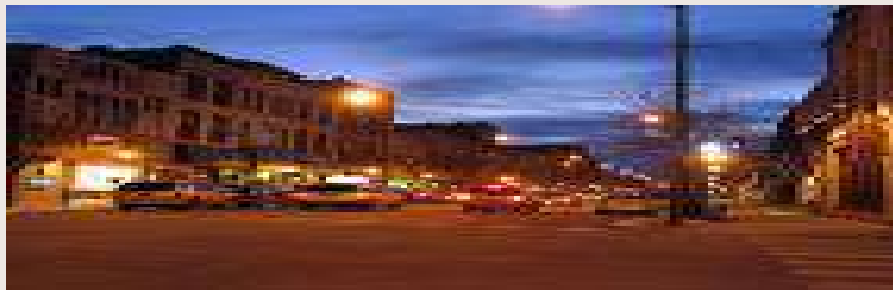


# Features of Relative Location

- **Physical Features that were not made by humans– landforms, plants, animals, bodies of water.**



- **Human Features that were made by people – roads, bridges, cities**



# The Relative Location of the Mitten!

- Use your desk maps to develop **THREE** different ways to describe the **RELATIVE** location of Michigan's Lower Peninsula
- Use your desk maps to develop **THREE** different ways to describe the **RELATIVE** location of Michigan's Upper Peninsula



Ralph Dazio





# Human - Environment

Interaction can occur in three  
different ways:

- USING the environment.
- ADAPTING to the environment.
- CHANGING the environment.

Fill in the blanks on your chart!



## Using the Environment

- **What it means: People use the natural resources of the environment. For example people used trees in MI to build homes.**

## Adapting to the Environment

- **What it means: People adapt or change in order to fit in or survive in their environment. For example since there are lots of mosquitos in MI people use screens on windows.**

Add to your chart!



# Modifying the Environment

- **What it means: People change the environment in order to make it fit them. For example: People have filled in wetlands in MI in order to build houses.**

Add to your chart!







# MOVEMENT!



- **The theme of movement helps connect multiple areas of social studies!**
- **What are some questions Geographers ask about movement? (Check your word cards)**
  - **They ask HOW and WHY PEOPLE GOODS AND IDEAS MOVE FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.**





# MOVEMENT!

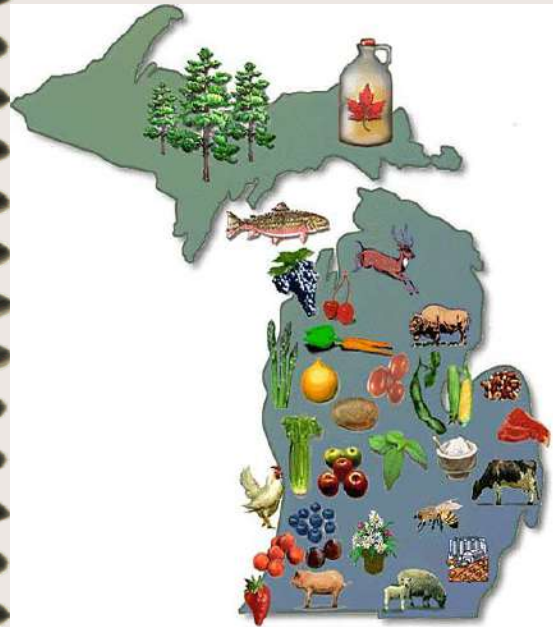


- **HISTORIANS** are also interested in movement. What might they want to understand about movement?
  - They want investigate cause and effect. How does one event lead to another.
- What type of movement might an **ECONOMIST** be interested in?
  - The movement of goods from one place to another.

# ON THE MOVE!

- Use what you learned about Michigan history in our timeline activity, and from prior knowledge, to identify people and goods that moved to and from Michigan.
- **Who are the PEOPLE that moved TO Michigan?**
  - **Who are the PEOPLE that moved AWAY FROM Michigan?**
- **What are the GOODS that came TO Michigan from other places?**
  - **What are the GOODS that traveled FROM Michigan to other places?**
- **Work with a partner to complete the movement chart.**

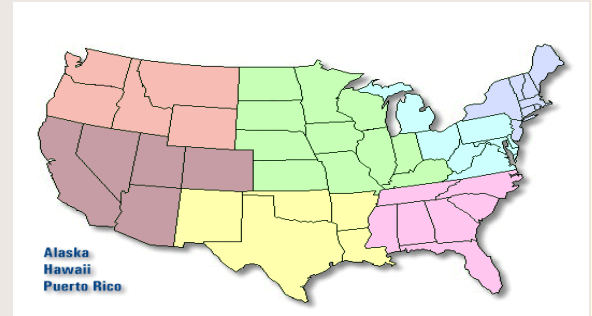
# Creating Regions



- **REGIONS** are categorized as sharing similar physical or human made features.
- **Using some of the MI maps in your textbook, name at least three ways to divide the state of Michigan into regions?**

# On a National Scale!

- Michigan also is part of different regions of the United States.
- Michigan is part of the Midwestern Region AND is a part of the Great Lakes Region of the United States.



# FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY

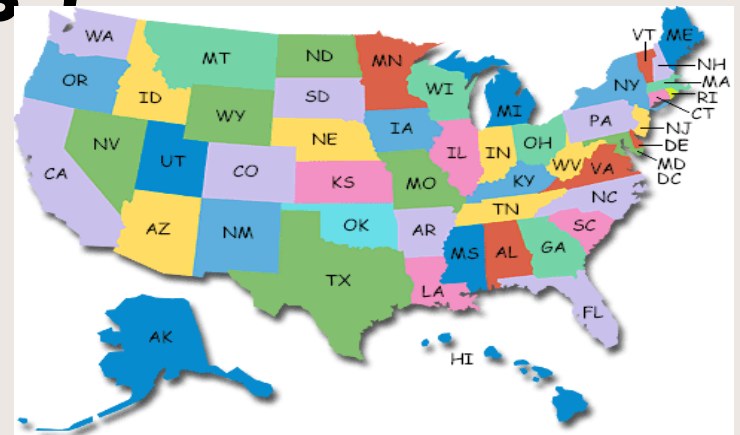
- Use the acronym, **MR HELP** to help you remember the Five Themes of Geography: **Movement, Region, History, Economy, Location, Place.**



# The Good Old U.S.A



• Write FIVE questions about the United States. One constructed to address each of the FIVE themes of Geography! (Leave space for answers )



# The Good Old U.S.A



• Exchange your FIVE  
THEMES questions about  
the United States with a  
classmate and answer each  
others questions!

