



GEORGIA STUDIES REVIEW GUIDE



SS8G1 The student will describe Georgia with regard to physical features and location.

- Locate Georgia in relation to region, nation, continent, and hemispheres.
- Describe the five geographic regions of Georgia; include the Blue Ridge Mountains, Valley and Ridge, Appalachian Plateau, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain.
- Locate and evaluate the importance of key physical features on the development of Georgia; include the Fall Line, Okefenokee Swamp, Appalachian Mountains, Chattahoochee and Savannah Rivers, and barrier islands.
- Evaluate the impact of climate on Georgia's development.

Our standards want you to know where you live. It's kinda important...

Geography

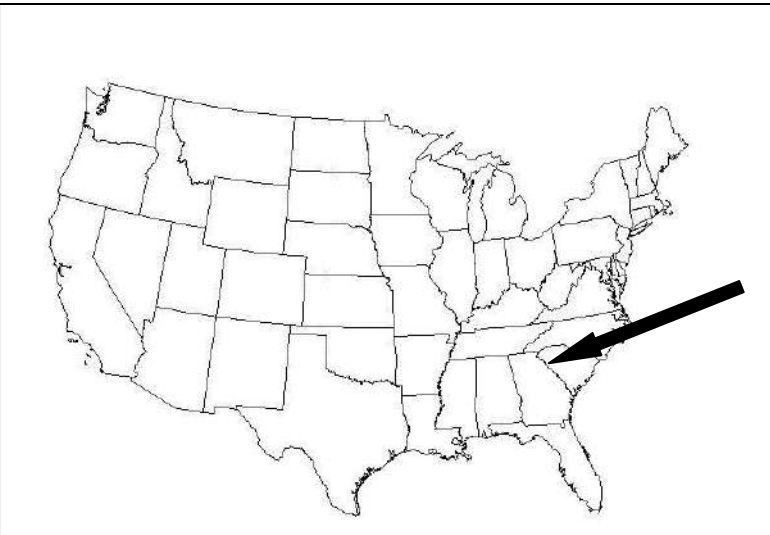
Geography means "earth's description." Where is Georgia located, and how are certain places different than others?



Above you is our **state**. Its name is **GEORGIA**. (We're in Georgia Studies...get it?)



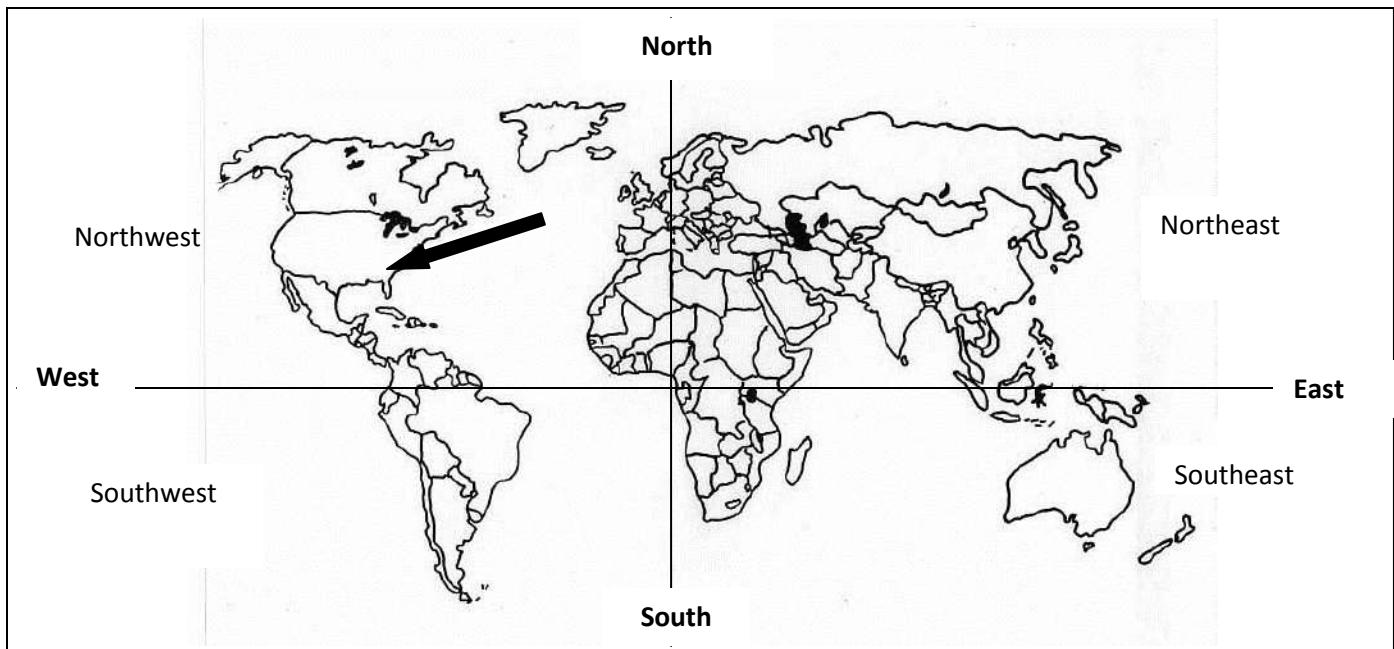
Our state is a part of our **nation**. Our nation, the **United States of America**, has different **regions**. We live in the **southeastern** part of the United States.



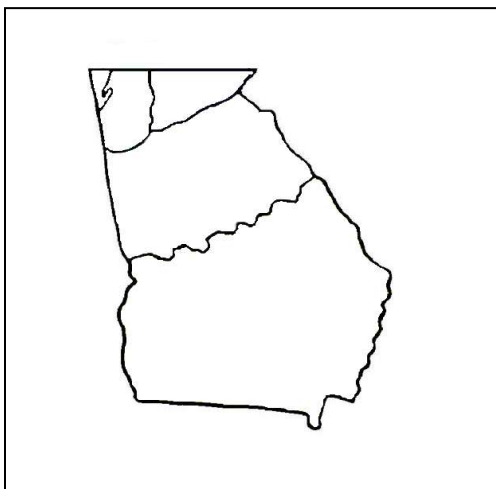
On the left, you'll see our **NATION**, the **United States of America**. Sometimes you might hear our nation called our "country." Sometimes our nation is called by its nickname, "America." **Do not get confused!** When you think of our nation's name, think of the Pledge of Allegiance that is said every morning. "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!**"



To your left, you will see our **continent**. There are seven continents on the planet, but ours is named **North America**. North America contains our nation, the **United States of America**, as well as other nations (like **Canada**, **Mexico**, and **Cuba**). Our continent is located in the **northern** and **western** hemispheres of the world.

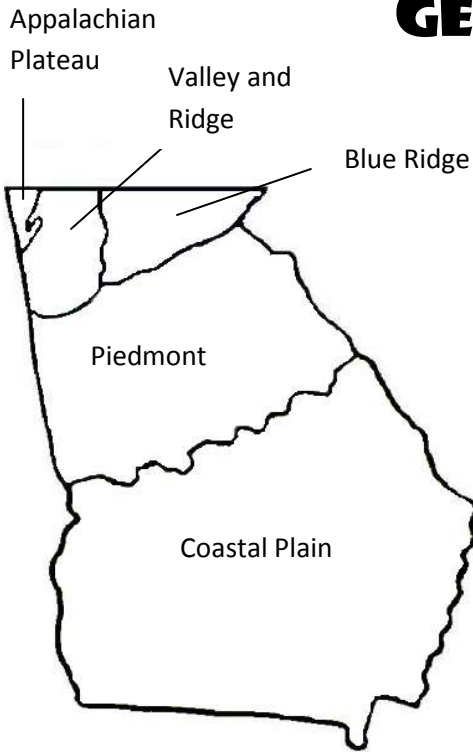


The map above is a map of our world. In our world, we have four hemispheres. Georgia is located in the **northern** and **western** hemispheres. Do not get confused! While we may live in the **southeastern part** of our nation and the **northeastern corner** of our state, our **hemispheres reference where we are at in the WORLD**.



Georgia, our state, has five **regions**. These regions are based on geography. Each region has different features (this means that the way the land looks is different in each region). Georgia's five regions are the **Piedmont**, **Appalachian Plateau**, **Blue Ridge**, **Ridge and Valley**, and the **Coastal Plain**. You need to know the differences in these regions and their features.

GEORGIA'S REGIONS



The **Appalachian Plateau** in Georgia's northwestern corner of the state. This region is known for its limestone caves and flat-topped mountains. This region is near Chattanooga, TN and hosts Chickamauga Battlefield.

The **Valley and Ridge** region is in between Georgia's the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Plateau regions. This region is known for its many ridges and valleys. Dalton and Ellijay are located here.

The **Blue Ridge** region has the highest mountains in the state. This region has lots of mountains and receives a lot of precipitation (rain, snow, etc). Because of its elevation, it is also cooler than the other regions.

The **Piedmont** region is known for its red clay and foothills. Because it has Atlanta, the state capital, 50% of the state's population lives here. We live in the Piedmont region.

The **Coastal Plain** region is the largest and is very agricultural (meaning they farm a lot). The land in this region is very flat, and as you get closer to the ocean, there are wetlands. Georgia's barrier islands are located off of the coast of this region.

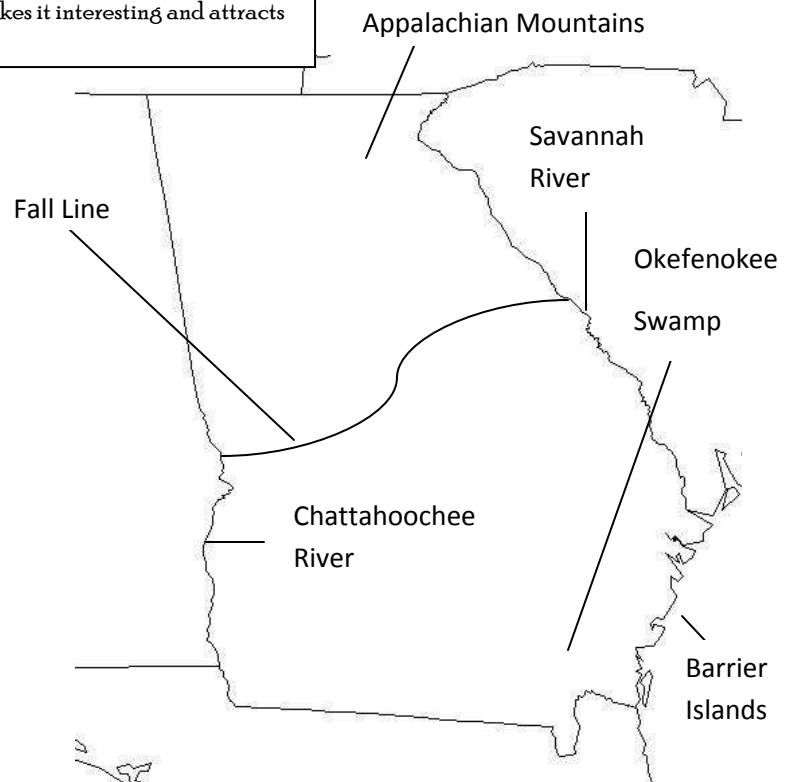
The regions can difficult to remember. To help you out, remember where you live. You live in the Piedmont region. Look outside. There are not mountains outside, but hilly land and lots of red clay. These are features of the Piedmont region. When you travel north, you head toward mountains. When you travel south, you see flat land, agriculture, and, eventually the ocean. Think about the cities you may have visited. Dahlonega has mountains (Blue Ridge), Savannah has the ocean (Coastal Plain), Atlanta has hills (Piedmont), Ellijay and Dalton are in valleys (Ridge and Valley), and Chickamauga is located near Chattanooga and has flat-topped mountains surrounding it (Appalachian Plateau).

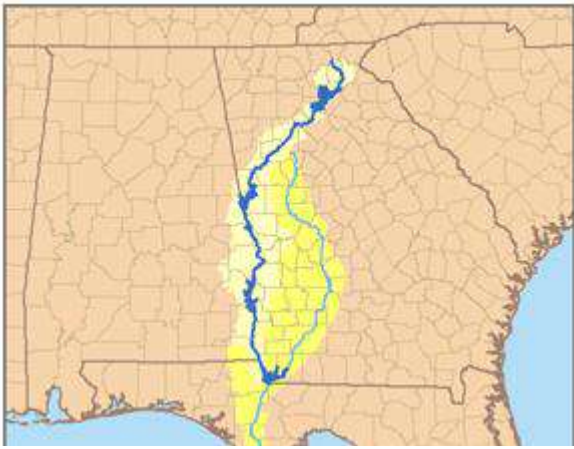
GEORGIA'S PHYSICAL FEATURES

Georgia has many different physical features. Georgia's geography makes it interesting and attracts tourists to the area.

The **Appalachian Mountains** are one of Georgia's most important physical features. These mountains provide a lot of precipitation for the state. The mountains bring in a lot of tourists who come and visit. These mountains also host Brasstown Bald, Georgia's highest point.

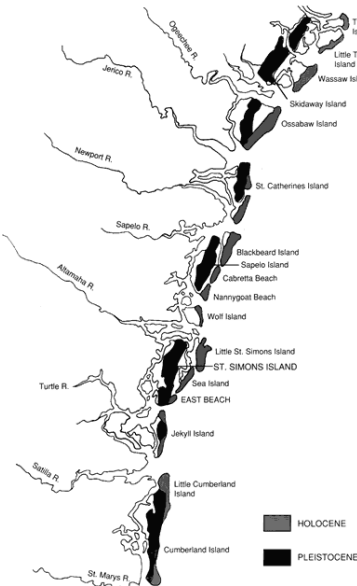
The **Fall Line** in Georgia is a natural boundary that separates the Piedmont region and the Coastal Plain. This division has many waterfalls, which are used today to help power plants. The cities located on the Fall Line are Columbus, Macon, and Augusta.





Georgia has two major rivers. One of those rivers is the **Chattahoochee River**, which begins in the **Blue Ridge Region** and flows into the **Gulf of Mexico**. This river creates Georgia's border with Alabama.

Georgia's other major river is the **Savannah River**. This river creates Georgia's boundary with South Carolina, and this river flows into the **Atlantic Ocean**. It also flows through the city of Savannah.

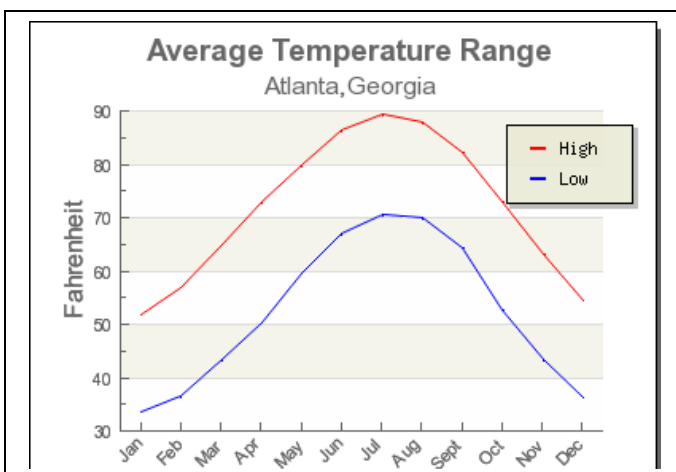


Georgia's barrier islands are located off of its coast. These islands serve many purposes. They bring in tourists, help preserve Georgia's coastline from erosion, and they also serve as wilderness sanctuaries.



Georgia's **Okefenokee Swamp** is located in South Georgia in the **Coastal Plain**. This swamp is the largest freshwater wetland in the United States. The swamp is home to a great deal of wildlife and most of it is used as a national park.

GEORGIA'S CLIMATE

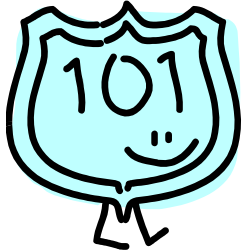


Georgia has a mild **climate**, meaning that its weather over the course of a year is pretty pleasant and it **doesn't** get too cold in the winter. This is a good thing for Georgia. Because of its mild climate, Georgia is able to bring in tourists year-round. People who bring factories and businesses to the state choose Georgia because there are few weather-related **absences**. Georgia's mild climate definitely helps its economy.

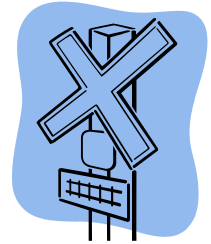
GEORGIA'S FOUR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

SS8G2 The student will explain how the Interstate Highway System, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, and Georgia's deepwater ports, and the railroads help drive the state's economy.

- Explain how the four transportation systems interact to provide domestic and international goods to the people of Georgia.
- Explain how the four transportation systems interact to provide producers and service providers in Georgia with national and international markets.
- Explain how the four transportation systems provide jobs for Georgians.



Guess what? Georgia has four major transportation systems. These systems help our state. These are the **Interstate Highway System**, **Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport**, **Georgia's deepwater ports**, and **the railroads**.



Georgia is a part of the **Interstate Highway System**, a system that was created in the 1950s to help Americans get from state to state. Georgia uses this system to transport goods and services, and it also helps tourists find their way to Georgia. **I-85, I-75, and I-20** are some of the most travelled interstates that run through Georgia.

Georgia's railroads are also important. Railroads are mostly used in our state to transport goods and services (especially to places like Savannah and Brunswick, where freight will be sent overseas). There are some Georgians who still use the railroads to travel from place to place, but most use the Interstate and planes.



Georgia is quite famous for its airport in Atlanta (one of our transportation systems) called the **Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport**. At times, this is the busiest airport in the WORLD! It was named after two famous mayors of Atlanta: William Hartsfield and Maynard Jackson, who are in your GPS Standards. Georgia's airport gives Georgians jobs, brings people into our state for tourism, and is the hub (or center) for Georgia-based **Delta Airlines**.

Georgia's deepwater seaports are located in **Savannah and Brunswick**. These ports are used mostly for hauling cargo. Many imports (goods coming in) and exports (goods going out) are exchanged through these ports. These deepwater seaports rely on other forms of transportation (railroads and the Interstate) to bring goods to and from its port as well. Georgia's deepwater ports are very important to its economy. These ports give Georgians jobs, allow Georgia exports (like chicken feet!) to go out, and imports to come into Georgia's stores.



Ships like these use Georgia's deepwater seaports to haul imports and exports!