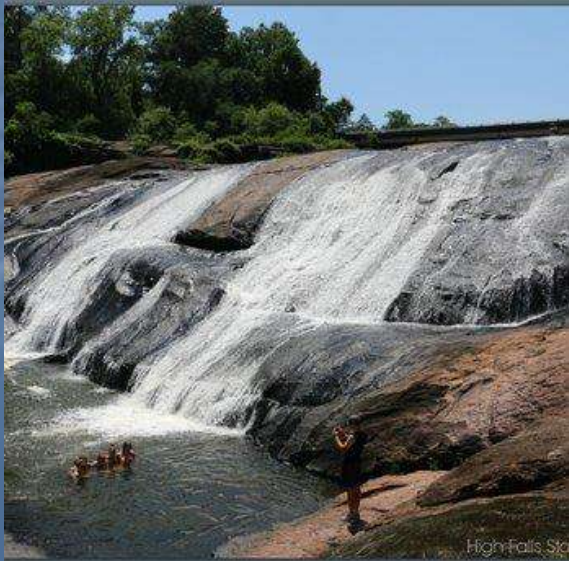
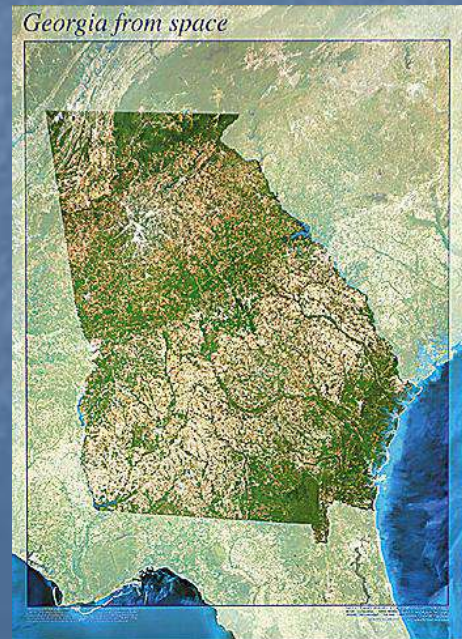


Unit 1: Physical Geography of Georgia



SS8G1



Elaborated Unit Focus

- This unit will focus on the physical geography of the state, including the relationship between human activities and physical features. It will lead to an understanding of the importance of location and physical features to the development of an area and its culture.

THE BIG IDEA

- **SS8G1: Describe Georgia's geography and climate.**
 - Describe: to represent or give an account of in words; *recount, report*

SS8G1a

- **SS8G1a: Locate Georgia in relation to region, nation, continent, and hemispheres.**
 - Locate- to look for and discover on a map; *find, pinpoint*

Where are we located?

SS8G1a

- Georgia is located in the "Southeast" region.



Where are we located?

SS8G1a

- **Georgia is in The United States of America**



Where are we located?

SS8G1a

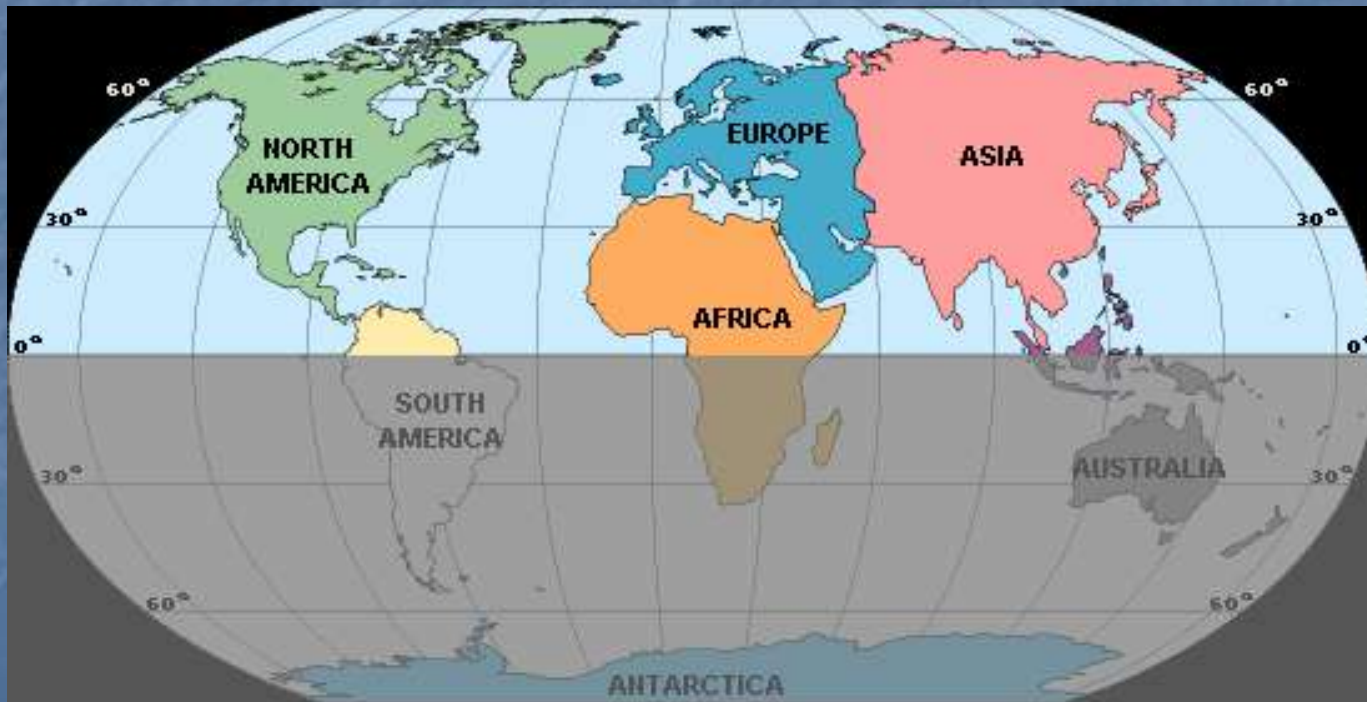
- **Georgia is on the continent of North America**



Where are we located?

SS8G1a

- **Georgia is in the Northern Hemisphere of the world.**



Where are we located?

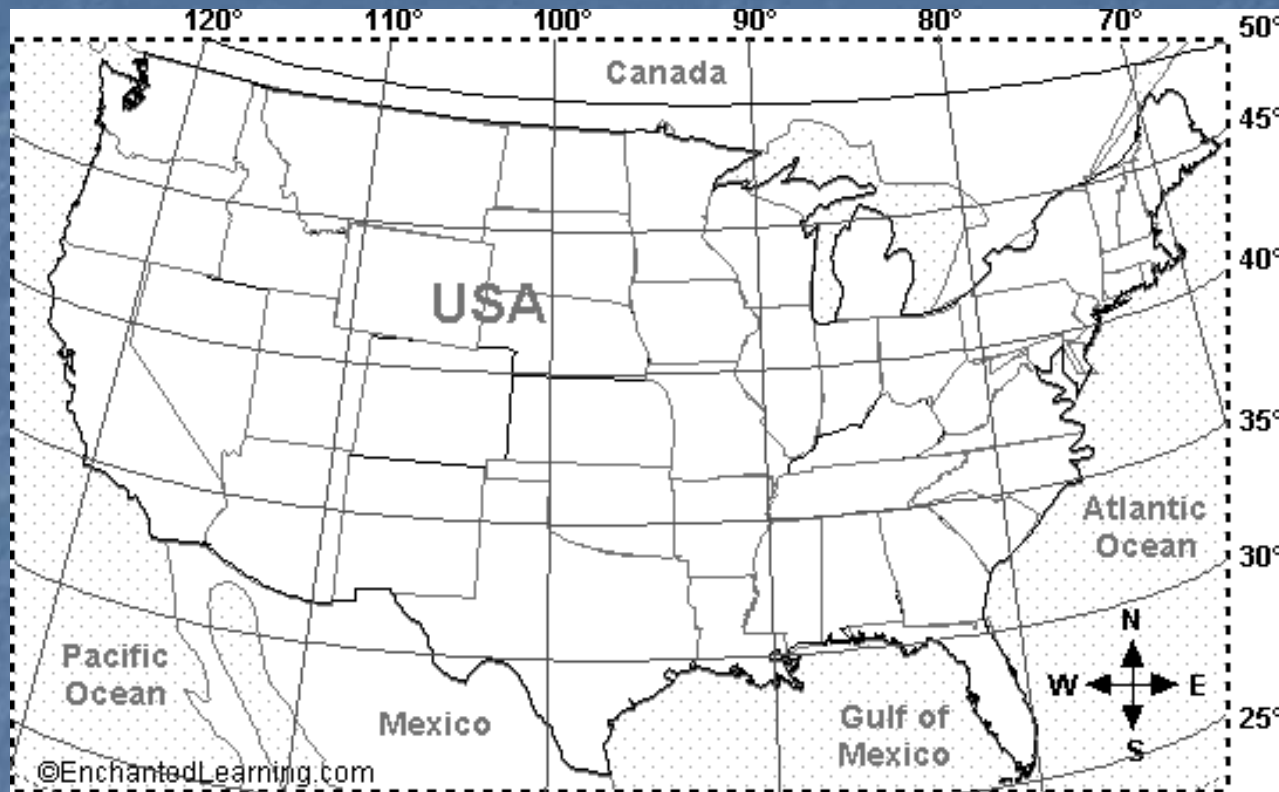
SS8G1a

- **Georgia is in the Western Hemisphere of the world.**



Where are we located?

SS8G1a



■ GA's location is approx.

- Northern Boundary: 35°N
- Southern Boundary: 30°N
- Western Boundary: 86°W
- Eastern Boundary: 81°W

Discussion

- Can you answer the Essential Question now?
 - Location
 - Where are we located?

SS8G1b

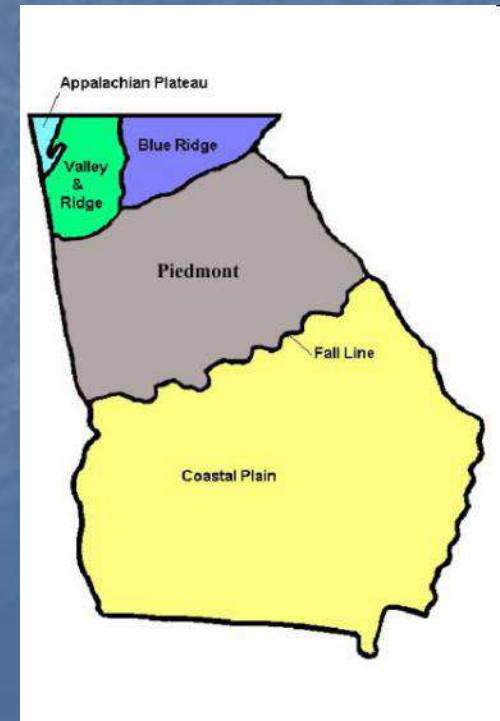
- **SS8G1b: Distinguish between the five geographic regions of Georgia in terms of location, climate, agriculture, and economic contributions.**
- Distinguish-point out a difference

What's it like here?

G.S.

SS8G1b

- Georgia has 5 physiographic regions.
- Regions are determined by **geographic similarities.**
- The 5 regions passing through GA are:
 - **Appalachian Plateau**
 - **Ridge and Valley**
 - **Blue Ridge**
 - **Piedmont**
 - **Coastal Plain**



Appalachian Plateau

SS8G1b



- **NW corner of the State**
“TAG corner” (TN, AL, GA)
- **Smallest region of GA**
- Flat or sloping land above surrounding valleys

Appalachian Plateau

SS8G1b

- Climate: **Cooler temperatures due to its higher elevation** and more northern latitude
- Agriculture: **limited due to poor soil**; some corn and soybeans
- Economic Contributions: most profitable contributions are **tourism and forestry**; some limestone mining

Appalachian Plateau

SS8G1b

- Interesting features: Cloudland Canyon, Lookout Mountain
 - Caving is popular here



Ridge and Valley

SS8G1b



- **Located between the Appalachian Plateau and Blue Ridge**
- Long parallel **ridges separated by wide, fertile valleys**
 - farming and pasture
- **Climate:** cooler temps due to higher elevation
- **Agriculture:** some farming (corn, soybeans)
- **Economic Contributions:** tourism, forestry, some mining

Ridge and Valley SS8G1b

- Dalton, GA is known as the “carpet capital of the world”



Blue Ridge

SS8G1b

- Located in the **Northeast corner of the state**
- Largest group of mountains in GA
- Named after blue haze that often covers the mountains
- Climate: **Cooler temps, Most rainfall in GA**; these mountains are water source for the entire state



Blue Ridge SS8G1b



- Agriculture: **apples, corn, vegetables**
- Economic Contributions: **tourism, forestry, some mining**
- Interesting Features:
 - Brasstown Bald: Georgia's highest point (4784 ft)
 - Amicalola Falls: Georgia's highest waterfall (729 ft)
 - Appalachian Trail (2200 miles from GA to Maine begins at Springer Mtn. near Brasstown Bald)

Piedmont

SS8G1b



- Located **north of the Coastal Plain**
- Separated from Coastal Plain by Fall Line
- **Red clay soil** with granite base, **very hilly**
- **“foot of the mountains”**

Piedmont SS8G1b

- Climate: **warm, hot summers; cool, mild winters**
- Agriculture: **Cotton, soybeans, wheat, cattle, pine trees, poultry**



Piedmont cont'd

SS8G1b



- Economic Contributions:
 - Business, manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, timber
- Interesting Features:
 - Coca-Cola & Home Depot among companies with headquarters in GA
 - Most populated region in GA (we live here!)



Coastal Plain

SS8G1b



- **Southern 2/3 of state, largest region, flat/fertile soil once covered by ocean**
- **Divided into “Inner” and “Outer” Coastal Plain**
 - Inner=farmland
 - Outer=coast, swamp
- **Lowest elevation begins at sea level at the coast**

Coastal Plain SS8G1b

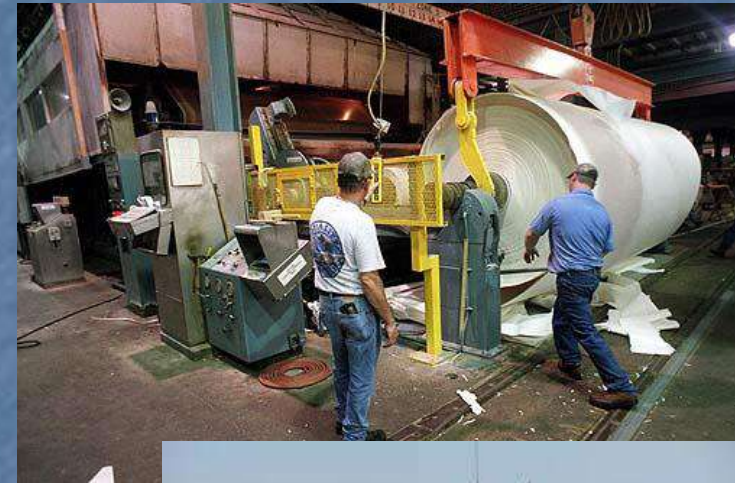
- Climate: **hot summers;**
cool, mild winters
- Agriculture: **peaches,**
pecans, peanuts,
onions, cotton, corn,
soybeans



Coastal Plain cont'd

SS8G1b

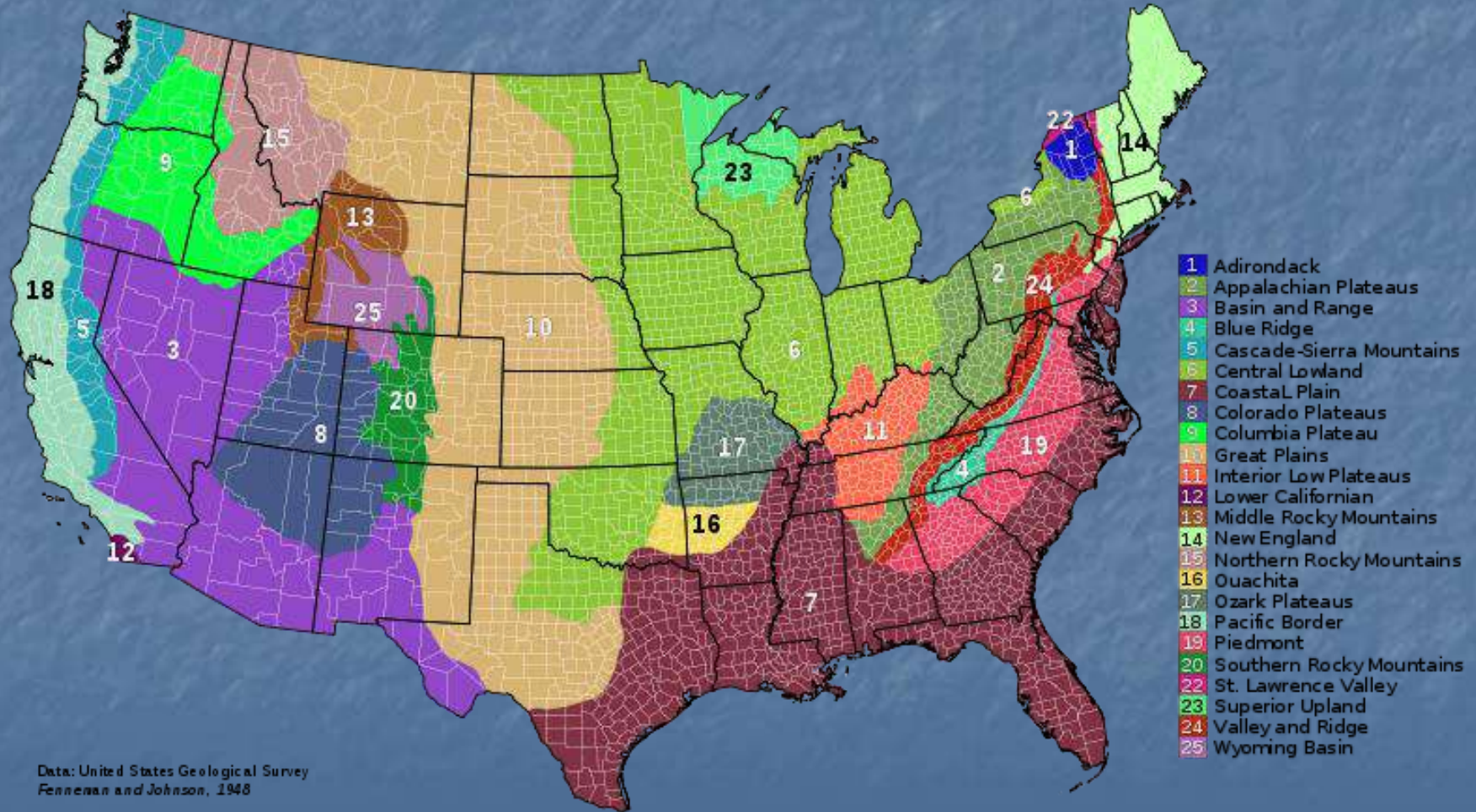
- Economic Contributions:
 - Paper and pulp, tourism, fishing, agriculture
 - Trade through the ports at Savannah and Brunswick
- Interesting Features:
 - Okefenokee Swamp located here
 - Barrier islands "Golden Isles" located along mainland GA



USA Regions

- The Physiographic regions occur **nationwide**

Geophysical Provinces of the Conterminous United States



Discussion

- Can you answer the Essential Question now? (G1b)
 - Location
 - What's it like here?

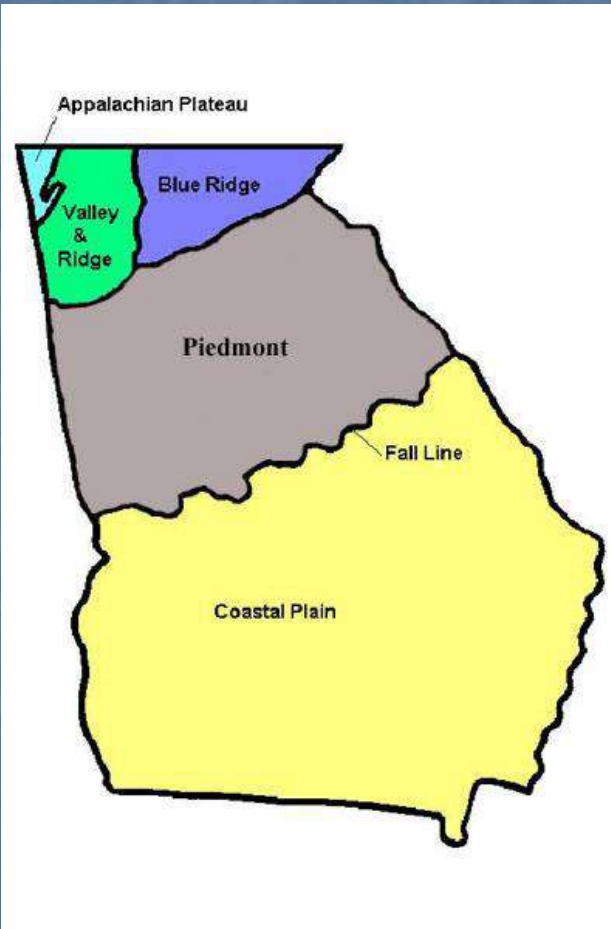
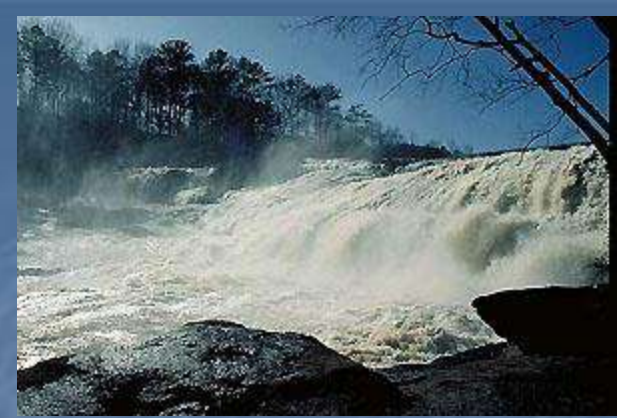
SS8G1c

- **SS8G1c: Locate key physical features of Georgia and explain their importance; include the Fall Line, Okefenokee Swamp, Appalachian Mountains, Chattahoochee and Savannah Rivers, and barrier islands.**
 - Locate- to look for and discover on a map;
find, pinpoint
 - Explain- tell how; put into your own words

Fall Line

SS8G1c

High Falls



- **Fall Line:** a natural boundary that separates **Piedmont and Coastal Plain** regions
- **Once the shoreline of an ancient ocean**
- **Waterfalls along the Fall Line** have been and still are important sources of power (hydroelectricity)

Appalachian Mountains

SS8G1c

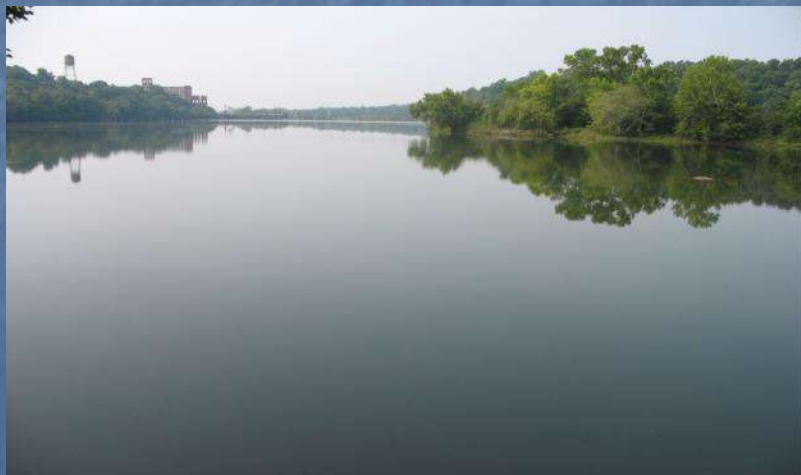
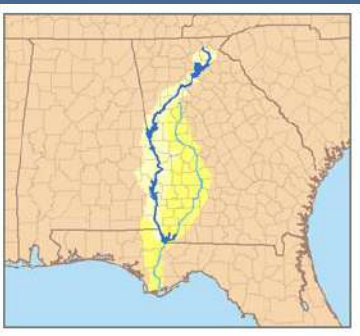
- **Appalachian Mountains:**
 - **Located in North GA**
 - **Extend from central AL to Canada (1500 miles long)**
 - **The Blue Ridge Mountains are a chain of mountains within the Appalachians**
 - **Important to GA because they help to produce large amounts of rainfall that feed GA's rivers**



Chattahoochee River

SS8G1c

- Begins in Blue Ridge region and empties into Gulf of Mexico
- **Forms GA's western border with Alabama**
- **Important source of water for millions of people living in Piedmont**
- "Water wars"=GA, FL, AL



Savannah River

SS8G1c

- Begins in Blue Ridge, empties into Atlantic Ocean
- **Forms GA's eastern border with South Carolina**
- **Important today because of trade, drinking water, irrigation, power**



Okefenokee Swamp

SS8G1c



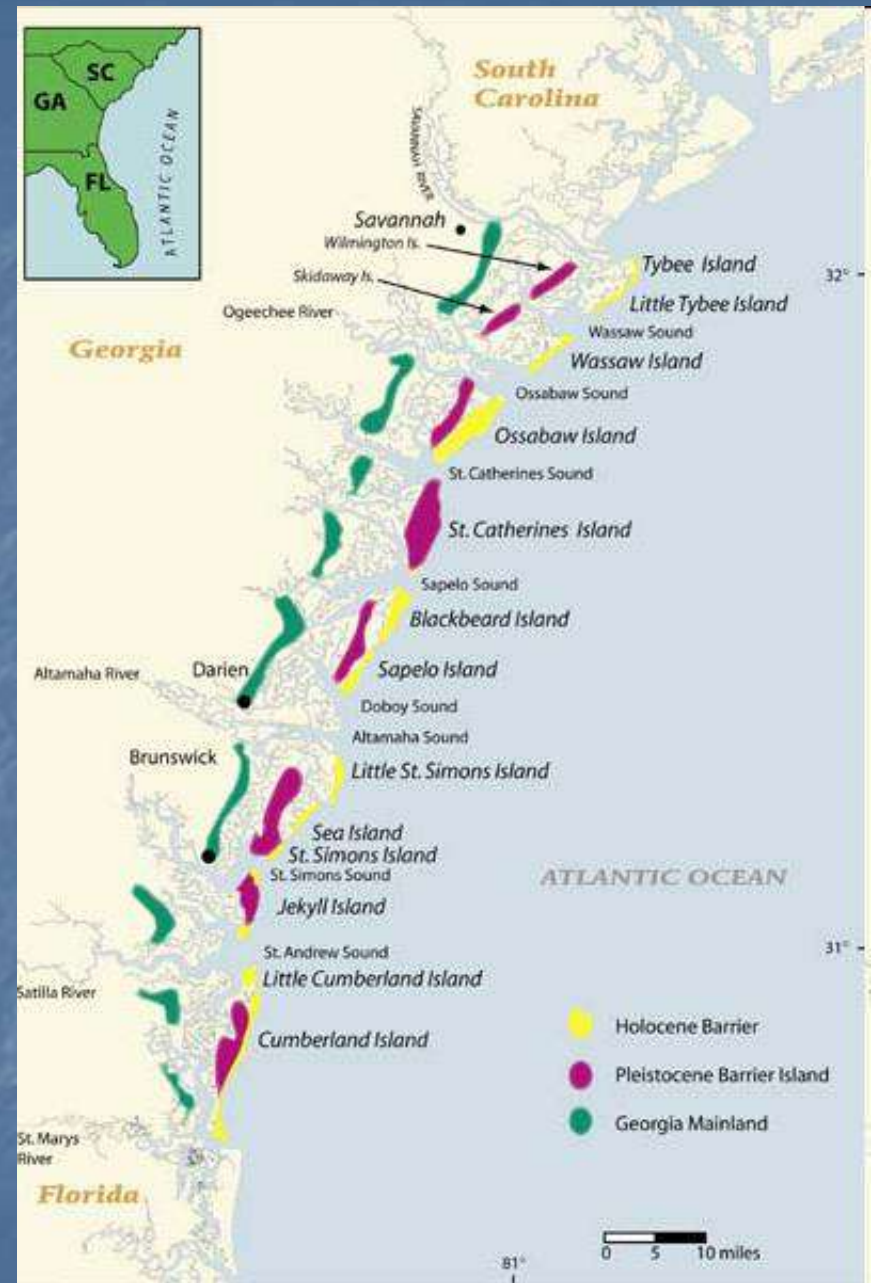
- Located on GA/FL border
- Largest swamp in U.S.
- Importance lies in its natural heritage
 - Home to many endangered or threatened species
 - Protected land



Barrier Islands

SS8G1c

- Chain of islands off the coast of GA
- Form a barrier that protects mainland from wind and waves

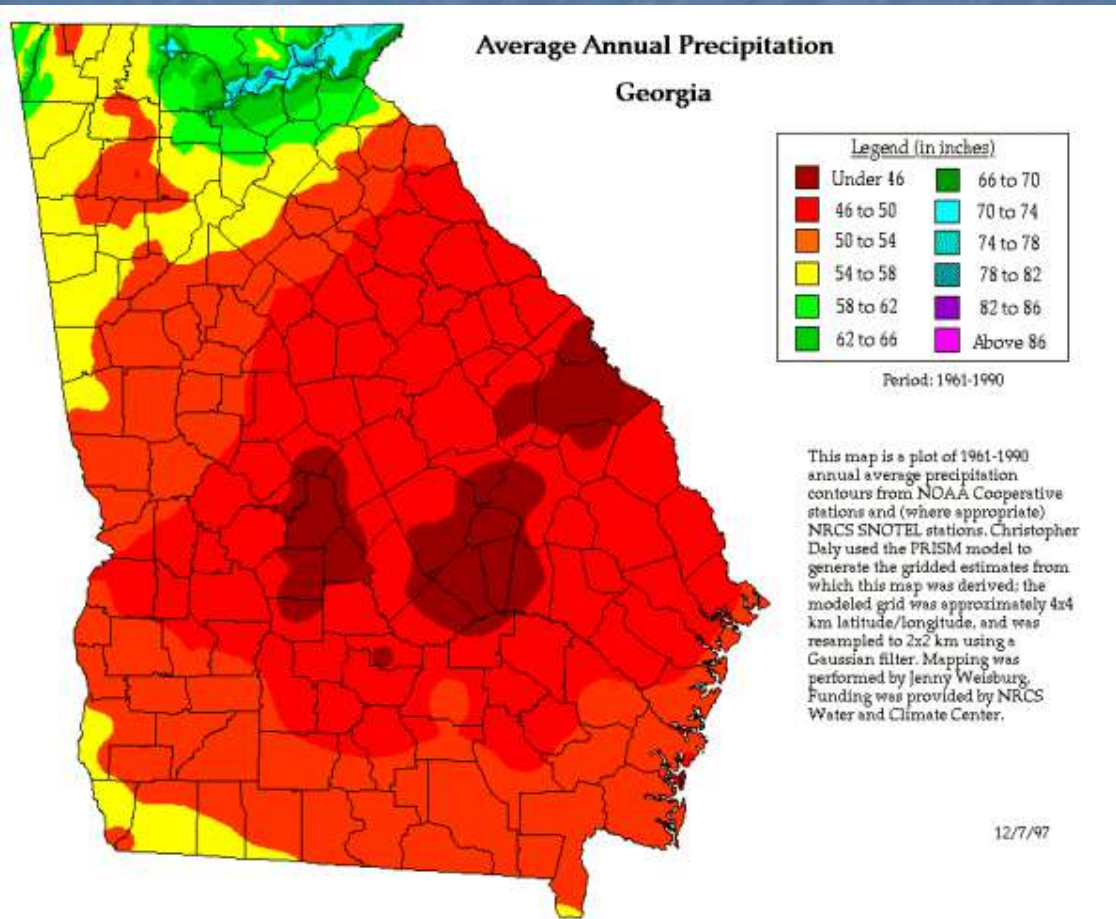


Discussion

- Can you answer the Essential Question now? (G1c)
 - What's it like here?

Climate

- **Climate: Weather patterns for a region over a long period of time**



- Most of Georgia is in the humid subtropical climate zone, with hot humid summers and cool, mild winters.
- The entire state receives moderate to heavy precipitation.

SS8G1d

- **SS8G1d: Analyze the importance of water in Georgia's historical development and economic growth.**
 - Analyze- break apart; study the pieces

Why is water important?

SS8

- Three rivers make up **borders** with other states (AL, SC, and FL)
- Indians and early settlers used rivers and streams for **food, trade, transportation, and source of power**
- Today they are used for irrigation, trade, transportation, **hydroelectric power, drinking water**
- Drought, litigation are concerns

Discussion

- Can you answer the Essential Question now? (G1d)
 - Why is water important?

Geography of Georgia

SS8G1

- Geographic Map of GA
 - *You will create a geographic map of Georgia which includes the 5 geographic regions and the 6 physical features.*

