

# UNIT 1

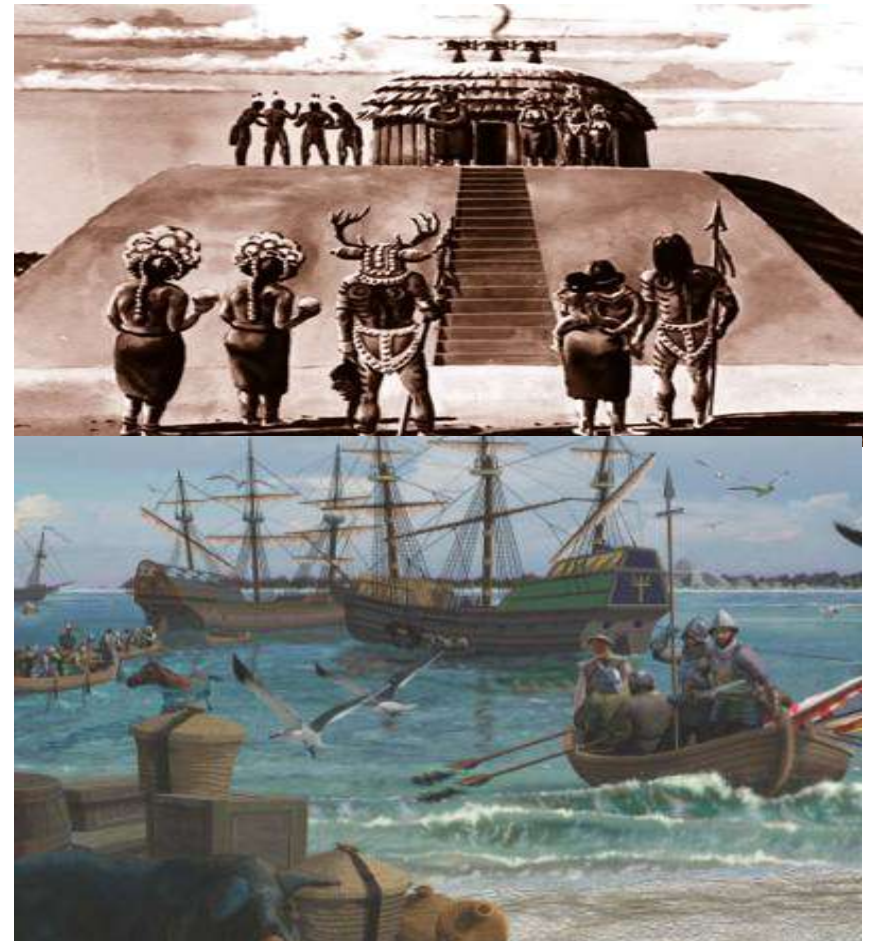
**SS8G1**

## GEORGIA'S GEOGRAPHY



**SS8H1**

## EARLY HISTORY



## **SS8G1**

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

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



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

Georgia is a state that has a diverse geography. With mountains to the north and the largest swamp in North America to the south, Georgia has quite a unique physical landscape. After studying this standard YOU should be able to describe Georgia's relative and absolute location, describe its five regions, locate and evaluate the importance of some of Georgia's physical features, and discuss how Georgia's climate has impacted the state's development.



## SS8H1

**The student will evaluate the development of Native American cultures and the impact of European exploration and settlement on the Native American cultures in Georgia.**

- a. Describe the evolution of Native American cultures (Paleo, Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian) prior to European contact.
- b. Evaluate the impact of European contact on Native American cultures; include Spanish missions along the barrier islands, and explorations of Hernando DeSoto.
- c. Explain reasons for European exploration & settlement of North America, with emphasis on the interests of the French, Spanish, and British in the southeastern area.



**SS8H1** The student will evaluate the development of Native American cultures and the impact of European exploration and settlement on the Native American cultures in Georgia.

People inhabited Georgia long before its official “founding” on February 12, 1733. The land that became our state was occupied by several different groups for over 12,000 years.

The intent of this standard is for students to begin to grasp some basic information related to the Prehistoric Native American cultures found in Georgia, the early explorers of the state and their treatment of the native peoples, and the rationale behind the major colonial powers who laid claims to the lands of the future state of Georgia.



WARM ↑ AUGUST 6



ESSENTIAL QUESTION  
PAGE 2

**SS8G1a**  
**WHERE IN  
THE WORLD  
IS  
GEORGIA?**

**WHERE IN THE WORLD IS GEORGIA?**

REGION:

NATION:

CONTINENT:

HEMISPHERES:

**STEP 1:** WRITE THE NUMBER **2** IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER OF THE SECOND PAGE

**STEP 2:** IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER WRITE THE STANDARD **SS8G1a**

**STEP 3:** ON THE TOP LINE WRITE THE ESSENTIAL QUESTION  
**WHERE IN THE WORLD IS GEORGIA?**

**STEP 4:** TRACE THE **US MAP** ON YOUR PAPER (JUST THE OUTLINE OF THE US AND THE

**STEP 5:** COPY THE FOUR LOCATIONS BELOW THE MAP



**SS8G 1a**



SS8G1a

**Locate Georgia in relation  
to region, nation,  
continent, and  
hemispheres.**

Concept:  
LOCATION



# LOCATION



The student will understand that **location** affects a society's economy, culture, and development.

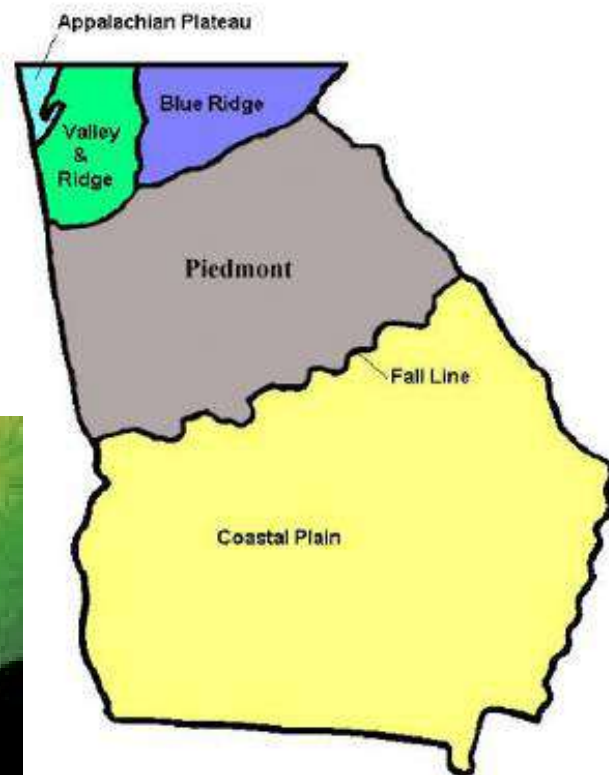
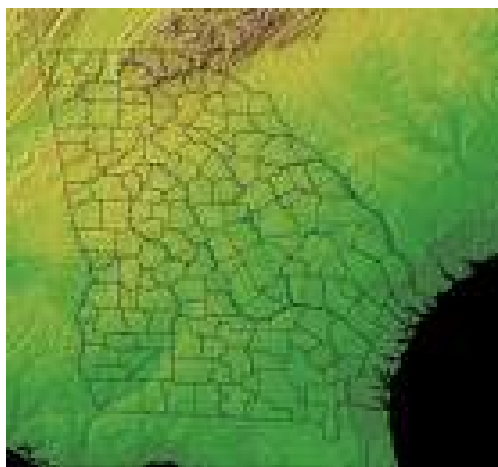
Why are many places in the world very different from one another?



# SS8G1

## GEOGRAPHY of GEORGIA

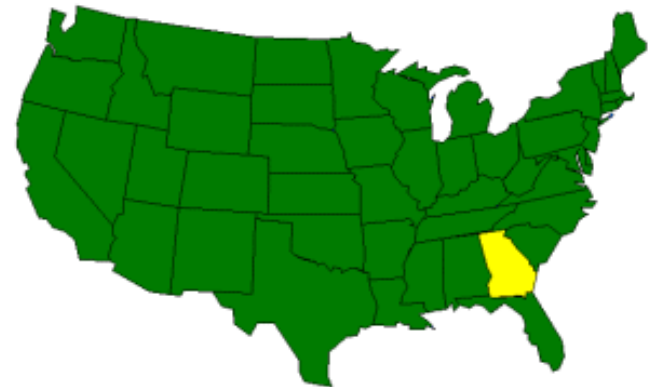
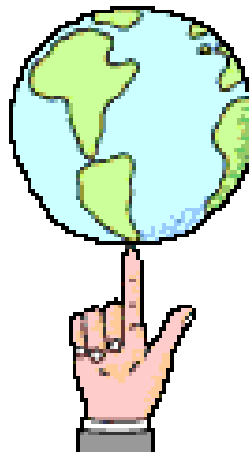
- LOCATION
- GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS
- PHYSICAL FEATURES





# Where in the World is Georgia?

- Which hemispheres?
- Which continent?
- Which nation?
- Which region?



# EXPLORE and INVESTIGATE



# SS8G1a

- The state of Georgia is located in the southeastern United States. It is located on the continent of North America and it is in the Northern (latitude) and Western (longitude) Hemispheres.
- **Note:** Since Georgia is often referred to as a “Southern State” sometimes students will **mistakenly** answer that it is located in the “Southern Hemisphere.”



Georgia is in the  
**Northern & Western hemispheres**



**NORTHERN  
HEMISPHERE**



**WESTERN  
HEMISPHERE**



Georgia is on the  
North American continent







# NORTH AMERICA

**Georgia** is one of the 50 states in the  
**United States of America**



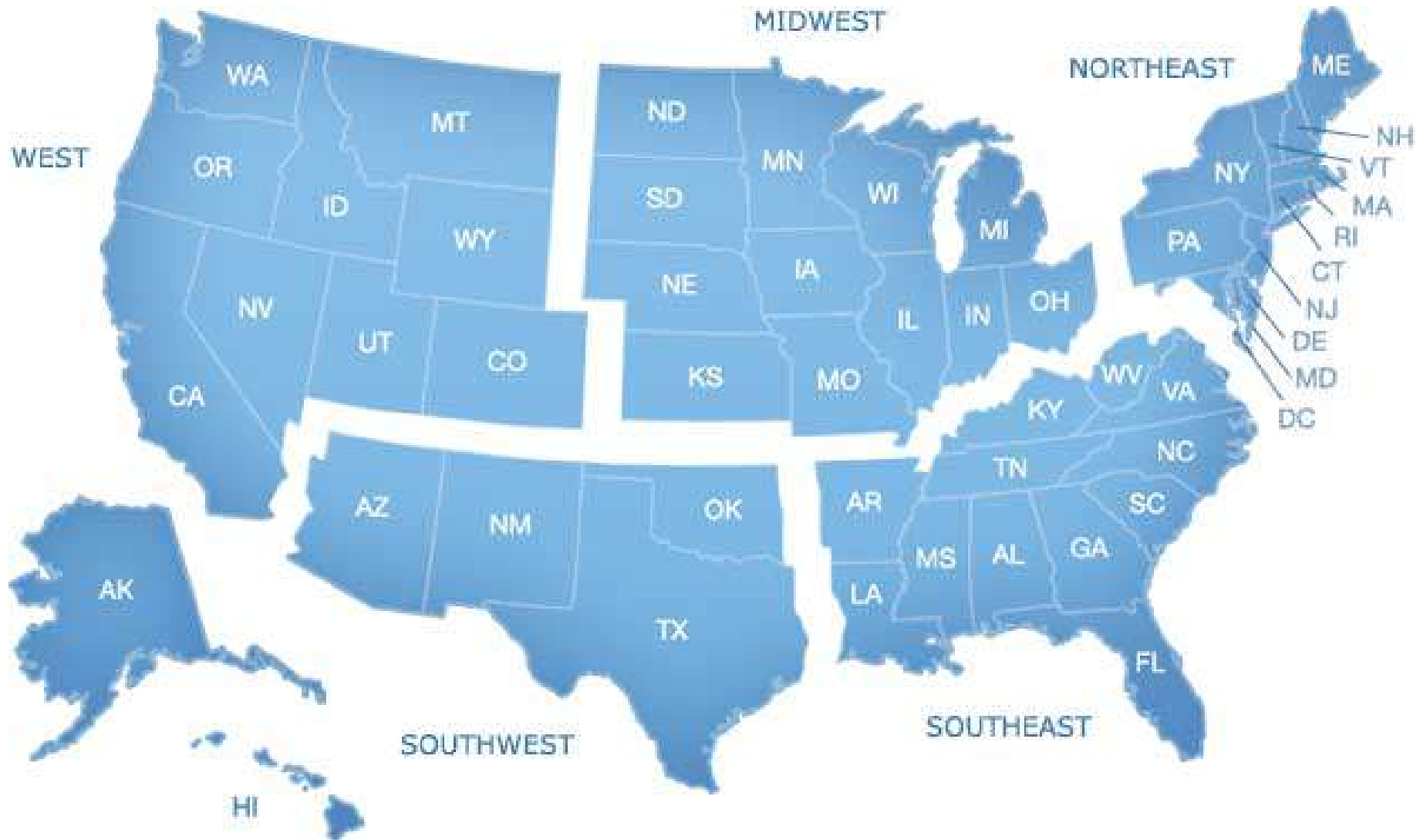


# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

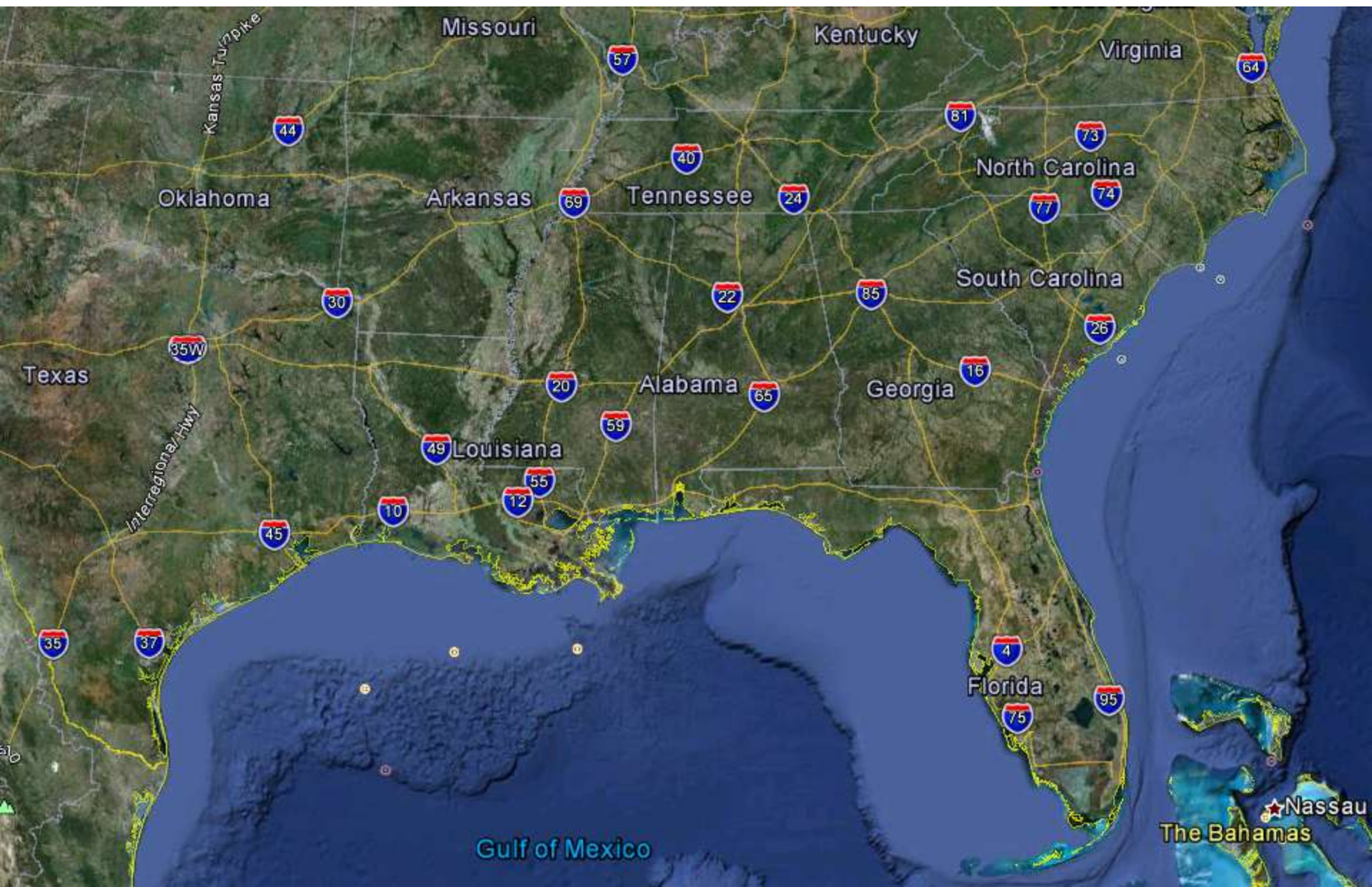




# Georgia is in the Southeast region of the USA



# SOUTHEAST REGION





How would you  
describe the  
**location** of  
Georgia?

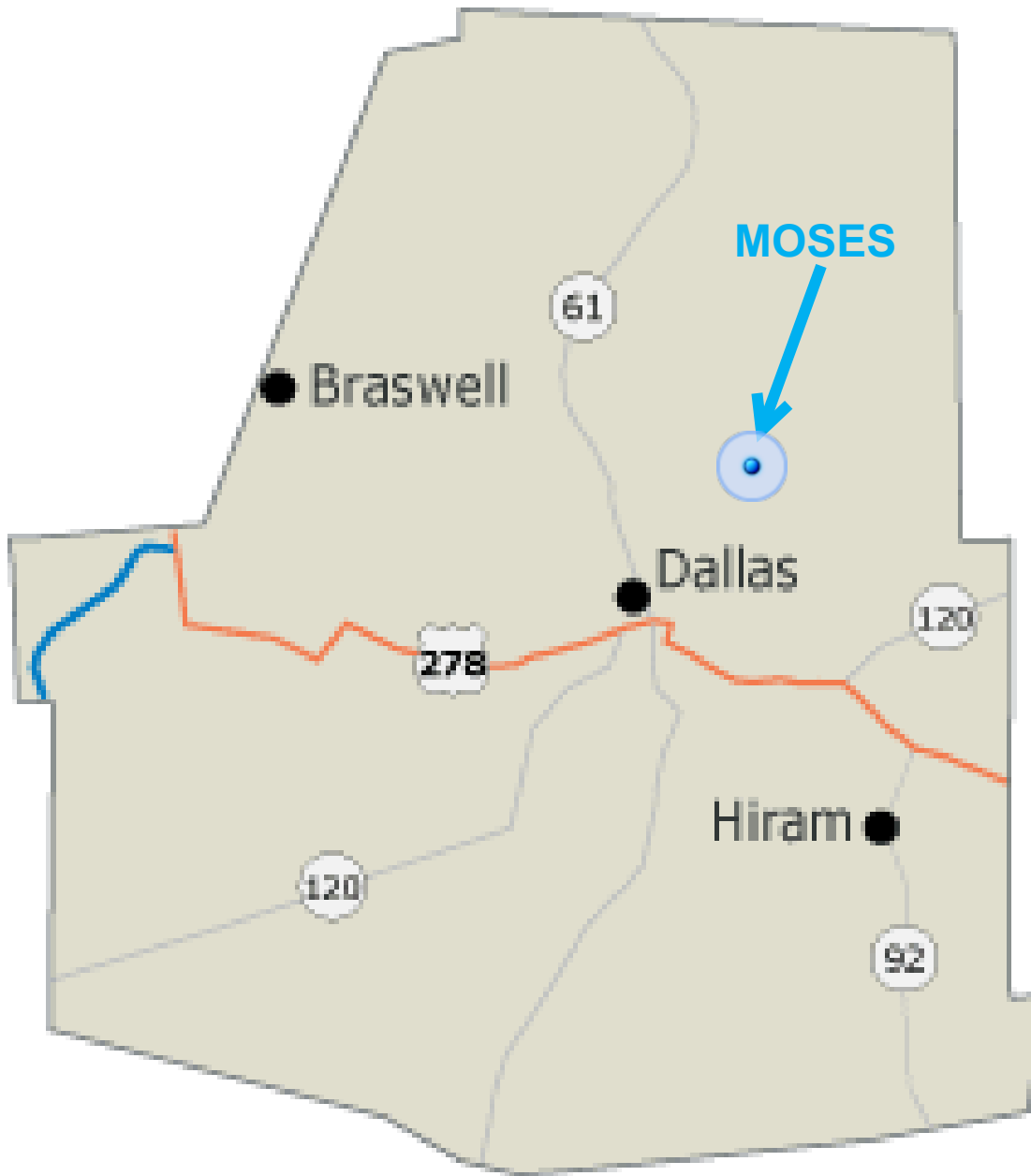




How would you  
describe the  
**location** of  
Paulding County?







**How would you  
describe the  
location of Moses  
Middle School?**





# LET'S REVIEW YESTERDAY'S ESSENTIAL QUESTION

WHERE IN THE WORLD  
IS GEORGIA?

REGION?

NATION?

CONTINENT?

HEMISPHERES?



# WARM Up

# AUGUST 6

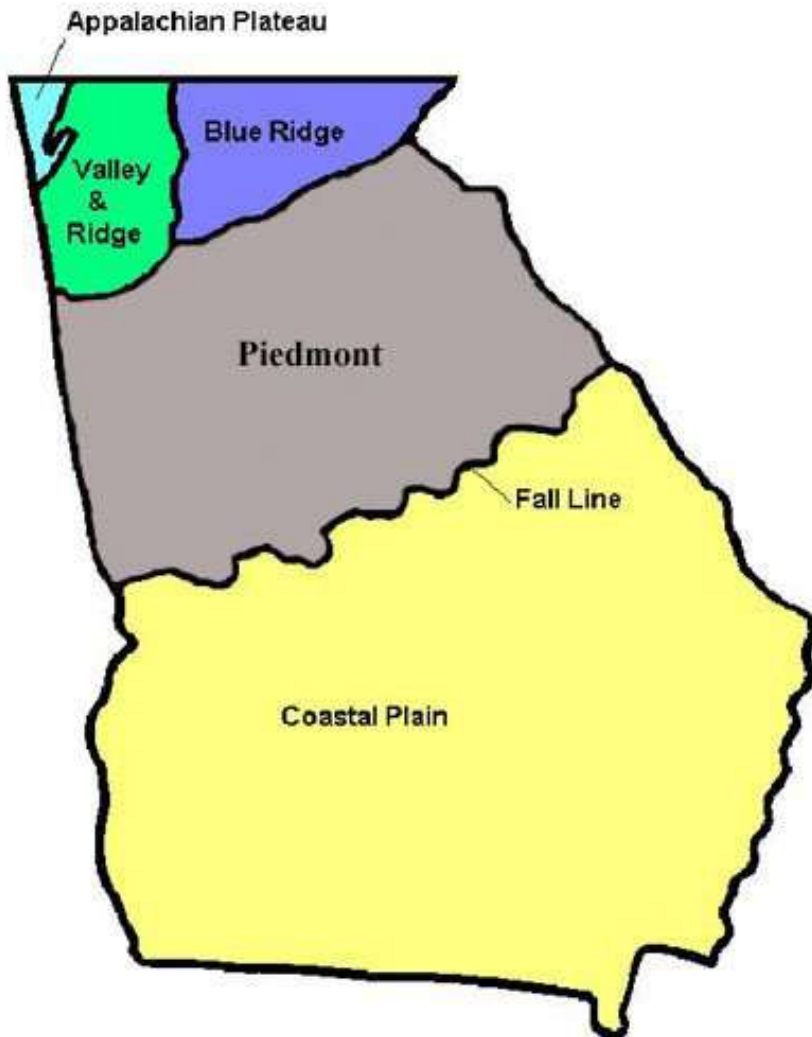
- Read pgs. 9-21 cp
- Hint; you are reading for knowledge
- Therefore, do not skim or fake the funk

# Essential Question 8/9

- What are the five geographic regions of Georgia and where are they located?



WARM ↑ AUGUST 8



ESSENTIAL QUESTION  
PAGE 3

**SS8G1b**  
HOW ARE THE  
FIVE GEOGRAPHIC  
REGIONS OF  
GEORGIA SIMILAR?  
DIFFERENT?

HOW ARE THE FIVE GEOGRAPHIC  
REGIONS OF GEORGIA SIMILAR?  
DIFFERENT?



**STEP 1:** TRACE YOUR  
GEORGIA CUTOUT  
MAP IN THE CENTER  
OF THE PAGE

**STEP 2:** PREDICT  
AND VISUALIZE  
WHERE YOU BELIEVE  
GEORGIA'S FIVE  
REGIONS ARE  
LOCATED



**SS8G1b**

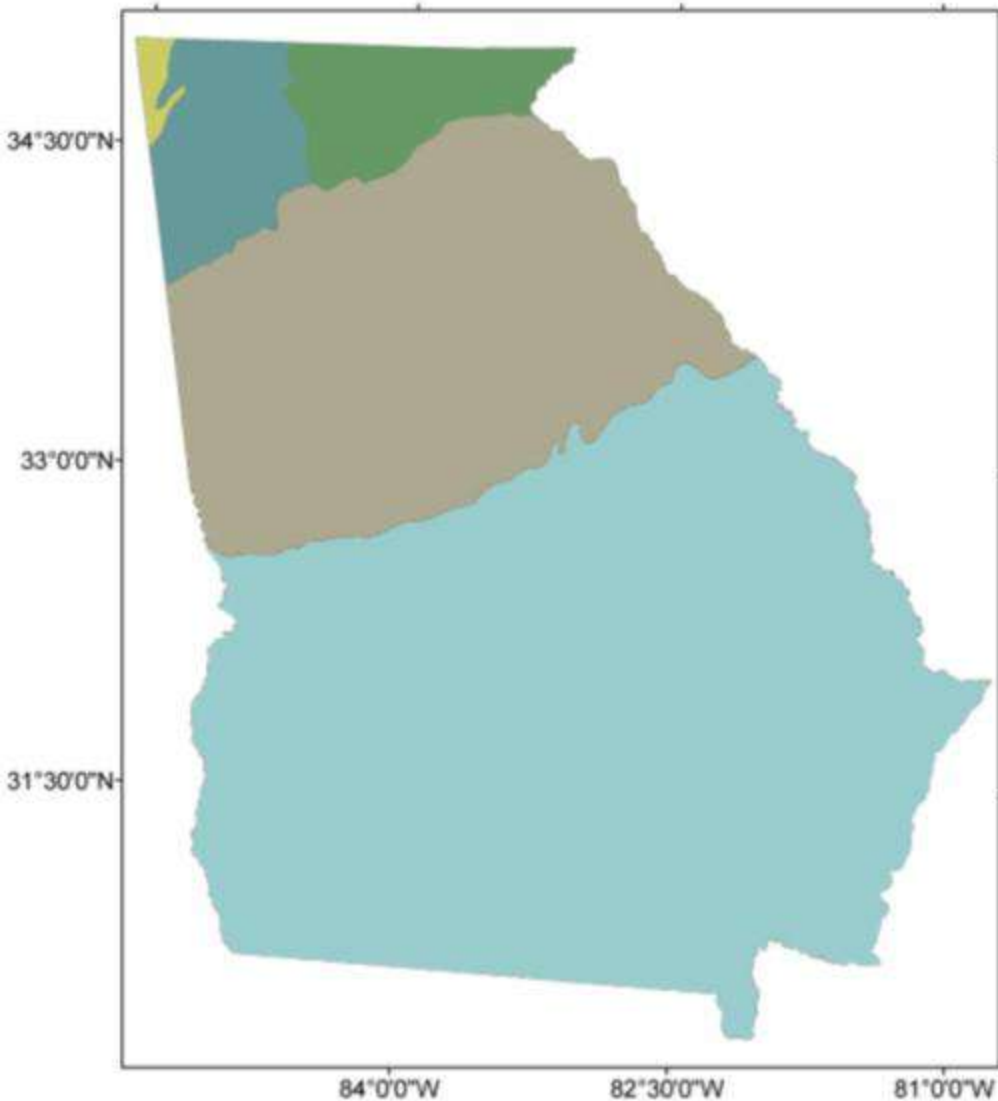
## SS8G1b

Describe the five geographic regions of Georgia; include the Blue Ridge Mountains, Valley and Ridge, Appalachian Plateau, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain.

Concept:  
LOCATION







WHERE ARE  
THE FIVE  
GEOGRAPHIC  
REGIONS OF  
GEORGIA?

HOW ARE THEY  
SIMILAR?

HOW ARE THEY  
DIFFERENT?

# EXPLORE and INVESTIGATE

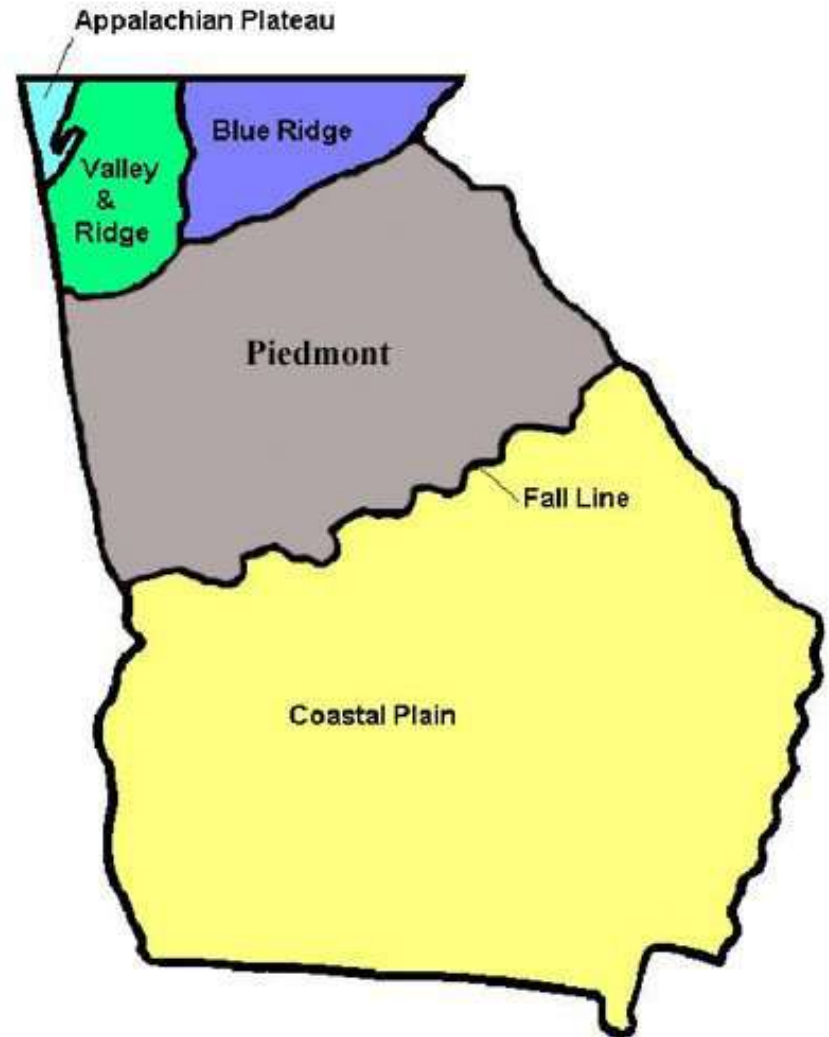


# SS8G1b

The state of Georgia is divided into five geographic regions. In the north there are three small mountainous regions, each with a differing topography. In the middle of the state is the hilly Piedmont area which is home to many of Georgia's largest cities including Atlanta. Finally, the state is dominated by the Coastal Plain region which takes up three fifths of Georgia. The Coastal Plain, which is divided into an inner and outer section, was actually covered by water millions of years ago.

# Where are the five geographic regions of Georgia?

- **Appalachian Plateau**
- **Valley and Ridge**
- **Blue Ridge Mountains**
- **Piedmont**
- **Coastal Plains**







# APPALACHIAN PLATEAU

The Appalachian Plateau is located in the northwestern corner of the state and is Georgia's smallest region. The region is sometimes called the "TAG" region, as the states of Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia all connect at one point. The region has many scenic areas and is the location of Cloudland State Park. Lookout Mountain, the site of a major Civil War battle, is located in the region, though it is actually in the state of Tennessee.





# CLOUDLAND CANYON



# APPALACHIAN PLATEAU

As with the other mountain regions of Georgia, mining was an important economic activity in the region. In the case of the Appalachian Plateau, coal was the most important product. However, unlike the other two northern regions, due to poor soil, agriculture in the Appalachian Plateau is limited.





# VALLEY and RIDGE

The Valley and Ridge region is characterized by low open valleys and narrow ridges. The area was traditionally a mining region, with the valleys being used for agriculture. The region has several cities and towns, including Cartersville, Calhoun, and Dalton.







# VALLEY and RIDGE



Dalton is probably the Valley and Ridge's most important city due to its textile and carpet industry. Historically, this region was a major battle ground during the Civil War and is a major transportation route between Georgia and Tennessee.





# BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

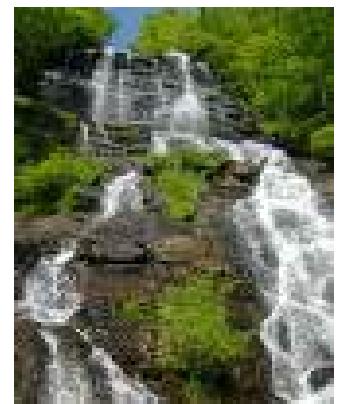
The Blue Ridge region is located in the northeastern portion of the state. The region is home to Georgia's largest mountains, including Brasstown Bald the highest peak in the state and the southernmost point of the Appalachian Trail. Important cities in the region include Dahlonega, the site of America's first Gold Rush.





# BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

In the past, the primary industry of the region was mining (gold and marble). Today, due to the region's scenic beauty, it is tourism. The Blue Ridge receives the most precipitation in the state with over 80 inches of rain annually and is the starting point of most of Georgia's rivers.





# PIEDMONT

The Piedmont region is in the middle of the state and is the most populous of the five regions. With over 4.5 million people, almost one-half of Georgia's population lives in the region. Many of Georgia's most important cities are located in the region including Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, and Macon.







# PIEDMONT

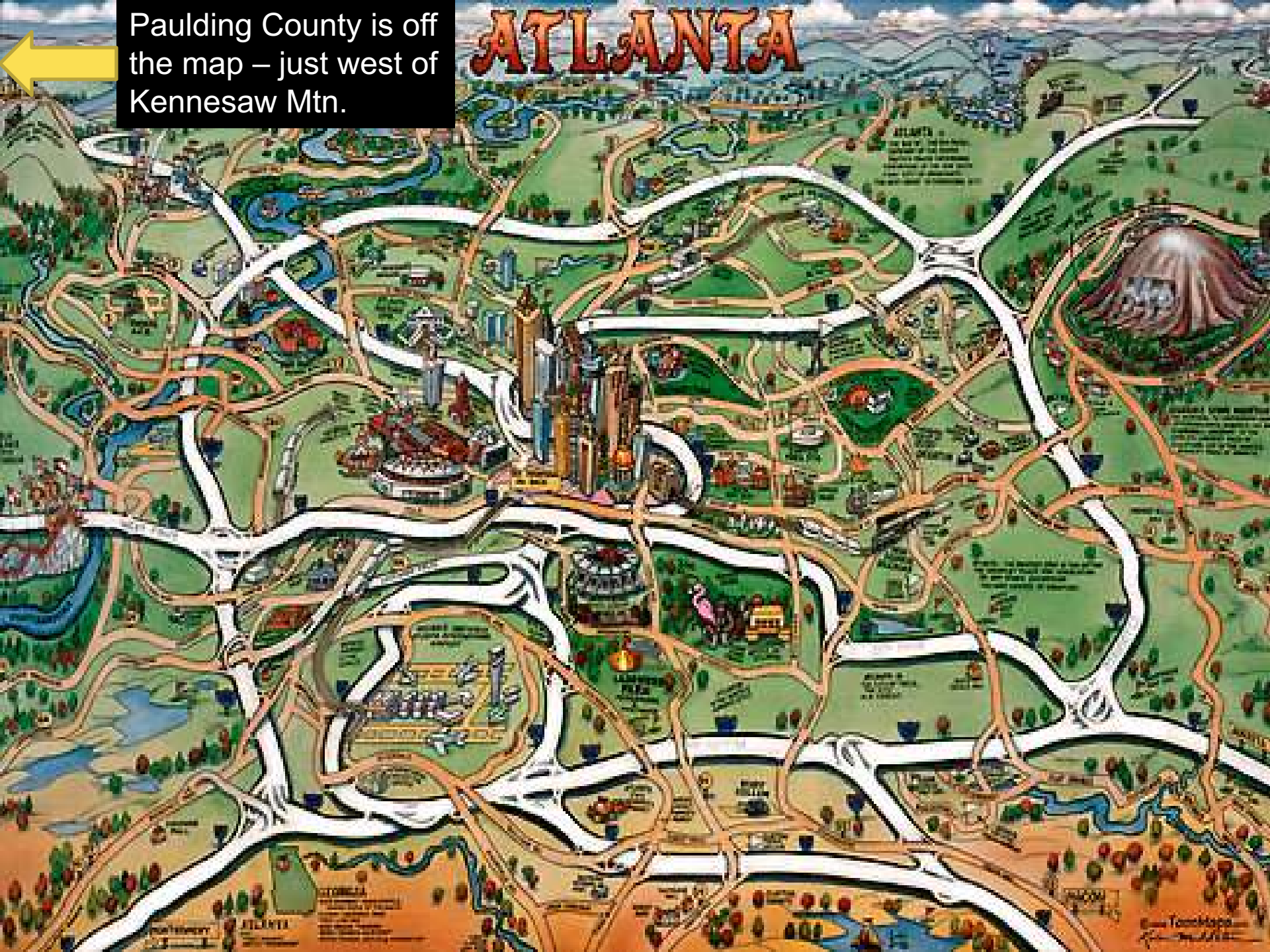
Due to these urban centers, manufacturing is important in the region, though agriculture, primarily in the form of poultry, is also a significant enterprise in the region. In addition, due to the large amount of granite found in the region, mining has been important (Stone Mountain may be the most obvious example of the large amount of granite that can be found in the region, but the town of Elberton is known as the “Granite Capital of the World”).





Paulding County is off the map – just west of Kennesaw Mtn.

# ATLANTA





# COASTAL PLAINS

The largest region in Georgia is the Coastal Plain. Making up three-fifths of the state, this region is actually divided into two areas: the Inner and the Outer Coastal Plain. The Inner Coastal Plain is the agricultural heartland of the state. In this region peaches, peanuts, cotton and the famous Vidalia onions are important crops.





# COASTAL PLAINS



The Outer Coastal Plain is the home of Georgia's oldest city, Savannah, which was founded in 1733. Due to the abundance of pine trees in the region, **naval stores** was an important industry in the state. Today the trees are used in pulp and paper production. With its location on the Atlantic Ocean tourism, shipping, and seafood are all important industries in the region.



Photo: Bill Allen



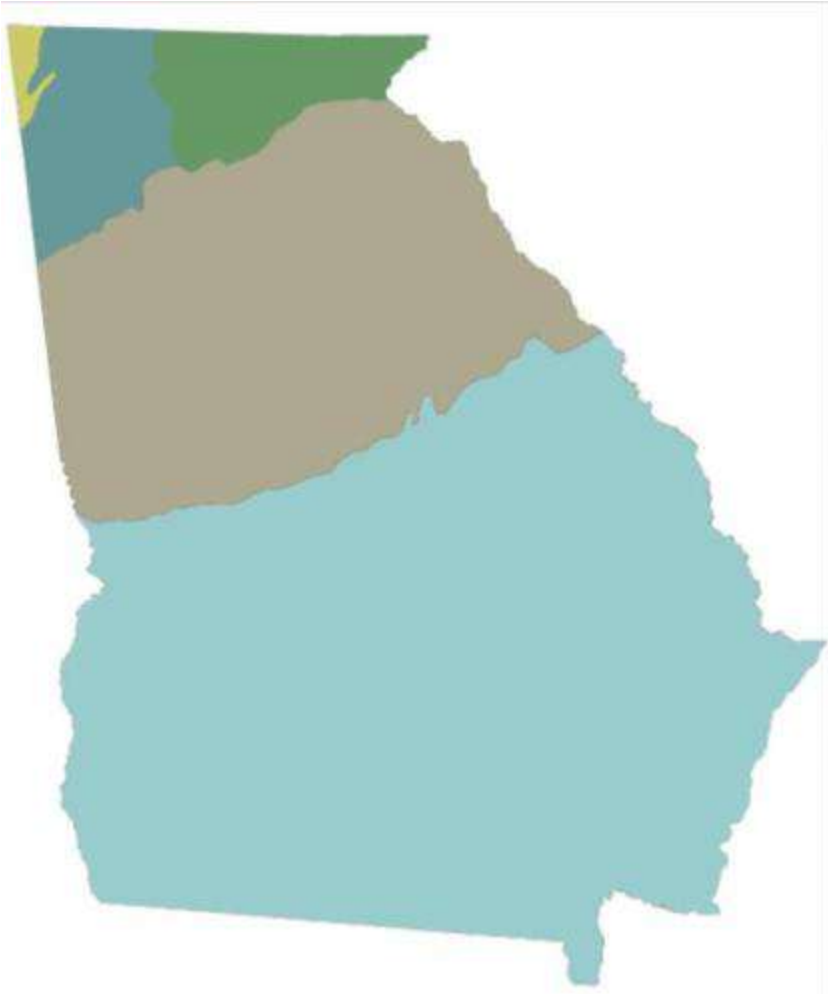


Look at the map key.

Which color represents the high elevation of mountains?

Which part of the state is highest in elevation?

What direction do many of the rivers flow?



# LET'S REVIEW YESTERDAY'S ESSENTIAL QUESTION

HOW ARE THE FIVE  
GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS  
OF GEORGIA SIMILAR?  
DIFFERENT?

APPALACHIAN PLATEAU?

VALLEY and RIDGE?

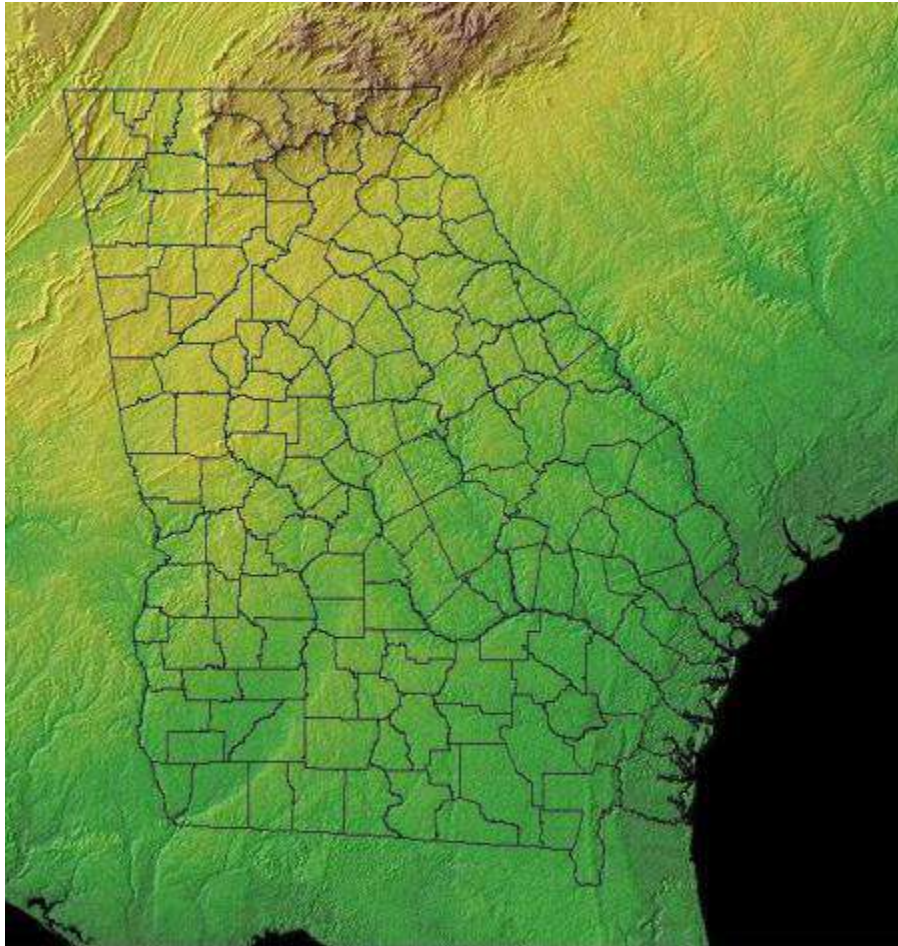
BLUE RIDGE?

PIEDMONT?

COASTAL PLAINS?



WARM ↑ AUGUST 9



ESSENTIAL QUESTION  
PAGE 4

**SS8G1c**  
HOW ARE PHYSICAL  
FEATURES  
IMPORTANT TO  
GEORGIA'S  
DEVELOPMENT?

HOW ARE PHYSICAL FEATURES  
IMPORTANT TO GEORGIA'S  
DEVELOPMENT?



**STEP 1:** TRACE YOUR  
GEORGIA CUTOUT  
MAP IN THE CENTER  
OF THE PAGE

**STEP 2:** PREDICT  
AND VISUALIZE  
WHERE YOU BELIEVE  
THE FOLLOWING  
PHYSICAL FEATURES  
OF GEORGIA ARE  
LOCATED



**SS8G1c**

## SS8G1c

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.

Concept:  
LOCATION









# EXPLORE and INVESTIGATE





**Appalachian  
Mtns**

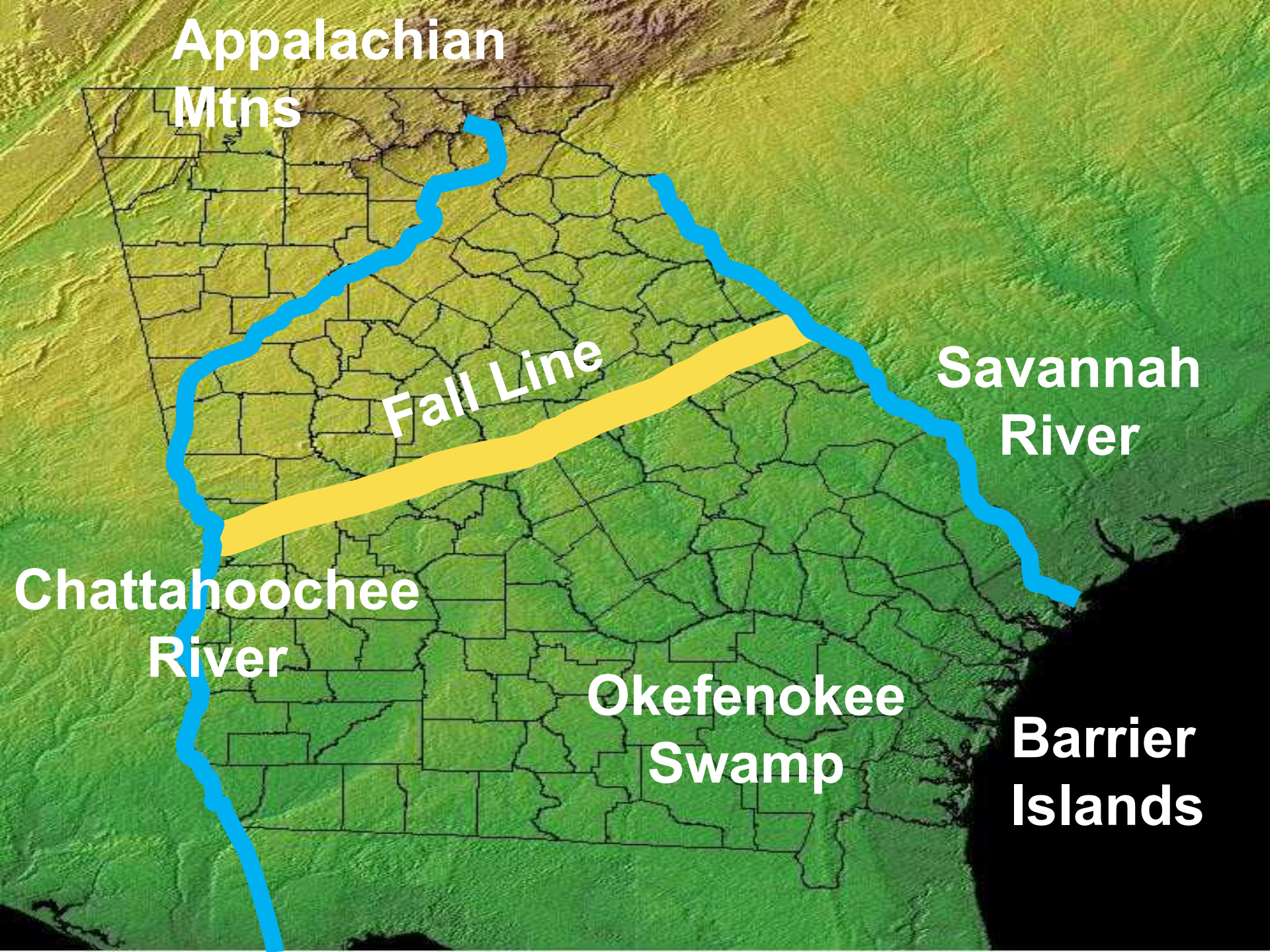
**Fall Line**

**Savannah  
River**

**Chattahoochee  
River**

**Okefenokee  
Swamp**

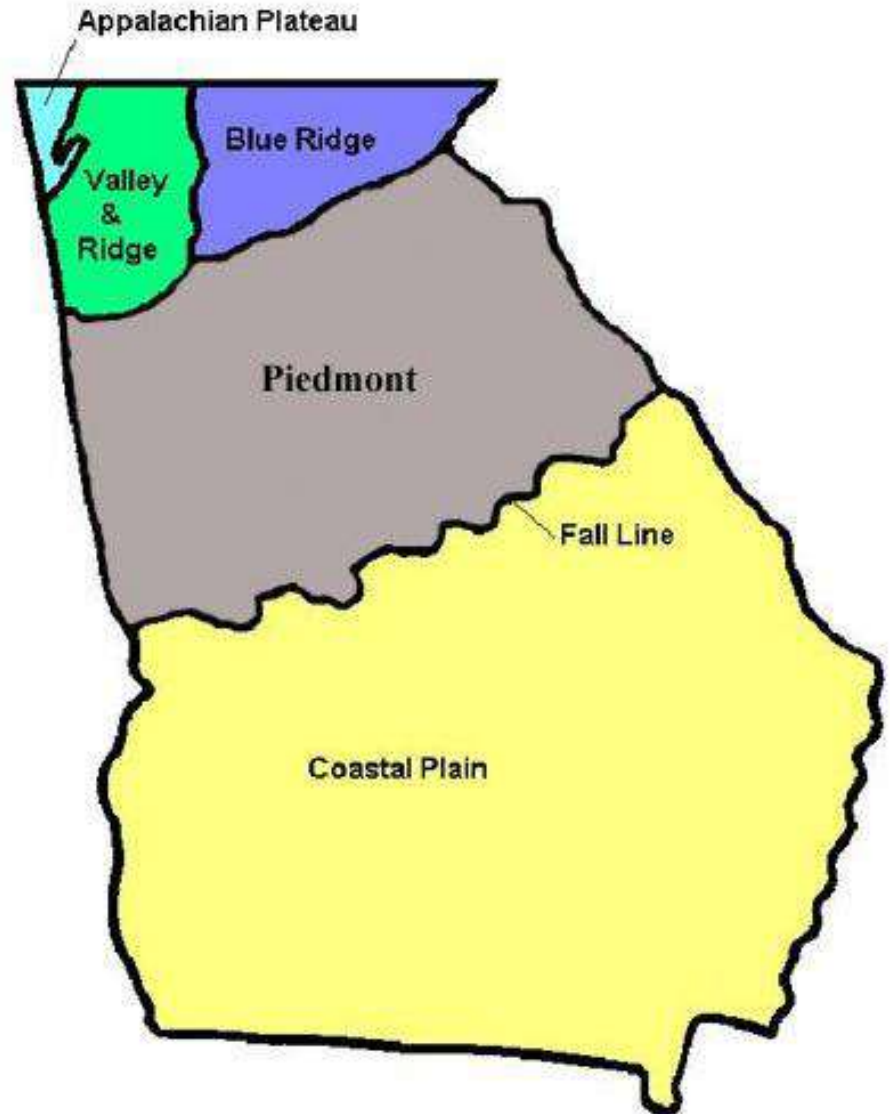
**Barrier  
Islands**





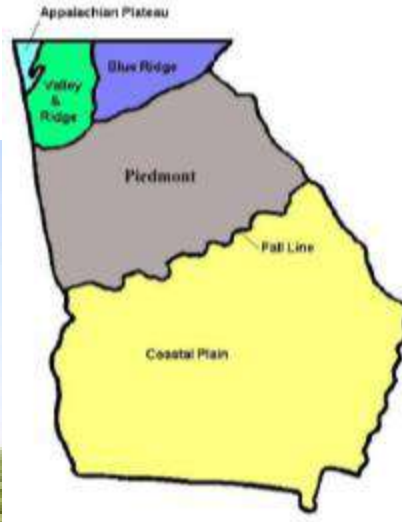
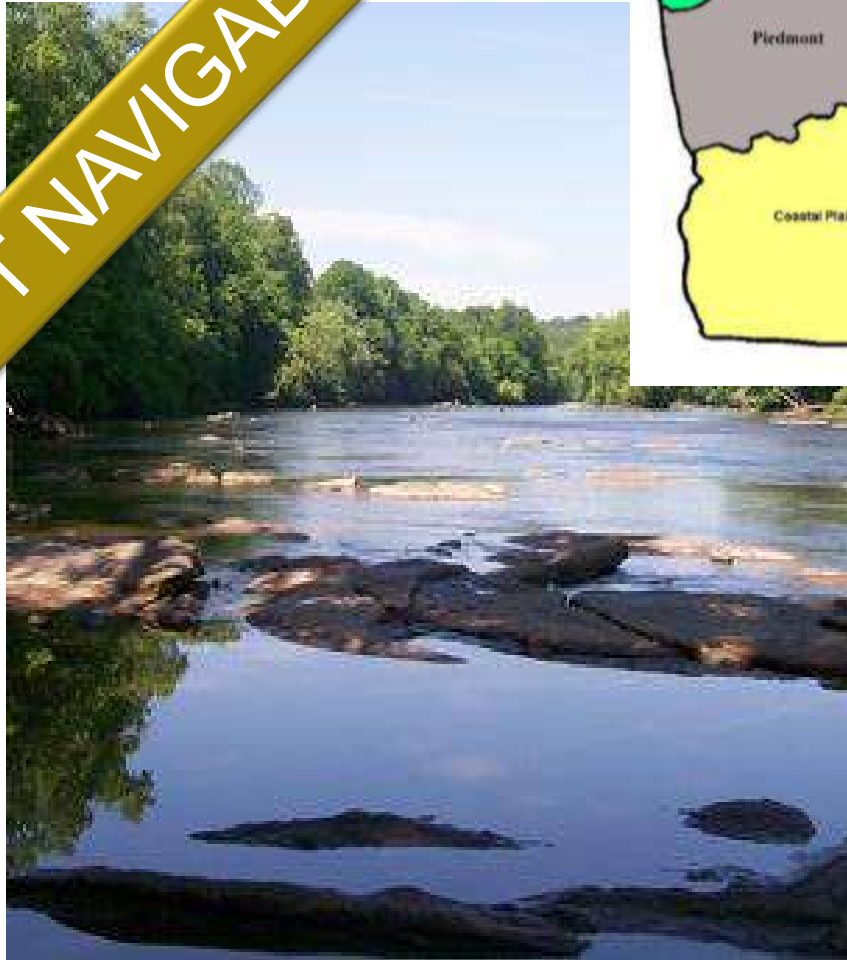
# What and where is the FALL LINE?

The fall line is a natural boundary that separates the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain regions. Due to the drop off of the hilly Piedmont region into the flat Coastal Plain, the waterfalls found on the fall line caused many rivers in the area to be difficult to navigate.



# WHERE ARE RIVERS NAVIGABLE IN RELATION TO THE FALL LINE... NORTH OR SOUTH?

NOT NAVIGABLE



NAVIGABLE



# What and where is the FALL LINE?

However, the waterfalls did offer sources of water power and many mills were located on the fall line. In addition, many of Georgia's most important cities such as Columbus, Macon, and Augusta were located on the fall line due to their location as the last navigable upstream points in the state.





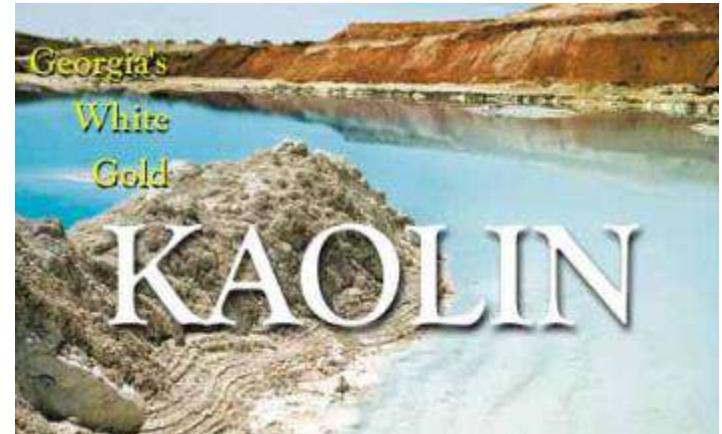
# THE FALL LINE'S MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE

Kaolin is one of Georgia's largest natural resources. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, more than 8 million metric tons of kaolin are mined from Georgia each year, with an estimated value of more than \$1 billion. Georgia is by far the leading clay-producing state in America and is recognized as a world leader in the mining, production, processing, and application of kaolin products.

Kaolin in Georgia is generally found in a northeast to southwest band of deposits extending from Augusta to Macon to Columbus. This belt parallels the fall line, which marks the boundary between the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain.

Kaolin is most commonly used in the paper-coating industry. It is also used as a filler (added to plastics, for example, and rubber compounds), as a pigment additive in paints, in ceramics (tile, chinaware, and bathroom toilets and sinks), and in pharmaceuticals such as toothpaste.

New Georgia Encyclopedia



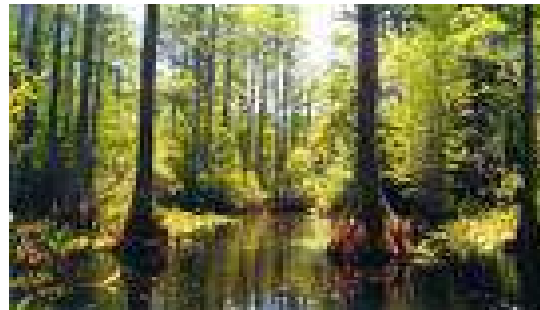
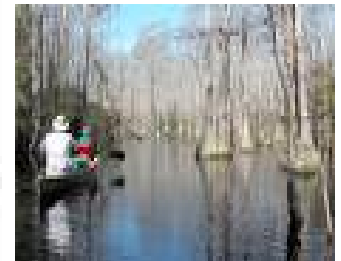
# What and where is the OKEFENOKEE SWAMP?

The Okefenokee Swamp covers 700 square miles and is the largest swamp in North America. Located in southeastern Georgia, the swamp can be found in four Georgia counties. Native Americans lived in the swamp dating back to the Archaic period. The most famous Indian tribe that lived in the swamp was the Seminole, which fought two wars against the United States in the Okefenokee area.



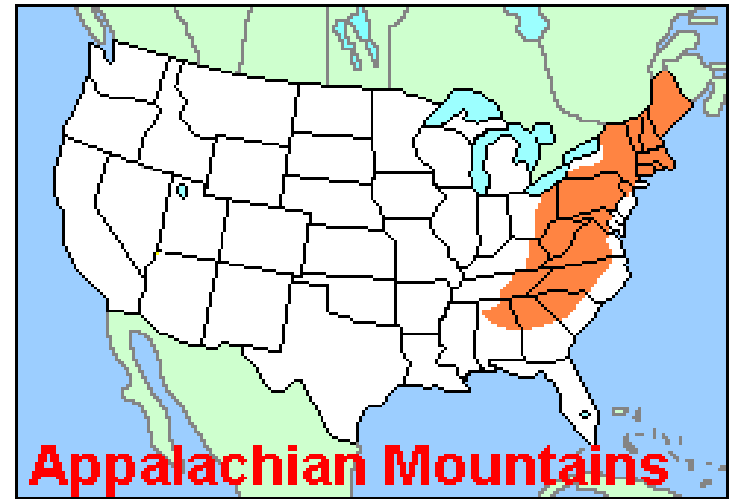
# What and where is the OKEFENOKEE SWAMP?

White families began settling in the area in 1805. From 1910 until 1937, before Franklin Roosevelt established 80% of the Okefenokee as a wildlife refuge, the swamp was a major source of timber. Now, protected by the federal government, over hundreds of animal species live in the area, the most well known being the American alligator.



# What and where are the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS?

The southernmost point of the Appalachian Mountains is located in Georgia. Georgia's highest peaks are in the Appalachian Mountain ranges and they can be found in the three mountain regions. In the southern states these mountains are often called the Blue Ridge due to the blue haze that appears around their peaks.





# What and where are the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS?

Long ago, the Appalachians were some of the tallest mountains in the world, though millions of years of erosion have weathered them tremendously. Today the highest peak in Georgia is Brasstown Bald, which has an elevation of over 4700 feet above sea level. In comparison, the highest peak in the continental United States is Mt. Whitney which is almost 14,500 feet.





# What and where is the CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER?

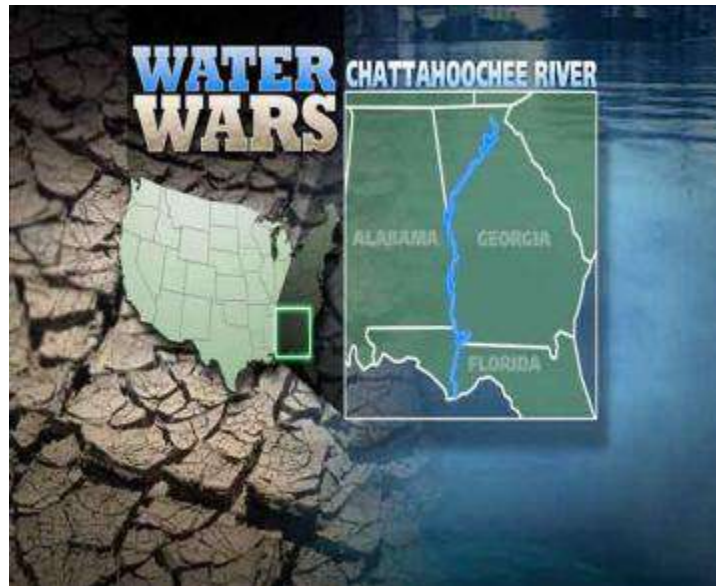
The Chattahoochee River begins its journey to the Gulf of Mexico in the Blue Ridge Region of the state and forms part of the border between Alabama and Georgia. Native Americans long used the river as a food and water source, as did Georgia's European settlers. Due to the Fall Line the Chattahoochee becomes difficult to navigate between the Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions, though river traffic was important during the 1800s from the Gulf of Mexico to the city of Columbus.



# What and where is the CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER?

Today, the Chattahoochee is used primarily as a water source for the millions of Georgians living in the Piedmont area, though the river is also used for industry and recreation as well.

**Note:** The states of Florida and Alabama have sued Georgia due to its unrestricted rights over the use of the river. Should Georgia be allowed to have unrestricted rights to the river? Which Social Studies Concepts apply to this issue?



# What and where is the SAVANNAH RIVER?

- The Savannah River forms the border between Georgia and South Carolina. One of Georgia's longest waterways, the Savannah River begins in Hart County, forms Lake Hartwell, and then flows to the Atlantic Ocean. The river has been a source of water, food, and transportation for thousands of years. Paleo Indians lived around the river and Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto was the first European to cross it.





# What and where is the SAVANNAH RIVER?

James Oglethorpe chose a site 18 miles upriver to create Georgia's first city, Savannah. Today, the river is navigable for over 200 miles between the city of Savannah and Augusta. In addition to shipping, the river is used as a major source of drinking water for Savannah and Augusta, to cool two nuclear power plants in South Carolina, and to generate hydroelectric power.





# What and where are the **BARRIER ISLANDS?**

The Barrier Islands, also known as the Sea Islands or Golden Isles, are a chain of sandy islands off the coastline of Georgia. These islands protect the mainland from wind and water erosion. There are 14 Barrier Islands off Georgia's coast including Tybee, St. Simons, Jekyll, and Cumberland. Some of the islands, such as Cumberland, are wild life refuges and are national or state parks. Others, like St. Simons, have been developed and three (Little Cumberland, Little St. Simons, and St. Catherine's) are still privately owned.



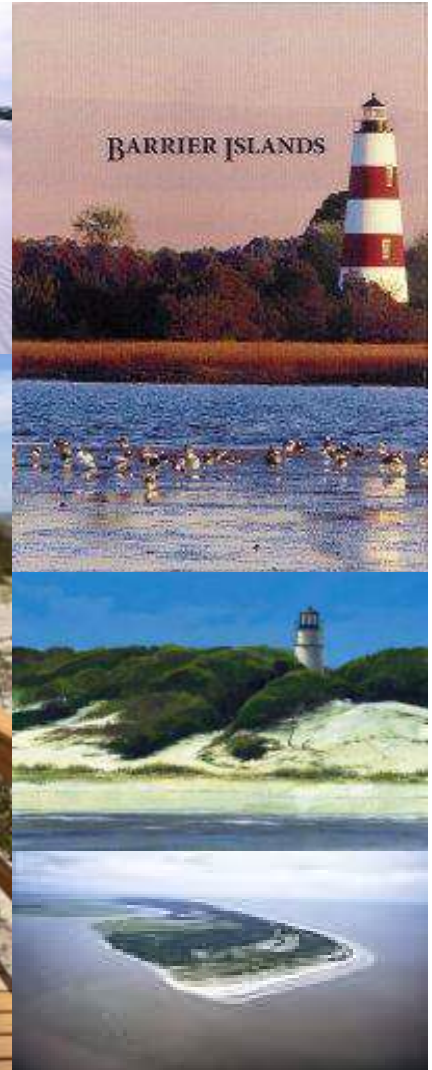




# What and where are the **BARRIER ISLANDS?**



People have lived on these islands for thousands of years. Indians lived on them and in the 1500s the Spanish set up missions there. During the Colonial and Antebellum periods, plantations were set up on the island to grow products such as rice and indigo. Today, the islands are mainly tourist and recreation destinations though the fishing and paper industries are still important economic enterprises.





**Appalachian  
Mtns**

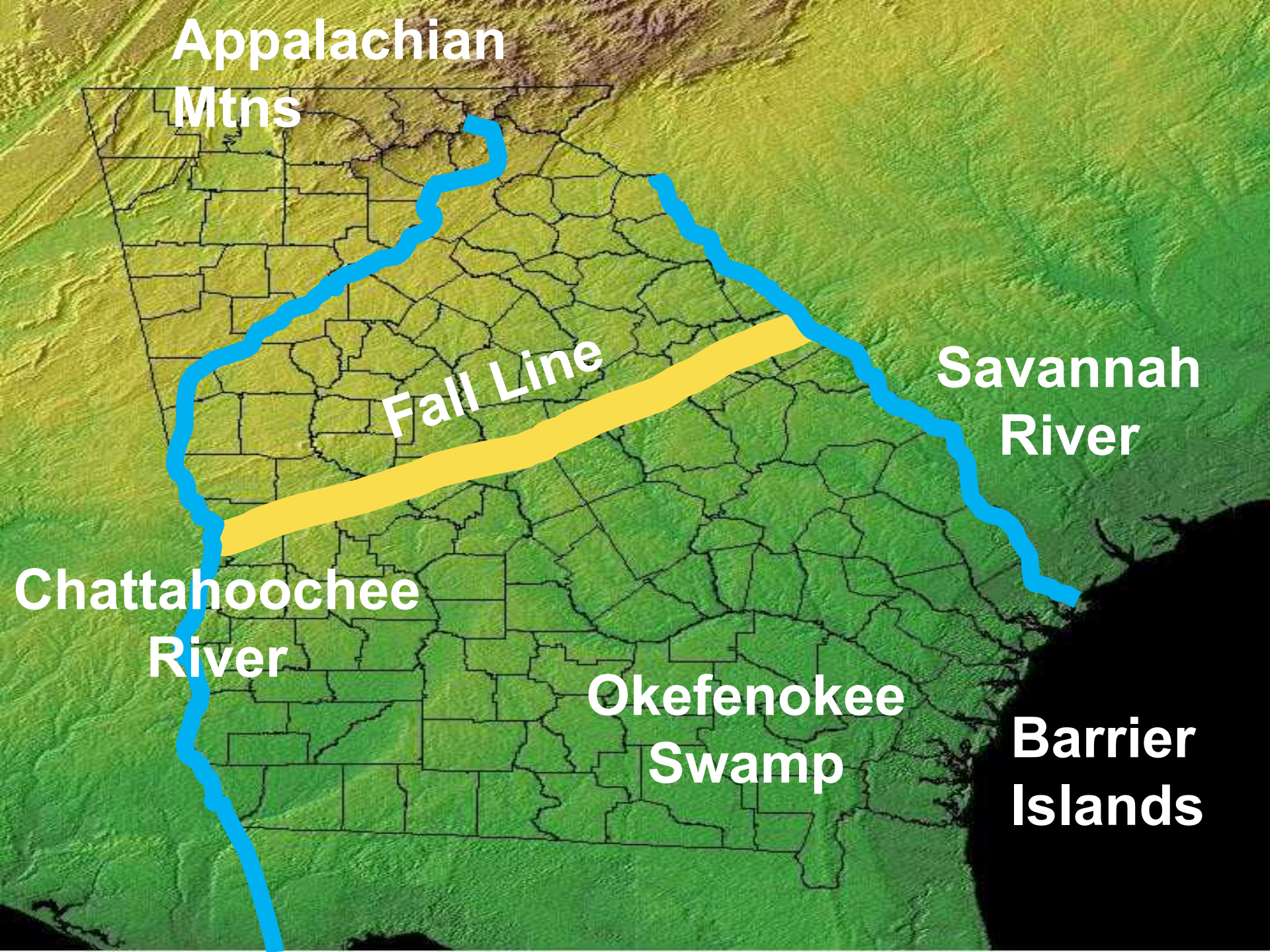
**Fall Line**

**Savannah  
River**

**Chattahoochee  
River**

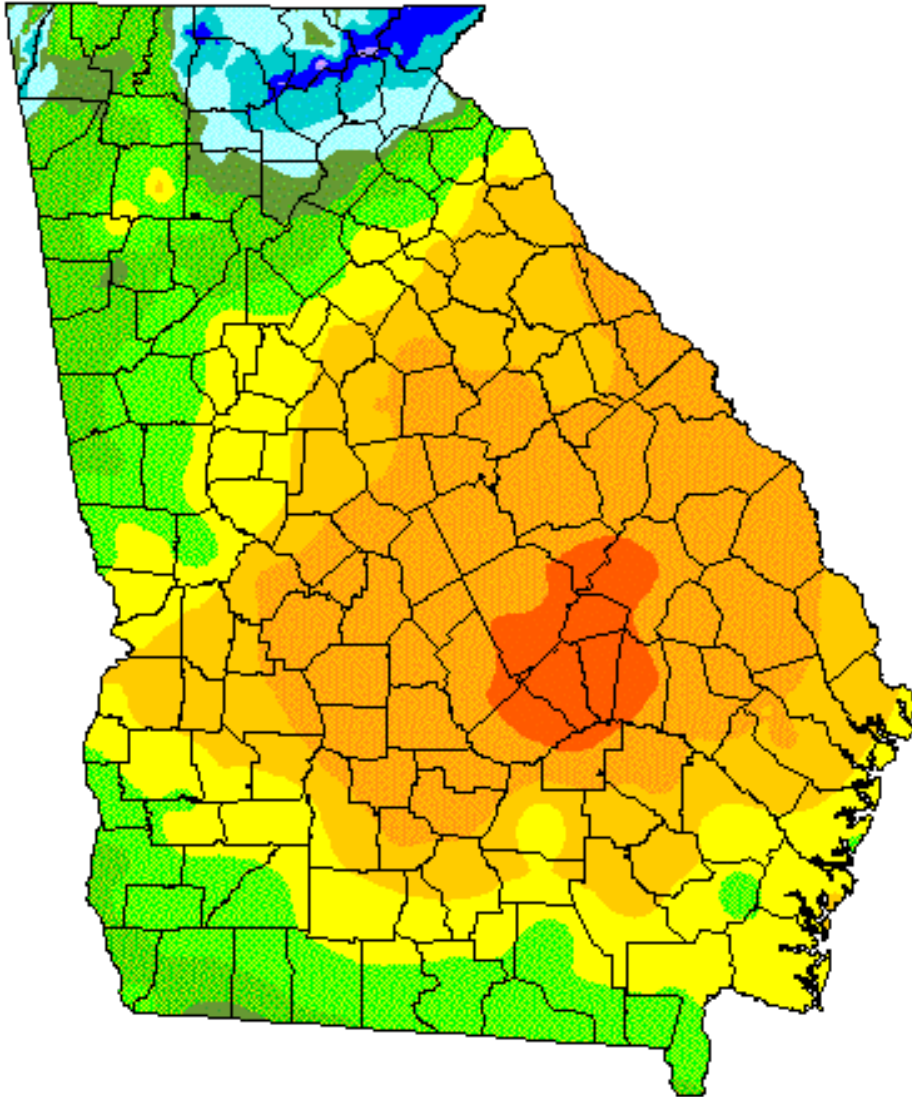
**Okefenokee  
Swamp**

**Barrier  
Islands**





WARM ↑ AUGUST 10



ESSENTIAL QUESTION  
PAGE 5

**SS8G1d**  
HOW DOES  
GEORGIA'S  
CLIMATE  
IMPACT ITS  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT?

HOW DOES GEORGIA'S CLIMATE  
IMPACT ITS ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT?



AGRICULTURE

TOURISM

STEP 1: TRACE  
YOUR GEORGIA  
OUTLINE MAP

STEP 2: COPY THE  
T-CHART BELOW  
YOUR MAP



**SS8G1d**



SS8G1d

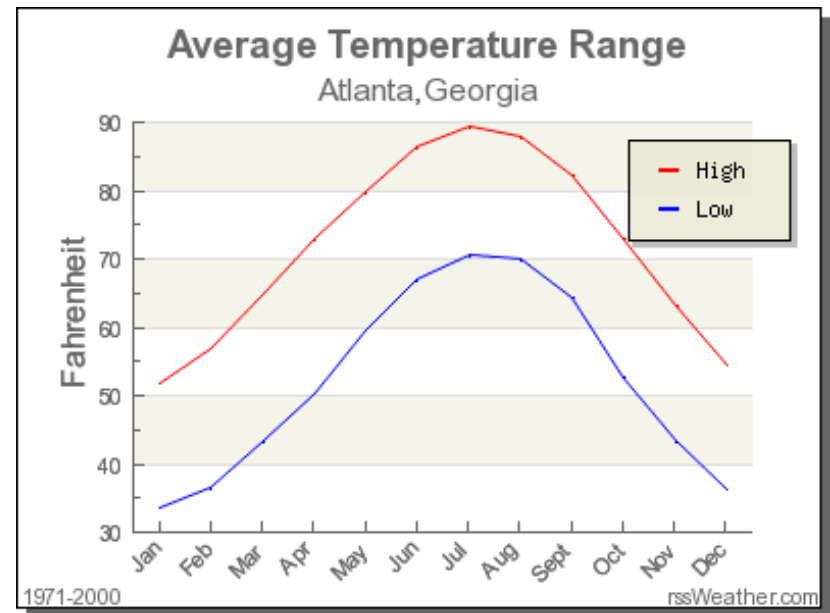
Evaluate the impact of climate  
on Georgia's development.

- Concept:
- LOCATION



# GEORGIA'S CLIMATE

Georgia has a **humid subtropical** climate with hot summers and mild winters, though the mountainous areas tend to be cooler than that of the rest of the state. Georgia usually has a large amount of precipitation throughout the year and ranges from 45 to 75 inches per year depending on the area, but receives very little snow fall. Georgia is prone to tornadoes and often feels the effects of hurricanes, though the state has not been hit directly since 1898.



# GEORGIA'S CLIMATE

Georgia's warm, wet, climate has made it an ideal location for agriculture. From its beginning Georgia was established for growing crops, and James Oglethorpe and the rest of the trustees hoped its climate would allow for the cultivation of rice, indigo, wine and silk. Though wine and silk proved to be unsuccessful, rice and indigo grew well in Georgia. When slavery was legalized in the colony, Georgia developed the plantation based agriculture of the rest of the South. Slavery became more entrenched when Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1793, in turn causing the demand for cotton production to increase.





## GEORGIA'S CLIMATE

After the Civil War, Georgia remained predominately an agricultural state until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. During this time period most of Georgia's population was involved in agriculture, primarily working as sharecroppers or tenant farmers. Today, while most Georgians are not involved in agriculture, it is still Georgia's number one industry. In addition, Georgia's relatively mild climate has brought many people and businesses to the state, making it the 9<sup>th</sup> most populous in the nation.



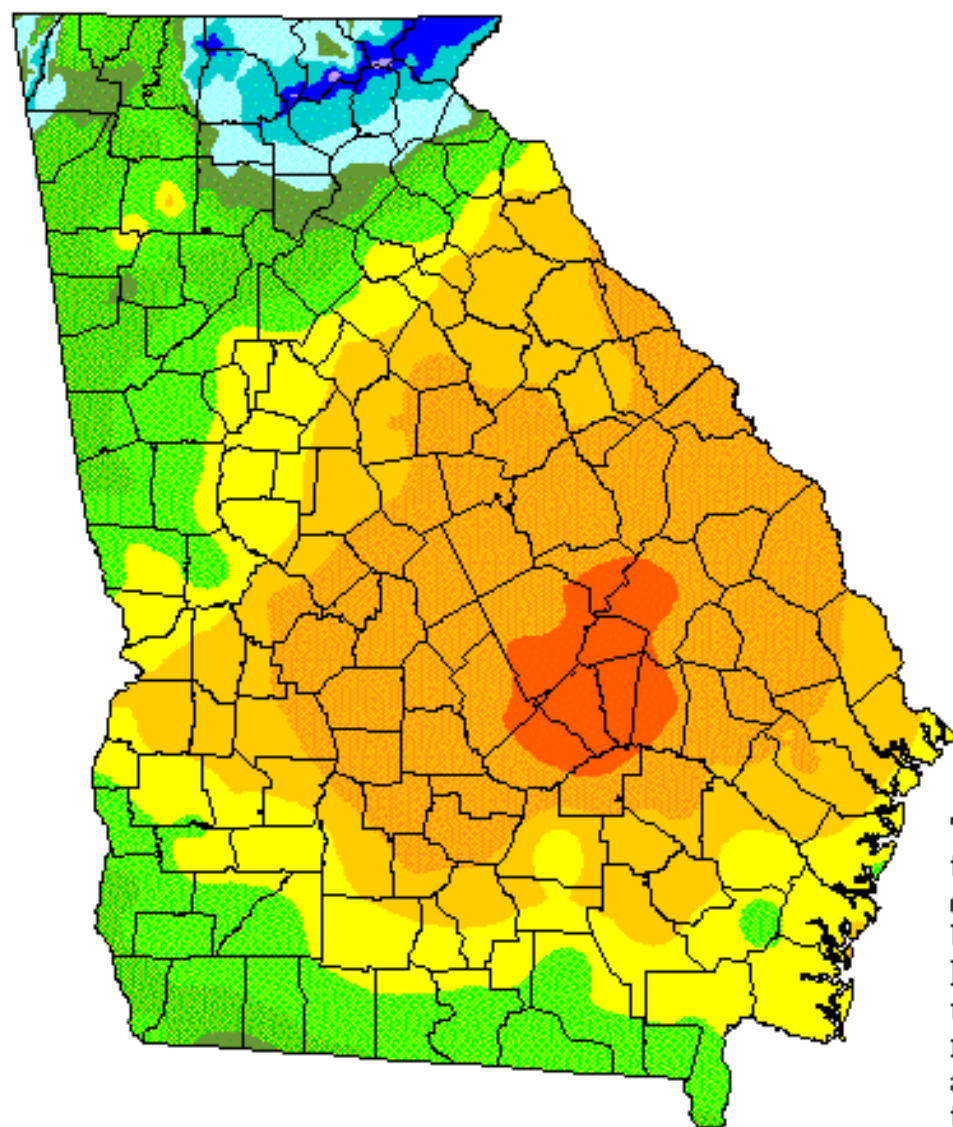


# Average Annual Precipitation

## Georgia

For information on the PRISM modeling system, visit the SCAS web site at <http://www.ocs.orst.edu/prism>

Copyright 2000 by Spatial Climate Analysis Service,  
Oregon State University



### Legend (in inches)

Under 46	56 to 58
46 to 48	58 to 62
48 to 50	62 to 70
50 to 52	70 to 78
52 to 54	78 to 86
54 to 56	Over 86

The latest PRISM digital data sets created by the SCAS can be obtained from the Climate Source at <http://www.climate-source.com>

This is a map of annual precipitation averaged over the period 1961-1990. Station observations were collected from the NOAA Cooperative and USDA-NRCS Snotel networks, plus other state and local networks. The PRISM modeling system was used to create the gridded estimates from which this map was made. The size of each grid pixel is approximately 4x4 km. Support was provided by the NRCS Water and Climate Center.

NOW, LET'S REVIEW  
AND SUMMARIZE SOME  
OF THE THINGS WE  
HAVE LEARNED



## SS8G1 SUMMARY: GEORGIA'S GEOGRAPHY

SS8G1a Locate Georgia in relation to region, nation, continent, and hemispheres.



SS8G1b Describe the five geographic regions of Georgia; include the Blue Ridge Mountains, Valley and Ridge, Appalachian Plateau, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain.

### APPALACHIAN PLATEAU

- Smallest region in northwest corner of the state
- Source of coal deposits
- Location of Lookout Mountain, Ruby Falls, and Cloudland Canyon with high elevations as part of the Appalachian Mountain range.
- Poor soil for farming

### BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

- Northeast corner of the state
- Origin of Georgia's rivers due to mountains that cools the warm, moist air from the Gulf
- Brasstown Bald at 4,784 feet above sea level
- Known for marble production, recreational tourism, hardwood forests, and farming of vegetables and apples
- Site of beautiful waterfalls such as Amicalola Falls, Toccoa Falls, and Tallulah Gorge b/c the region receives the most precipitation

### VALLEY and RIDGE

- Located between the Appalachian Plateau and Blue Ridge Mountain Regions and the site of several Civil War battlefields
- Forests and fertile valleys provide land for cattle and crops
- Known for textile and carpet manufacturing such as the Carpet capital of the world in Dalton, Georgia.



### PIEDMONT

- Piedmont means 'foot of mountain' and contains rolling hills
- Soil is fertile for farming; crops such as wheat and soybeans. Also famous for Georgia red clay and granite rock such as Stone Mountain
- Contains 1/3 of the state's population primarily in the capital city Atlanta as well as Columbus, Macon, and Augusta; plenty of industries and jobs
- Once known as the cotton belt during the pre-civil war history of Georgia

### COASTAL PLAINS

Bordered by the Fall Line to the north this region of Georgia makes up 3/5ths of the state and was once covered by the Atlantic Ocean. As the major agricultural region this area produces crops such as world famous Vidalia onions, tobacco, peanuts, pecans, and sweet potatoes. This region is home to the Okefenokee Swamp the largest freshwater wetland in Georgia. In addition, there are about 100 miles of flat land bordering the Atlantic Ocean with the barrier islands within site from the coast. Rivers in this region are navigable (good for boats) and help transport goods to cities inland or to the sea port for trade. The land is sparsely populated with small cities and towns.



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.

### APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS

Oldest mountains in North America and once the home of Cherokee Indians. Site of the 1<sup>st</sup> gold rush in U.S. history. The high elevation provides much of Georgia's rain and source of drinking water. Its beauty attracts tourists during all seasons and the deposits of coal and marble mineral are in abundance.

### SAVANNAH RIVER

Forms the boundary between Georgia and South Carolina. The river begins at Lake Hartwell and flows southeast to Savannah before depositing into the Atlantic Ocean. Since colonial times the river is used for travel and trade in the Coastal Plains region. From the Fall Line and further north the river is used for hydroelectric purposes and serves as a source of water for many people.

### CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER

Begins in the Blue Ridge Mtns and flows southwest through the city of Atlanta and eventually becomes part of the boundary between Georgia and Alabama. South of the Fall Line the river is used for trade and boat travel. North of the Fall Line the river is used to generate hydroelectric power and is a source of drinking water for many Georgians. In addition, the river offers many recreational activities for tourists.



### BARRIER ISLANDS

Islands protect the mainland from storms and waves; attract a lot of tourists due to excellent climate, beautiful resorts, nice beaches, and recreational activities; provide jobs for the fishing industry and paper production.

### FALL LINE

Natural boundary separating the Piedmont and Coastal Plains regions. Columbus, Macon, and Augusta were built along this line due to the ending of navigable rivers from the south going northbound because of the elevation drop. Because of this there hydroelectric power has been harnessed for industries. The soil is perfect for the growing of peaches and the mineral kaolin is Georgia's largest natural resource.

### OKEFENOKEE SWAMP

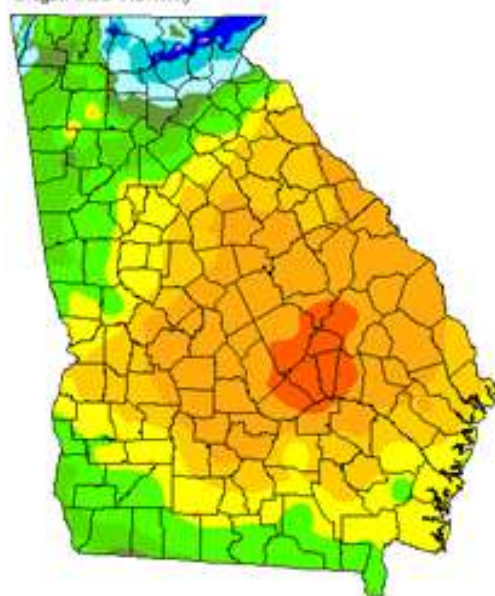
Located in the southeast corner of the state in the Coastal Plains region. It is the largest freshwater wetland (swamp) in North America. Became a national wildlife refuge in 1937 by President Franklin Roosevelt because loggers were destroying the natural habitat. Today, the swamp is home to over 400 species of animals.

Evaluate the impact of climate on Georgia's development.

## Average Annual Precipitation

### Georgia

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### Legend (in inches)

Under 46	56 to 58
46 to 48	58 to 62
48 to 50	62 to 70
50 to 52	70 to 78
52 to 54	78 to 86
54 to 56	Over 86

Georgia has a mild humid subtropical climate. Summers are hot and humid, while winters are cool. Moist air from the Gulf of Mexico provides much of the state's rainfall. The Atlantic Ocean provides rainfall for the coastal areas and barrier islands.

The northern part of the state is cooler and receives the most precipitation, which explains why the Blue Ridge region gets snow in the winter season due to higher elevation and latitude.

### AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Georgia's mild climate and rainfall allow farmers to work the land to grow a variety of crops during a longer growing season than farmers in the north. A variety of crops include apples and vegetables in the Blue Ridge region; wheat, soybeans, and corn in the Piedmont; to peanuts, pecans, peaches, and onions in the Coastal Plains region. Agriculture also includes raising animals such as cattle in the Valley and Ridge region for dairy farms like Mayfield and the raising of poultry (chickens) in the Piedmont. The impact of climate on agriculture is huge b/c it provides a lot of jobs for Georgia citizens, not just farmers, but transportation, food processors, and stores.

### TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Georgia's climate varies from the cool mountains in the north to the sunny beaches in the southeast. Tourists from Georgia and abroad flock to different areas of the state for vacation. Some families spend days in the Appalachian Mtns camping, whitewater rafting, or even enjoying the snow falls in Blue Ridge region. Georgia's climate allows people to visit plenty of local, state, and national parks, even amusement parks like Six Flags and Whitewater. Families can vacation on one of the many barrier islands off the coast of Georgia as there are golf courses, beaches, parks, and resorts. Tourism brings a lot of money to the state, mainly because Georgia has a warm climate.