





# GEOGRAPHY:

## SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR GEORGIA STUDIES

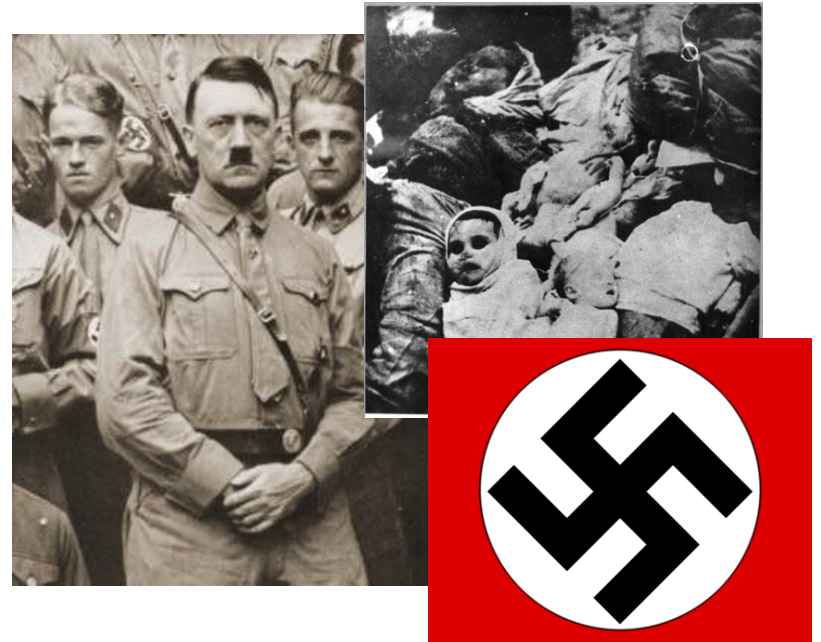
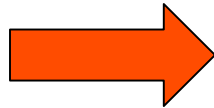
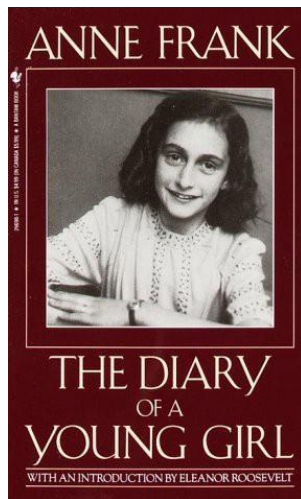
SS8G1 – The student will *describe* Georgia with regard to physical features and location.



No story makes sense unless you understand the background and setting – also known as the CONTEXT – for the story.

For example...

It would be difficult to understand the *Diary of Anne Frank* ...

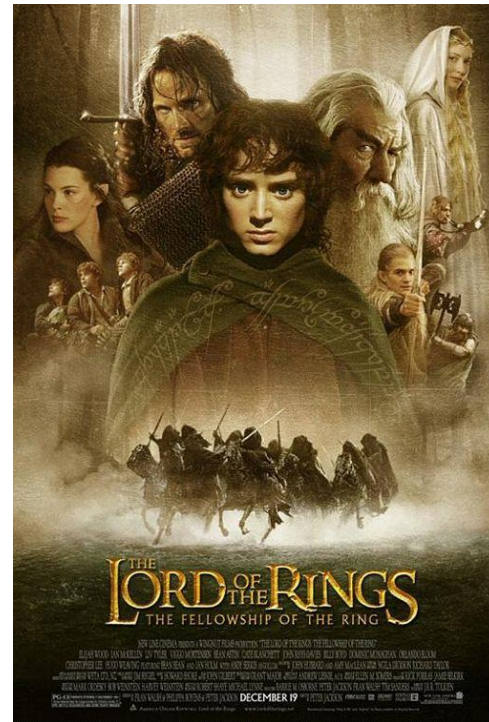
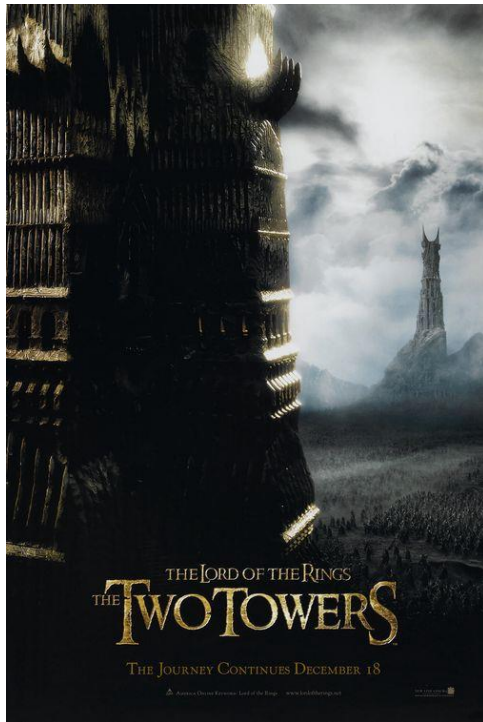


... without understanding the history of the holocaust.

No story makes sense unless you understand the background and setting – also known as the CONTEXT – for the story.

For example...

It would be difficult to understand *The Two Towers* ...

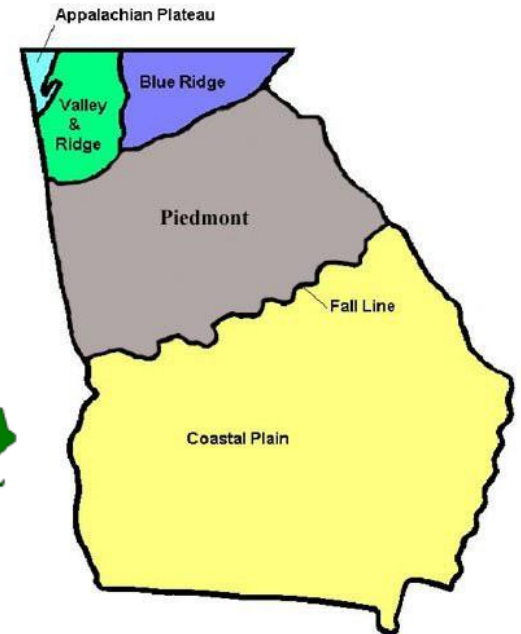
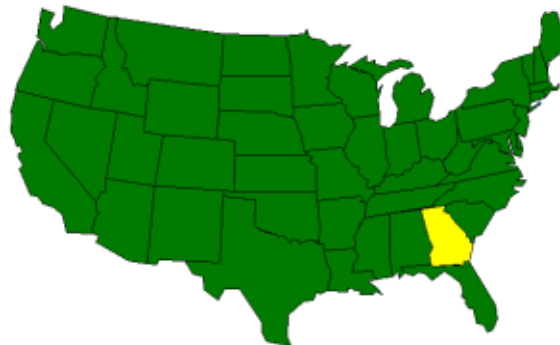
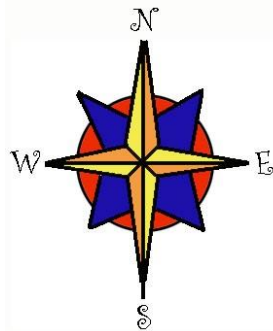


... without first understanding the *The Fellowship of the Ring*.



No story makes sense unless you understand the background and setting – also known as the **CONTEXT** – for the story.

For Georgia Studies, an important part of our context is our state's geography.



Imagine you were out in space, a million light years away. Our galaxy, the “Milky Way”, would look something like this:



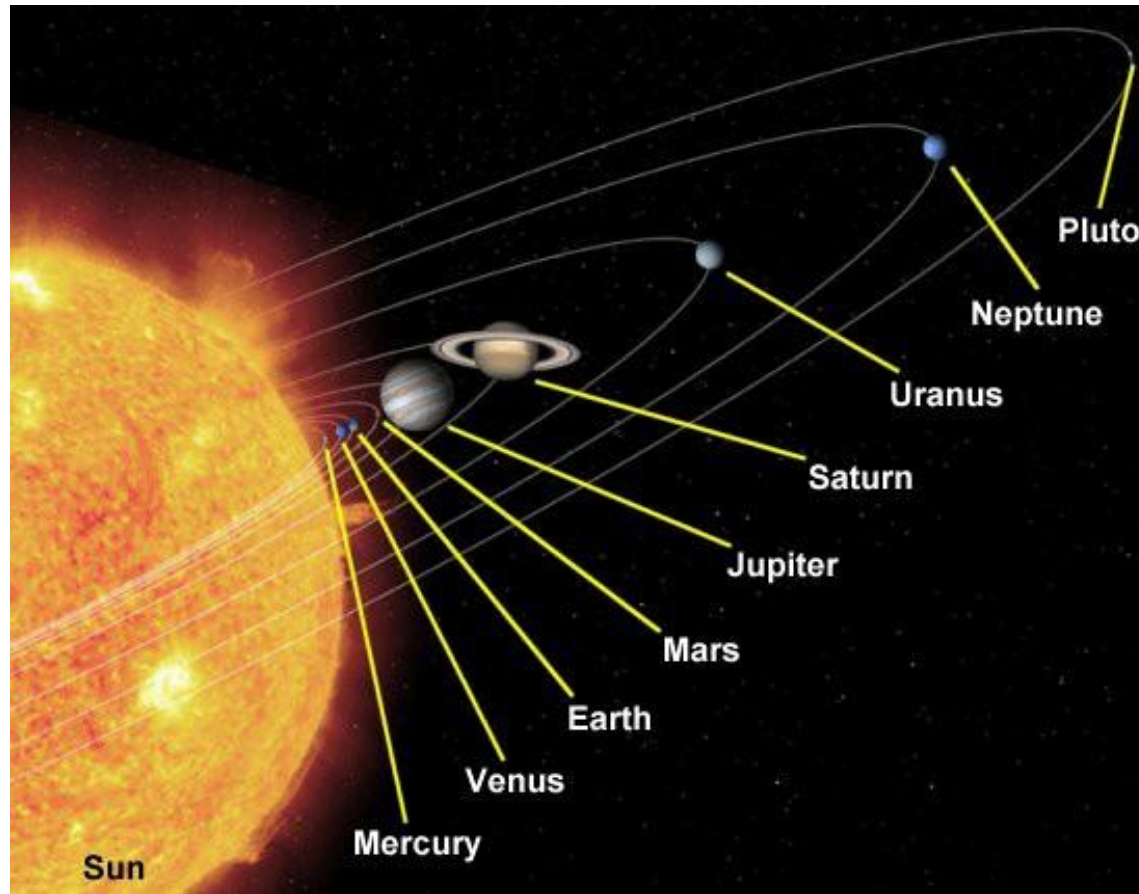


Our star, the Sun, is located somewhere around  
here



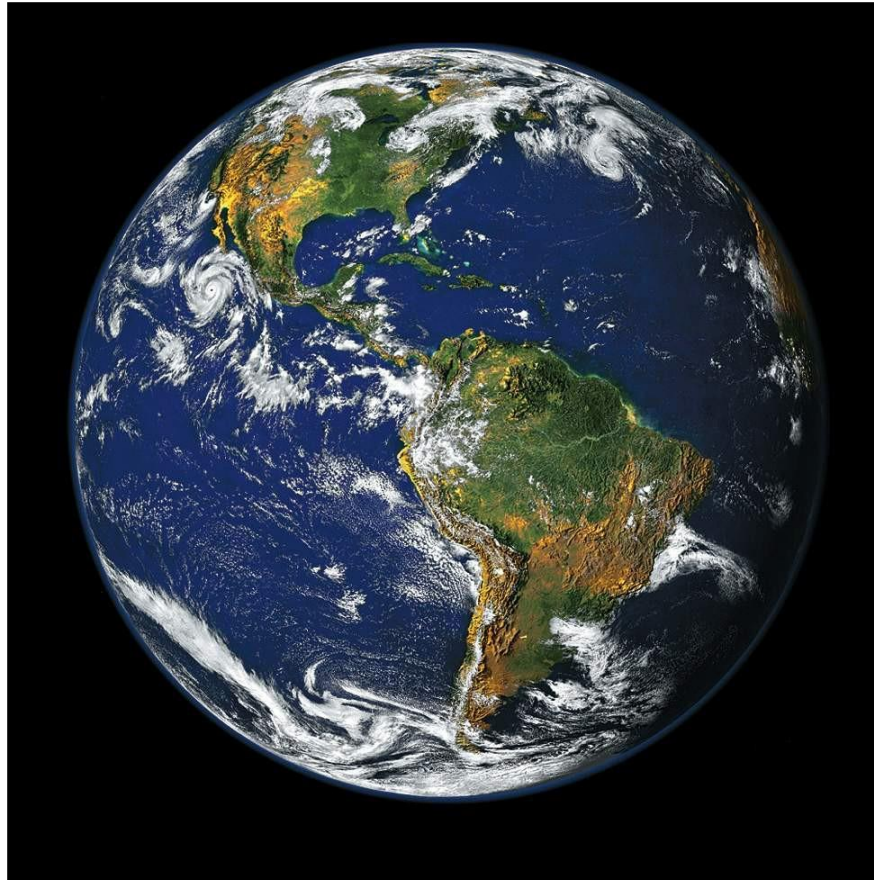


A set of planets, the Solar System, revolve around the Sun. Our planet, Earth, is the third planet from the Sun.







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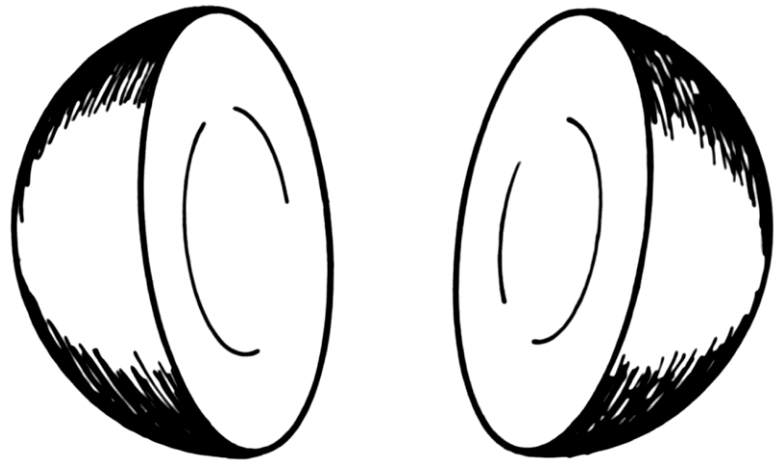




Earth is a sphere. A sphere can be divided into two halves called “hemispheres.”

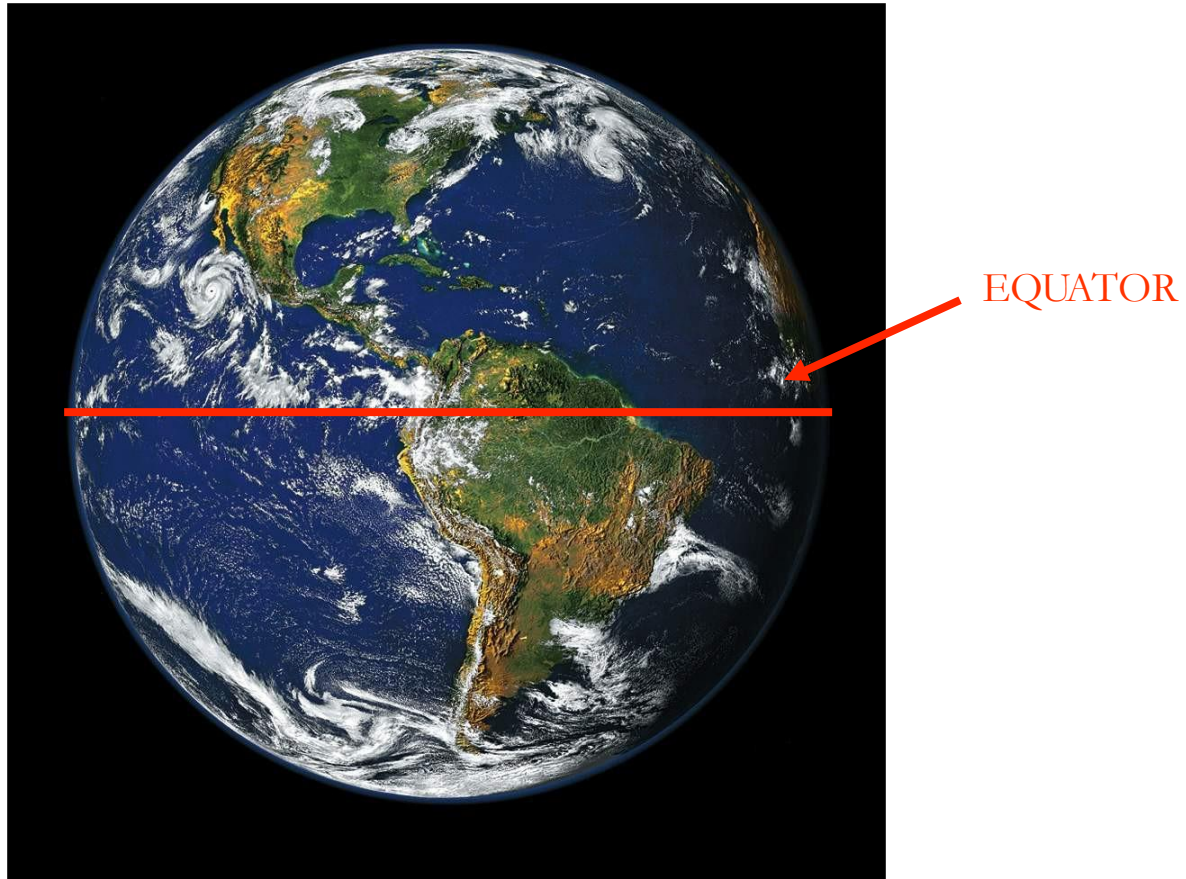


**SPHERE**



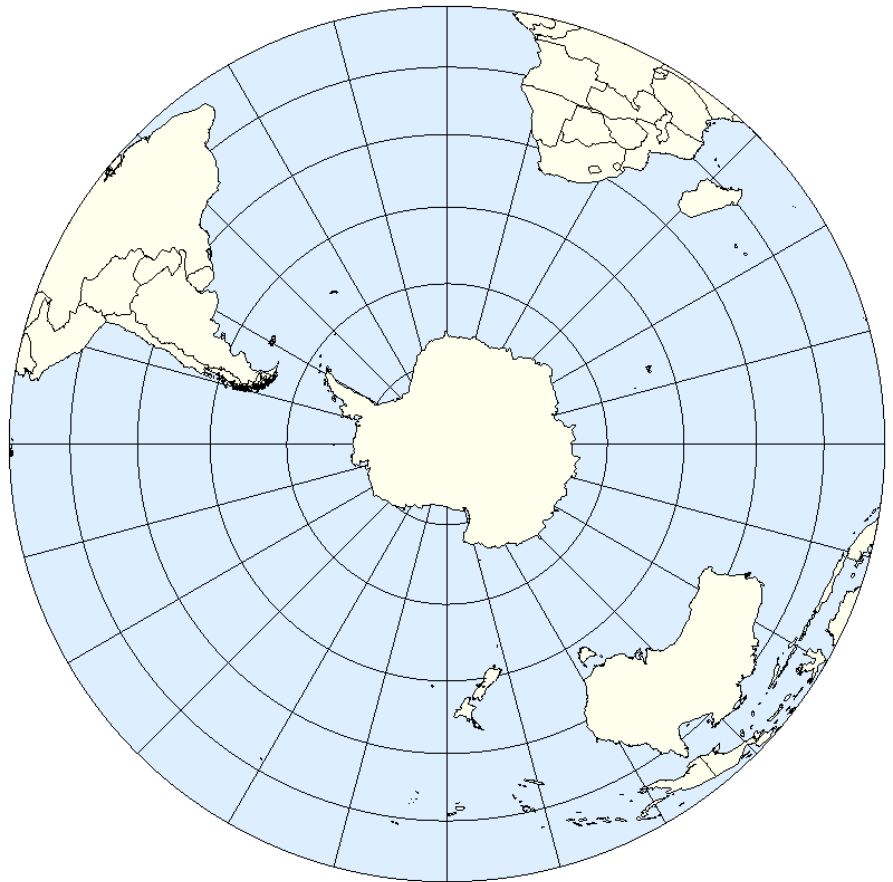
**HEMISPHERES**

**Earth is divided in half, along the equator, into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.**



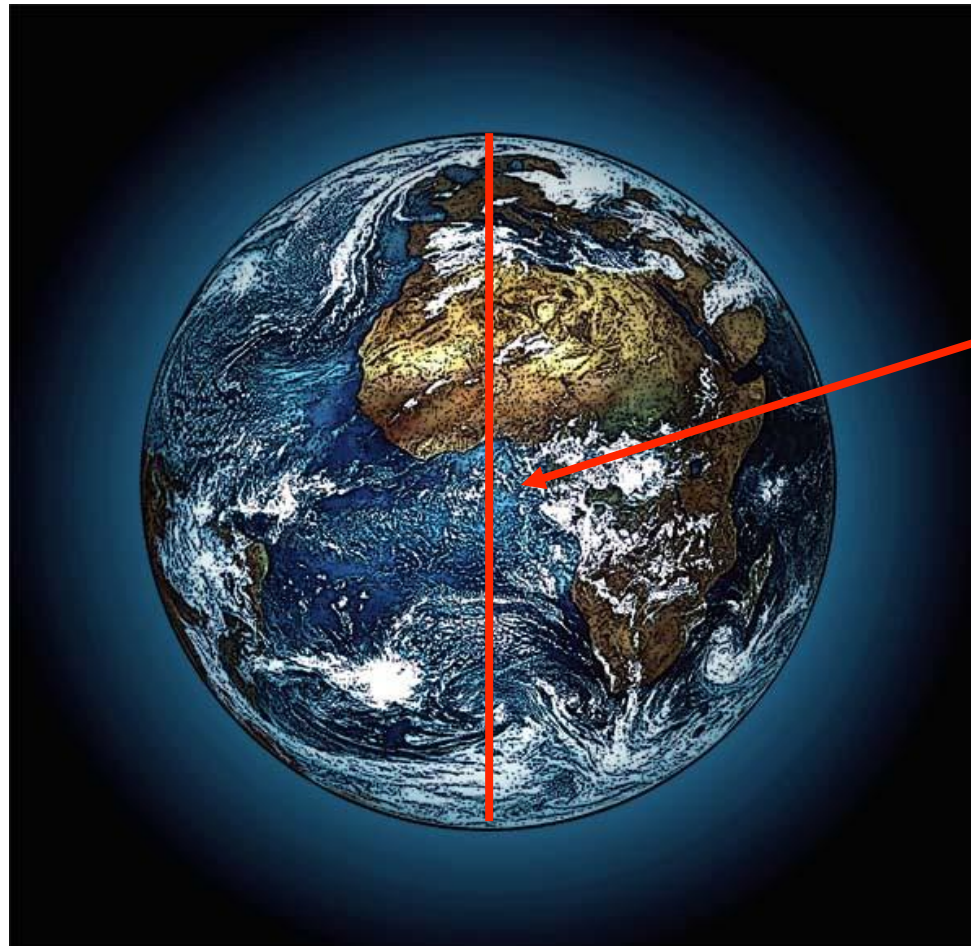


**Earth is divided in half, along the equator, into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.**





Earth is divided in half, along the Prime Meridian, into the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.



PRIME  
MERIDIAN



**Earth is divided in half, along the Prime Meridian, into the Western and Eastern Hemispheres.**







**On Earth, there are seven major land masses, called  
Continents:**





## 1. Europe





## 2. Asia





### 3. Africa





## 4. Australia







## 5. Antarctica





## 6. South America



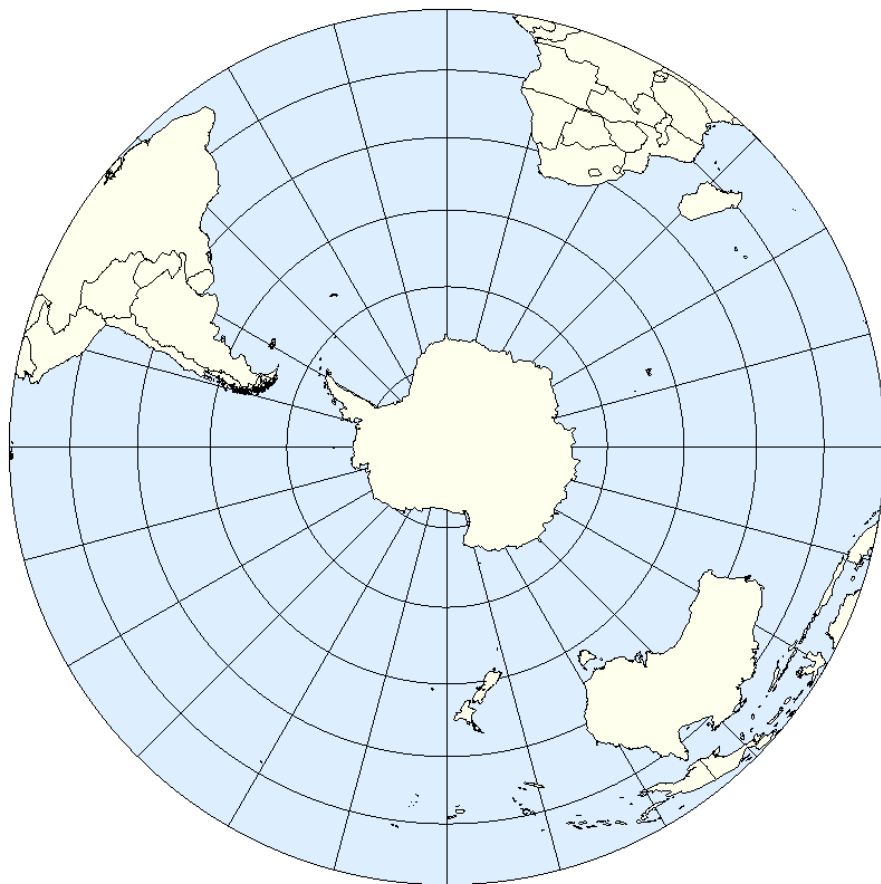


## 7. North America





**Our continent, North America, is located in the  
Northern Hemisphere...**





...as well as in the Western Hemisphere.



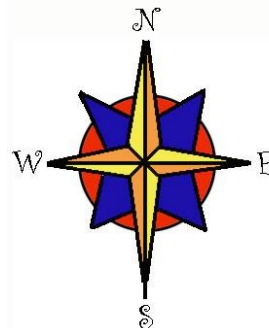




North America contains 23 political subdivisions called nations. Our nation is the United States of America.

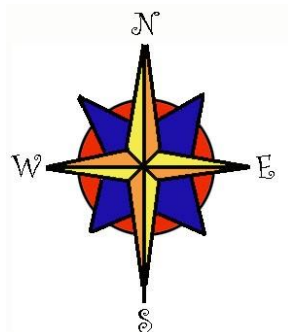


Georgia is located in the southeastern region of the  
United States.



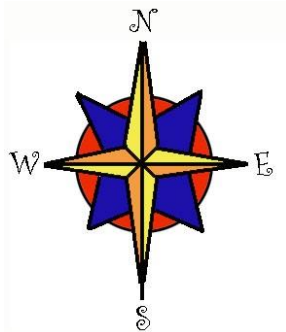


Georgia is surrounded by five states (Tennessee and North Carolina to the North, South Carolina to the East, Florida to the South, and Alabama to the West) as well as the Atlantic Ocean.

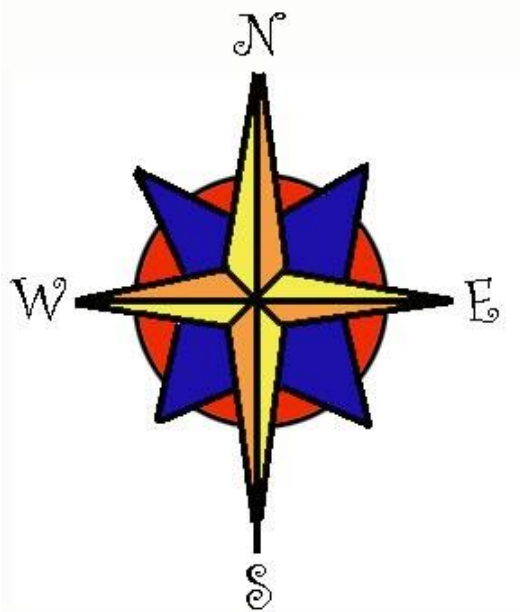




Relative location is Georgia's location in relationship to the surrounding states.



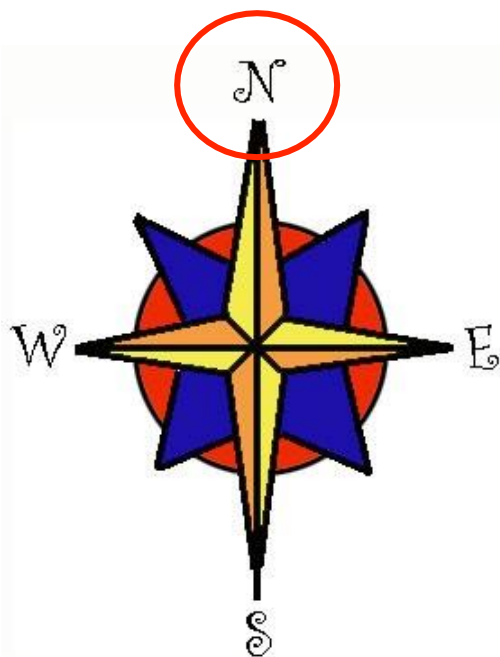
To understand relative location, you simply need to know the four cardinal directions.





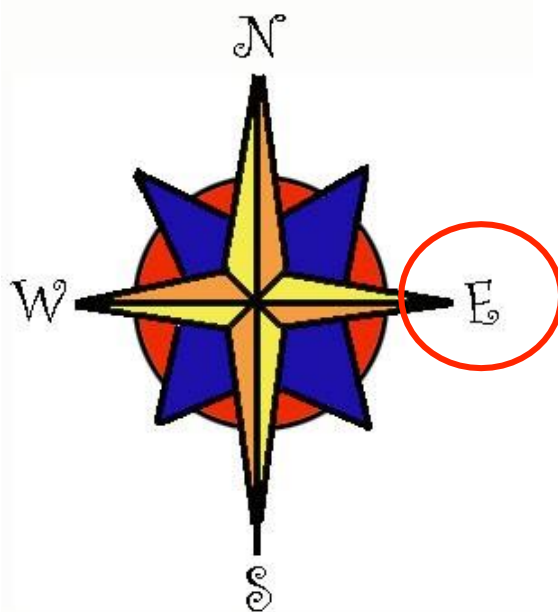
To understand relative location, you simply need to  
know the four cardinal directions:

**NORTH**



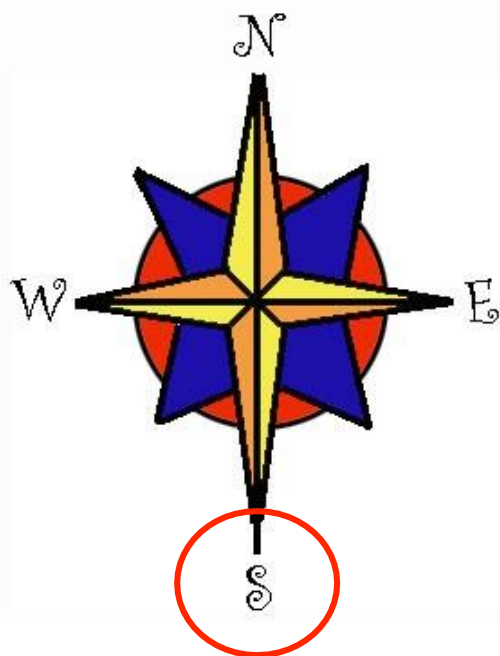
To understand relative location, you simply need to  
know the four cardinal directions:

**EAST**



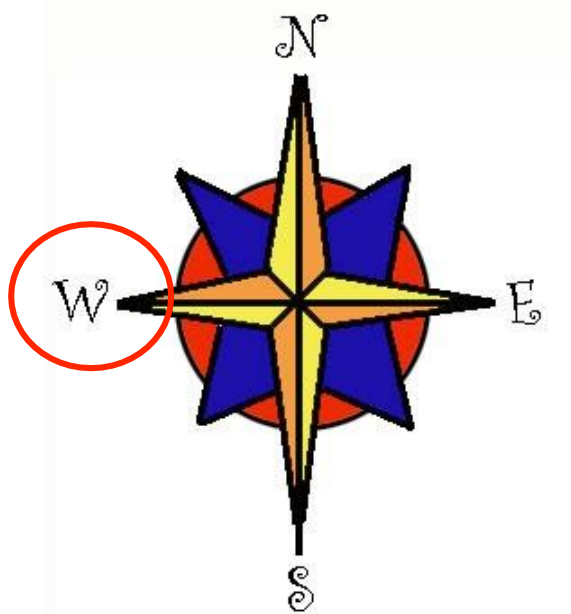
To understand relative location, you simply need to  
know the four cardinal directions:

**SOUTH**



To understand relative location, you simply need to  
know the four cardinal directions:

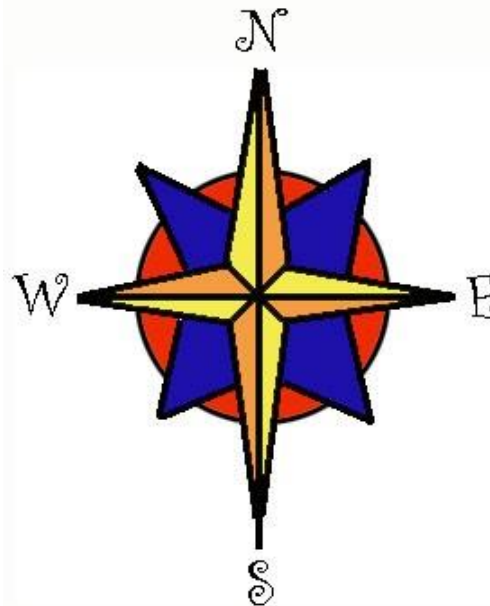
**WEST**





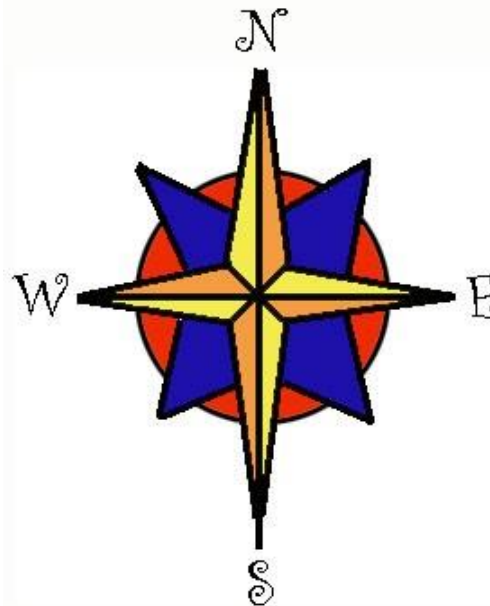
Using an pneumonic device can help you remember the four cardinal directions in order:

**N**ever **E**at **S**hredded **W**heat





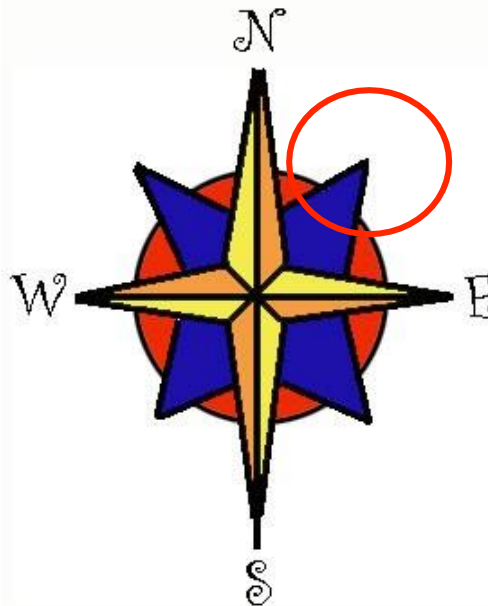
Between each cardinal direction is an intermediate direction:





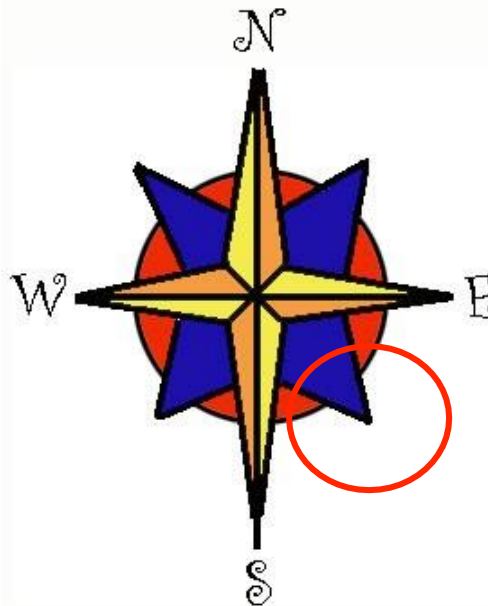


Between each cardinal direction is an intermediate direction:  
**Northeast**



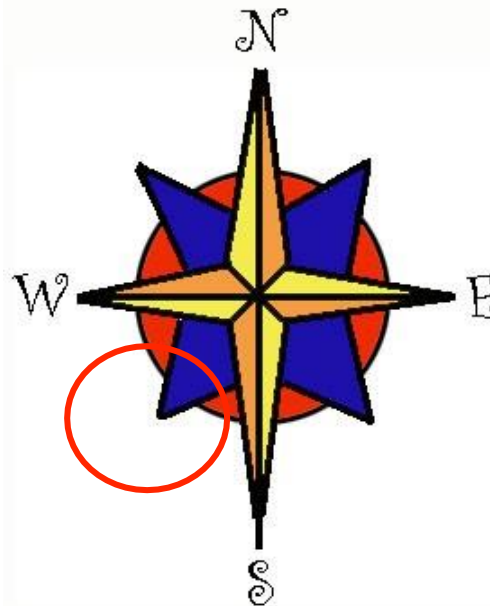


Between each cardinal direction is an intermediate direction:  
**Southeast**



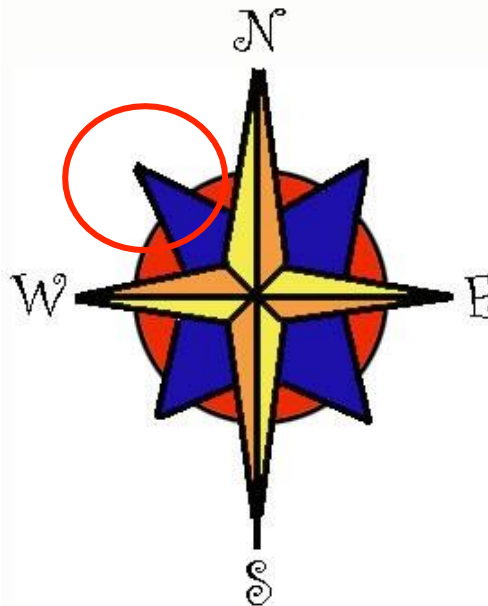


Between each cardinal direction is an intermediate direction:  
Southwest

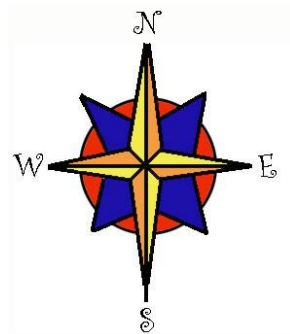




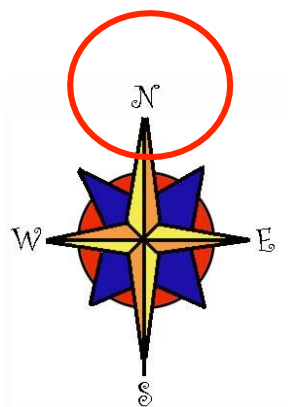
Between each cardinal direction is an intermediate direction:  
**Northwest**



Now that we know the cardinal directions, we can describe Georgia's relative location:

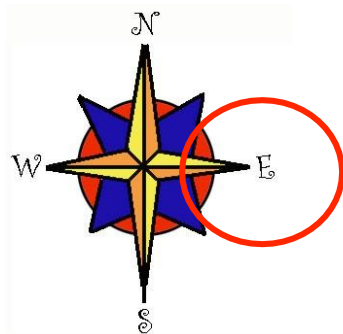


Now that we know the cardinal directions, we can  
describe Georgia's relative location:  
Georgia is North of Florida

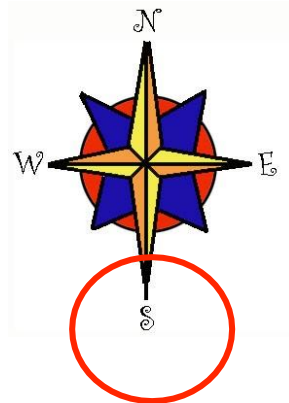




Now that we know the cardinal directions, we can  
describe Georgia's relative location:  
**Georgia is East of Alabama**

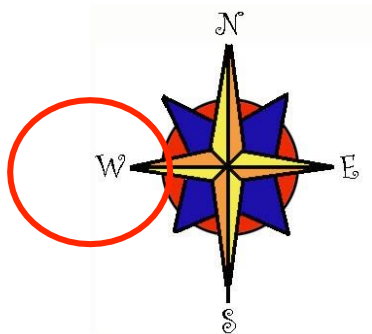


Now that we know the cardinal directions, we can  
describe Georgia's relative location:  
Georgia is South of Tennessee & North Carolina





Now that we know the cardinal directions, we can  
describe Georgia's relative location:  
Georgia is West of South Carolina & the Atlantic Ocean





## What do you remember about... Georgia's location???

1. Is Georgia in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is Georgia in the Eastern or Western Hemisphere? \_\_\_\_\_

3. On which continent is Georgia located? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Georgia is part of which nation? \_\_\_\_\_

5. In what region of the nation (northwestern, northeastern, southwestern, southeastern) would you find Georgia? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which five states border Georgia? \_\_\_\_\_

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## What do you remember about... Georgia's location???

1. Is Georgia in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere? Northern
2. Is Georgia in the Eastern or Western Hemisphere? \_\_\_\_\_
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6. Which five states border Georgia? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## What do you remember about... Georgia's location???

1. Is Georgia in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere? Northern
2. Is Georgia in the Eastern or Western Hemisphere? Western
3. On which continent is Georgia located? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Georgia is part of which nation? \_\_\_\_\_
5. In what region of the nation (northwestern, northeastern, southwestern, southeastern) would you find Georgia? \_\_\_\_\_
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\_\_\_\_\_





## What do you remember about... Georgia's location???

1. Is Georgia in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere? Northern
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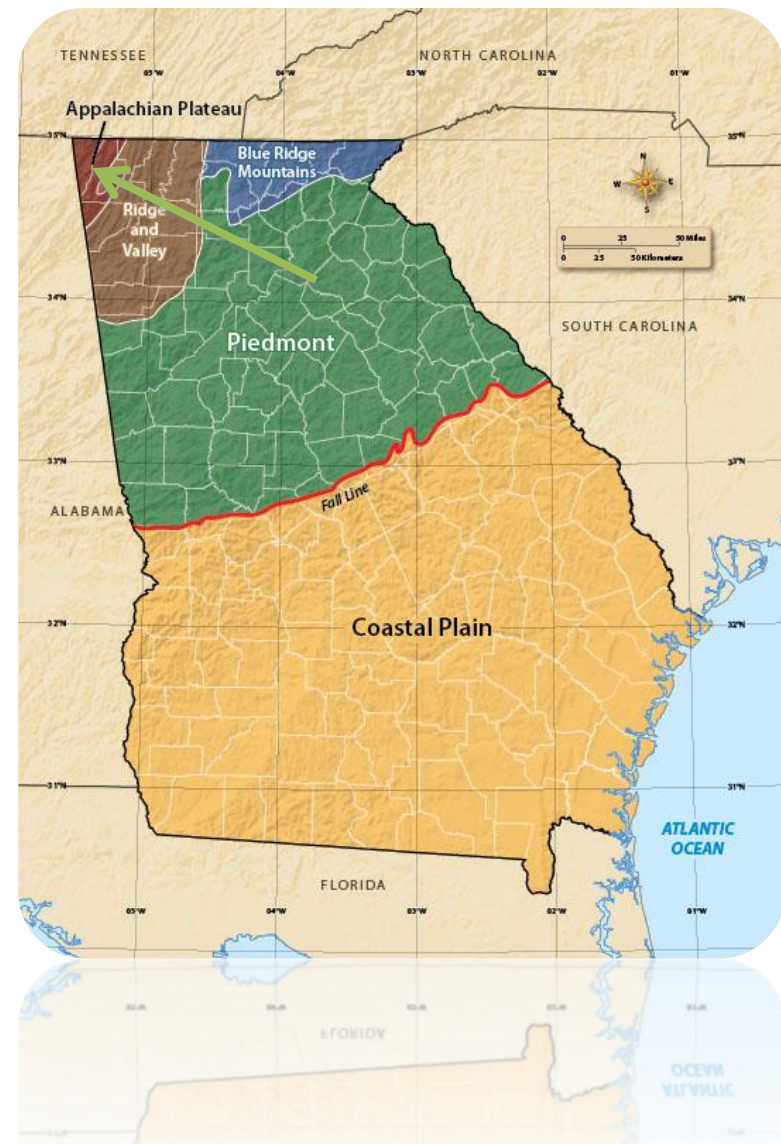
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6. Which five states border Georgia? North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama,  
South Carolina, and Florida





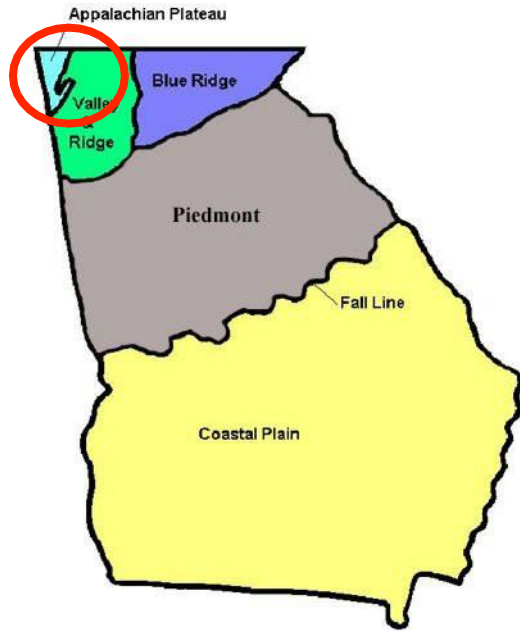
# Appalachian Plateau Region

- Smallest Region
- Appalachian Mountains stretch from north Georgia into Canada (over 2000 miles).
- Among the oldest mountains in the world; worn down by thousands of years of erosion.
- The plateau region is the western side of the Appalachian range. It is known for high, scenic bluffs of relative flat lands overlooking wide, beautiful valleys; including Lookout Mountain

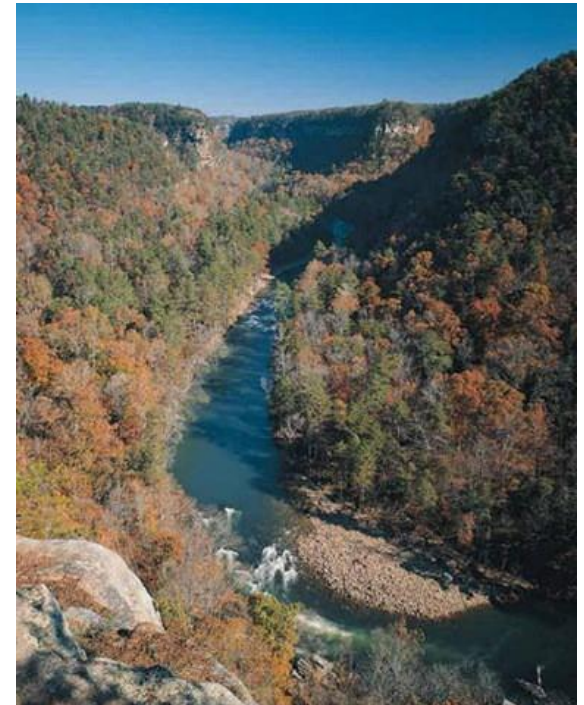




# The Appalachian Plateau



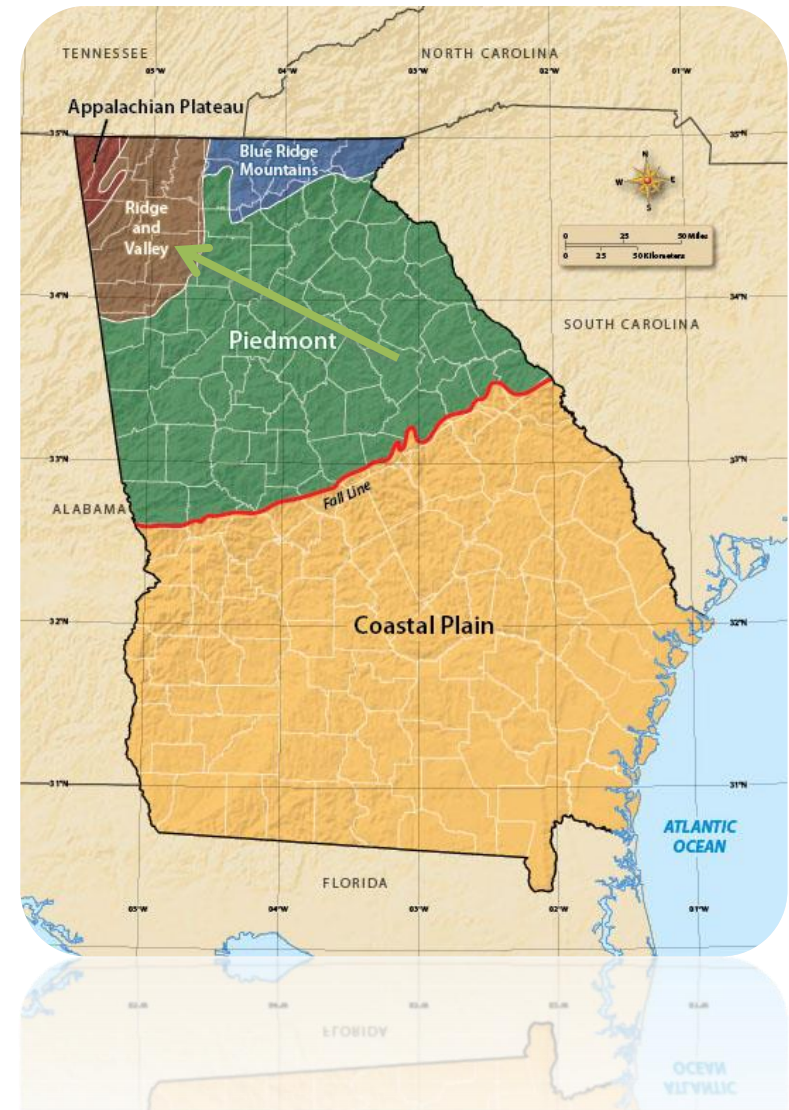
- In northwest corner of Georgia and part of the 80 mile-long Lookout Mountain.
- Many caves due to limestone underground.
- Coal and iron mined in the region.





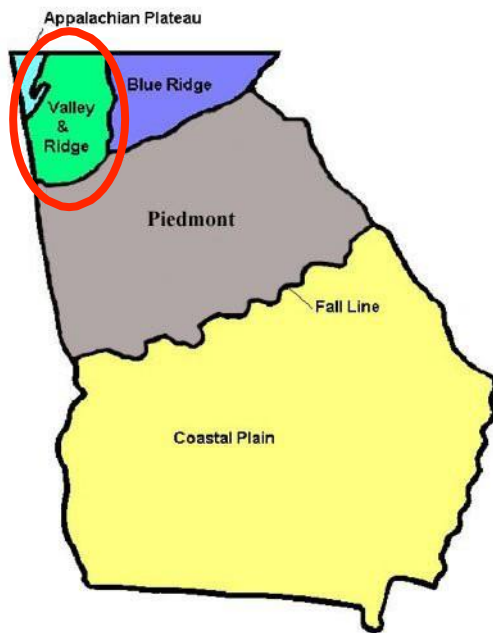
# Ridge and Valley Region

- The Ridge and Valley region has long ridges of mountains, separated by long valleys.
- Valleys have fertile land good for farming and cattle
- Lies between the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Plateau
- Capped with Limestone
- Textiles; especially carpet in Dalton who leads the world in carpet production



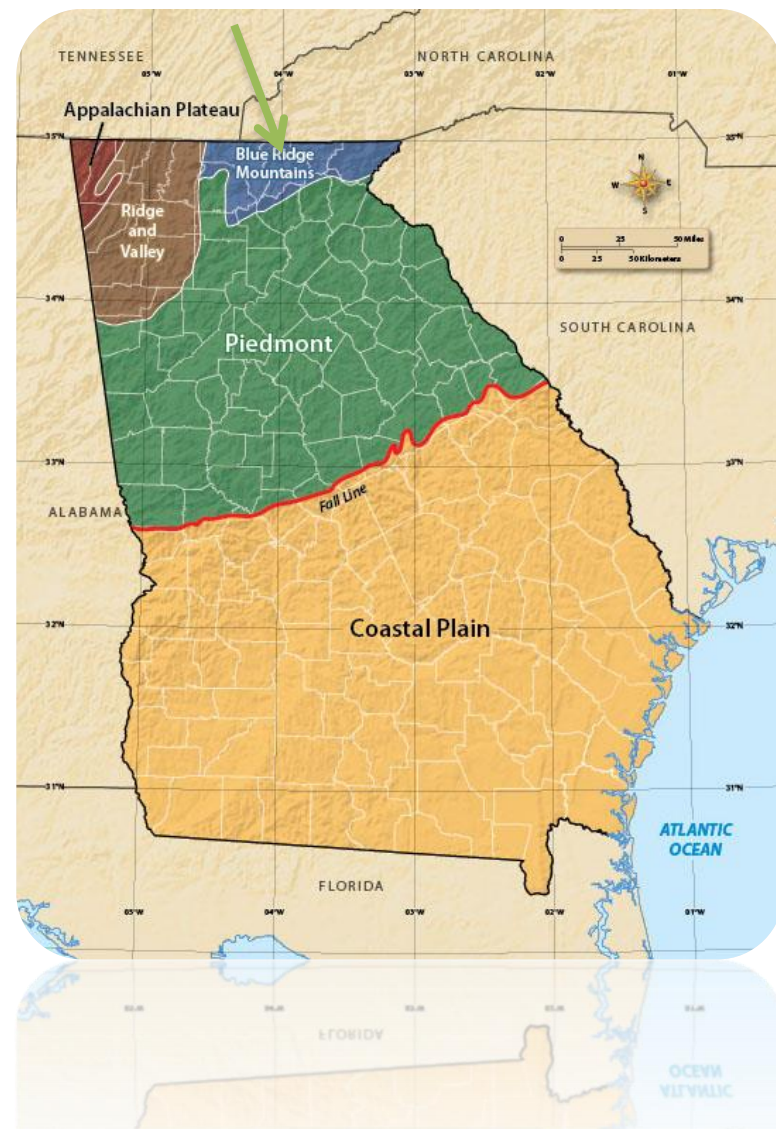


# Ridge and Valley



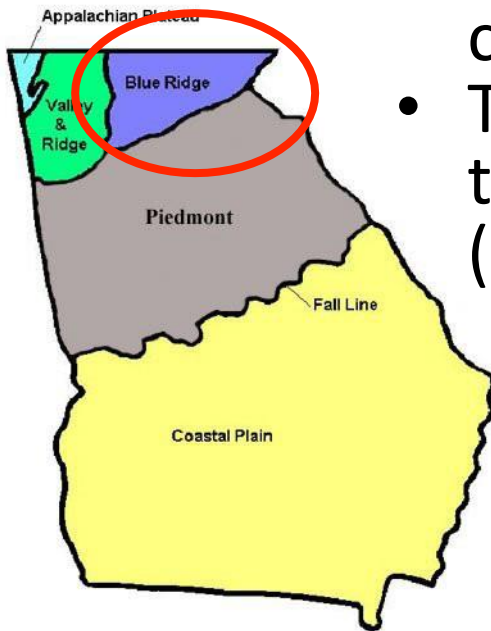
# Blue Ridge Mountains Region

- The Blue Ridge range is a part of the larger Appalachian Mountains.
- The mountains are more rugged and the valleys randomly arranged as compared to the Ridge and Valley region.
- Brasstown Bald (4,784 feet) is tallest mountain.
- Appalachian Trail begins here.
- Marble quarries are an important natural resource. Georgia leads the world in marble production.

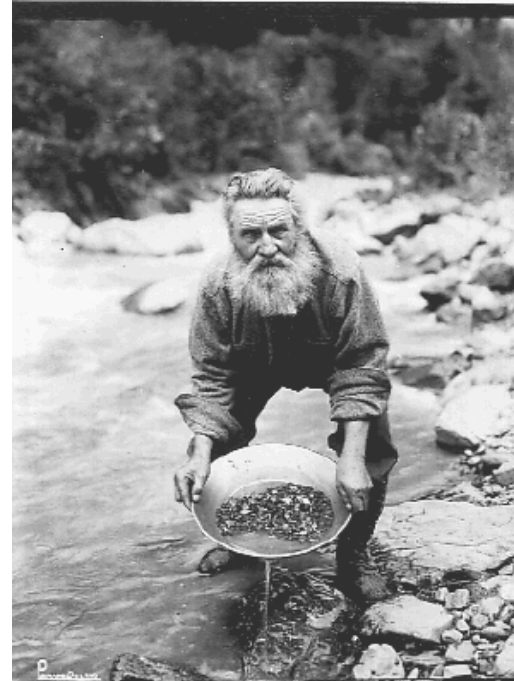




# The Blue Ridge Mountains



- Tourists come to hike, view wildlife, canoe, raft, and enjoy trees in their fall colors.
- The Blue Ridge Mountains are the site of the first gold rush in American history (in 1828)



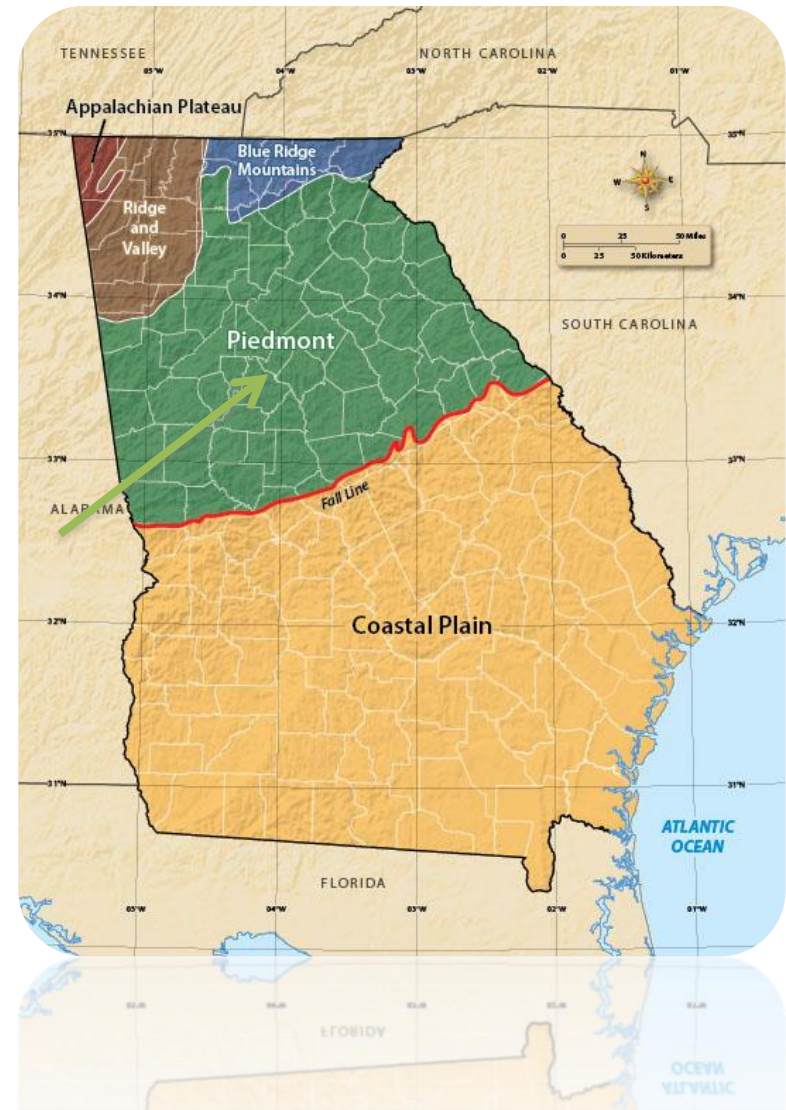




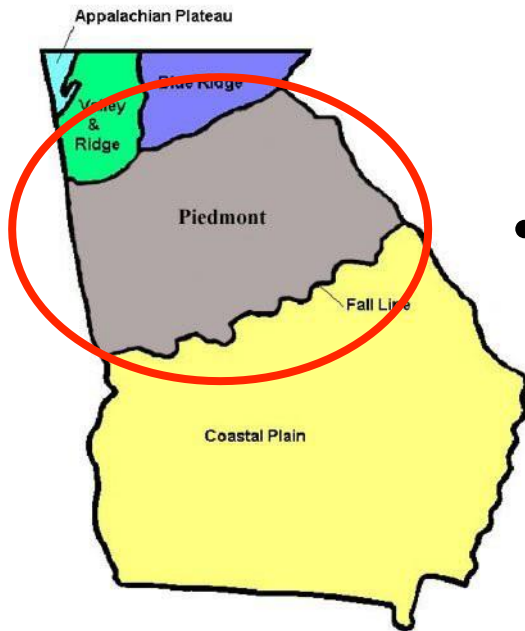
# Piedmont Region



- The Piedmont is known for its rolling hills between the mountains and Coastal Plain. Often called the Foothill of the Mountains
- Plentiful granite and clay soil with fertile farms.
- 60% of Georgians live in the region.
- Rivers flow through the Piedmont, including the Chattahoochee and Savannah.
- Pine trees as well as hardwood forests (oak, elm, maple, hickory, etc.).



# Piedmont



- Southern boundary is the Fall Line. Changes in rock type cause the ground to fall away, creating waterfalls at the “fall” line across the state.
- Cities grew along the Fall Line since ships could navigate from the Atlantic to this point (Augusta: Savannah River; Milledgeville: Oconee River; Macon: Ocmulgee River; Columbus: Chattahoochee River).
- Cotton belt before the Civil War, now wheat, soybeans, corn, poultry, and cattle.
- Called the “Heartland” of the state





# Piedmont

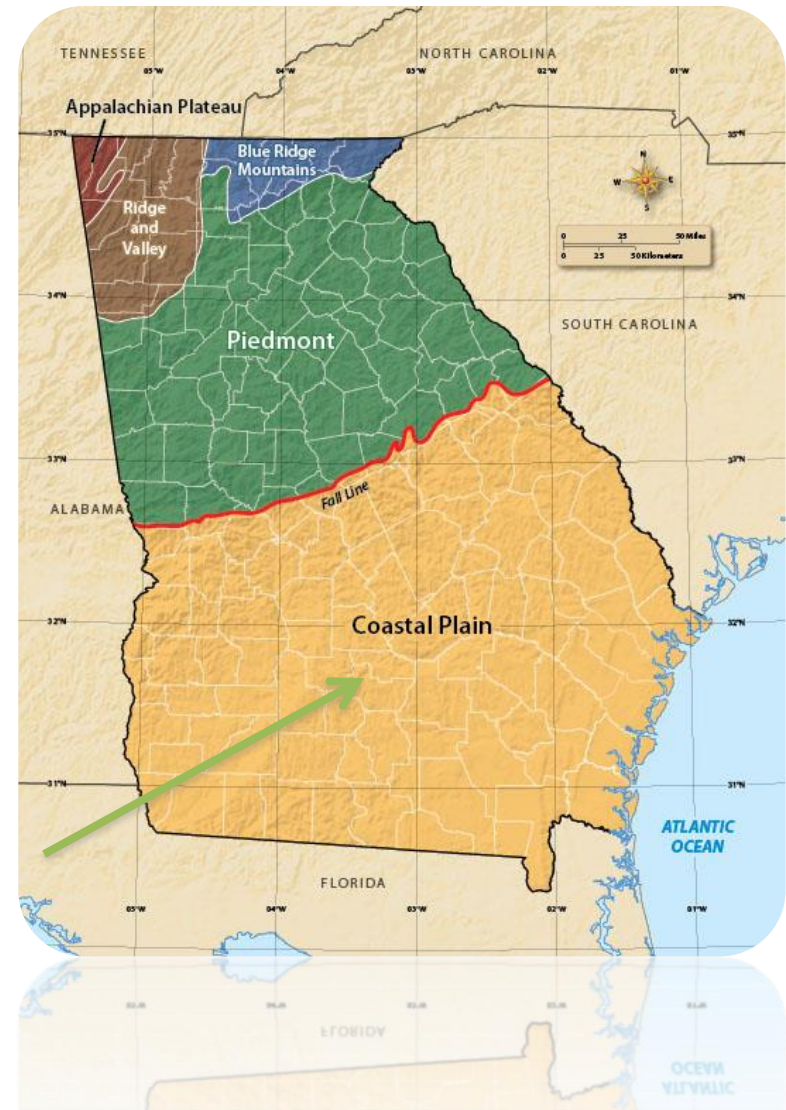




# Coastal Plain Region

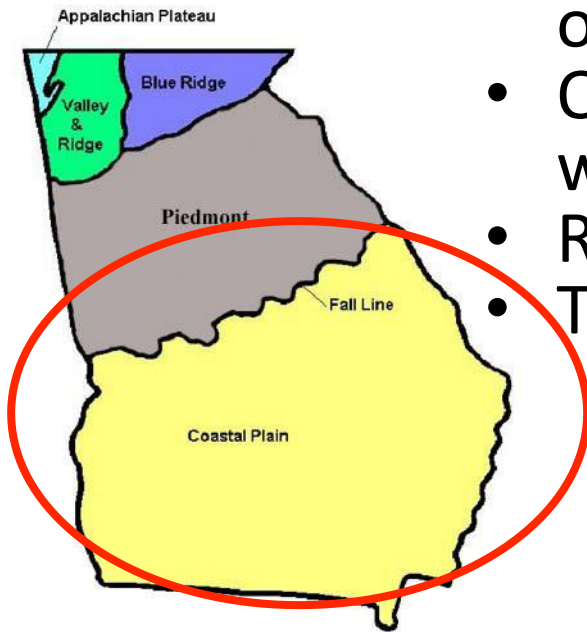


- The Coastal Plain is in the southern half of state and is the largest region.
- Region has flat area with fertile soil and sloping mountains.
- A part of the Floridan Aquifer (underground water storage region) which stores much fresh water. Lower coastal plain has Georgia's barrier islands, 100 miles of coastline, marshes, and the Okefenokee Swamp.





# Coastal Plain



- Farming is important to the region's economy (cotton, peanuts, Vidalia onions, and pecans)
- Okefenokee Swamp is located here as well as Columbus, Macon, and Savannah
- Receives most of the state's rainfall
- The Fall Line and Kaolin are found here

# Coastal Plain





## What do you remember about... Georgia's physiographic regions???

- |       |   |                        |
|-------|---|------------------------|
| _____ | 1. Contains GA's highest peak, Brasstown Bald         | A. Piedmont            |
| _____ | 2. Contains most of GA's peanut and cotton farms      | B. Valley & Ridge      |
| _____ | 3. The smallest physiographic region                  | C. Coastal Plain       |
| _____ | 4. Has GA's highest amount of annual rainfall         | D. Blue Ridge          |
| _____ | 5. The most populated of GA's regions.                | E. Appalachian Plateau |
| _____ | 6. Contains mountain ridges with valleys between      |                        |
| _____ | 7. Contains GA's only source of a fossil fuel (coal)  |                        |
| _____ | 8. The location of GA's capital and largest city      |                        |
| _____ | 9. The largest of GA's regions, in terms of land area |                        |



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| <u>  C  </u>  | 2. Contains most of GA's peanut and cotton farms      | B. Valley & Ridge      |
| <u>  E  </u>  | 3. The smallest physiographic region                  | C. Coastal Plain       |
| <u>  D  </u>  | 4. Has GA's highest amount of annual rainfall         | D. Blue Ridge          |
| <u>  A  </u>  | 5. The most populated of GA's regions.                | E. Appalachian Plateau |
| <u>      </u> | 6. Contains mountain ridges with valleys between      |                        |
| <u>      </u> | 7. Contains GA's only source of a fossil fuel         |                        |
| <u>      </u> | (coal)  |                        |
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There are several key physical features that have tremendously impacted Georgia's development, from swamps, to islands, to waterfalls.





It would be difficult  
to farm in areas  
with lots of large  
rocky cliffs,  
mountains, and  
waterfalls.







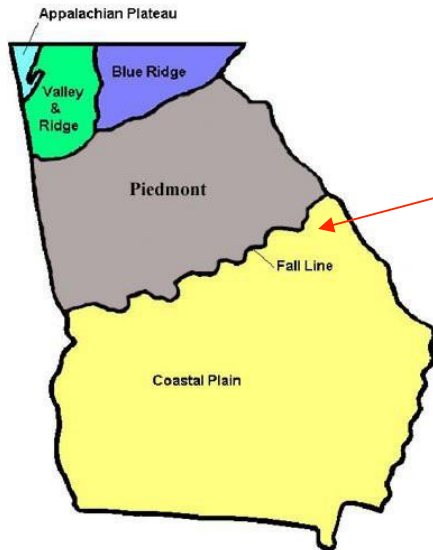
It would be extremely difficult to set up a factory or business, such as a carpet mill, in areas with lots of swamps.



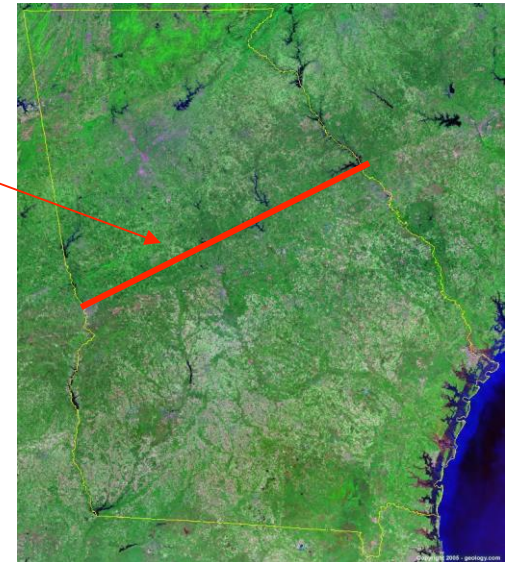
If you lived on the ocean, you might want to consider a career in the fishing industry, or you might want to work at one of Georgia's deep sea ports.



Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:



The Fall Line is a dramatic drop in elevation that runs through the middle of Georgia. It divides the Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions and where Kaolin (world's leading producer) is mined.



# FALL LINE

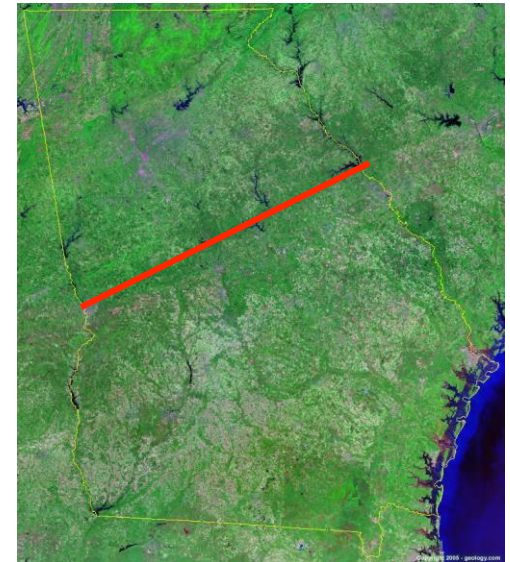




Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:



Many people believe that, millions of years ago, the Fall Line was Georgia's pre-historic coast line. Evidence of this includes shark teeth and sea shells found throughout the Coastal Plain, many miles from the ocean.



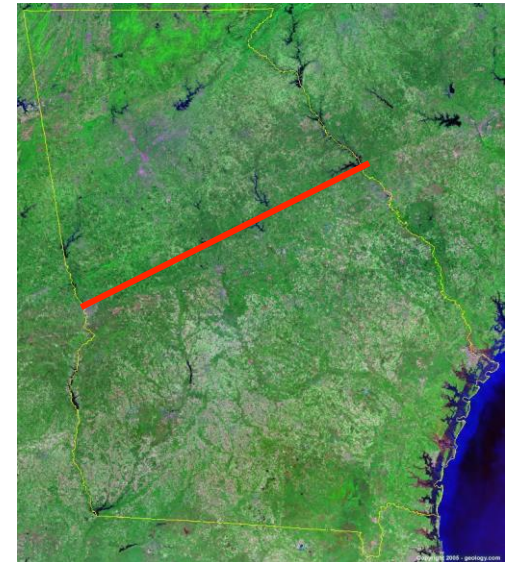
**FALL LINE**



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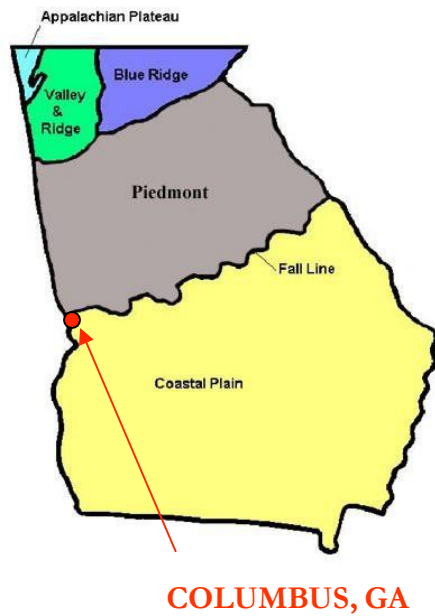
The dramatic drop in location created a line of waterfalls and it makes boat travel difficult or impossible.



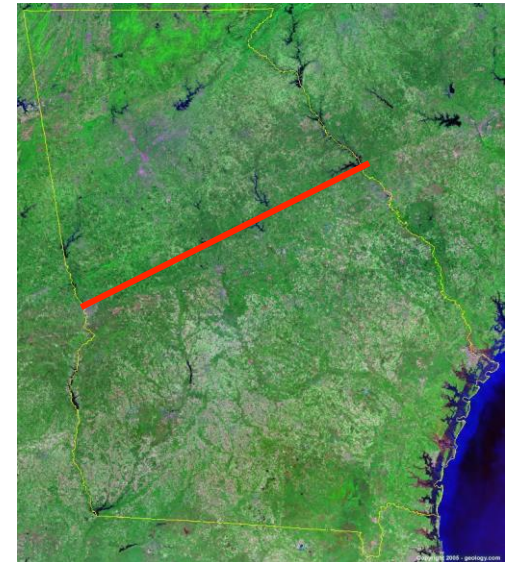
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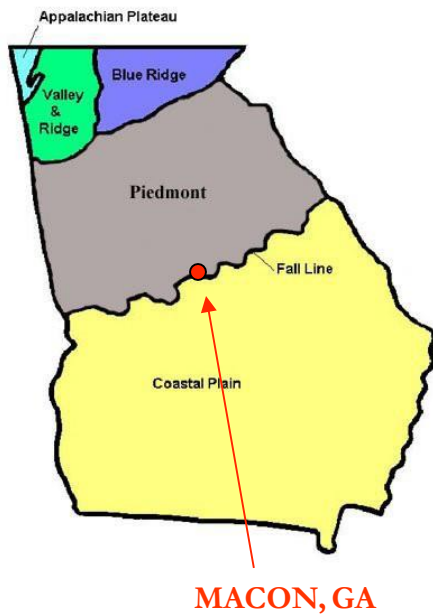


Many towns began along the Fall Line as places where cargo and supplies from the coast, headed to north Georgia, would be transferred from boats to wagons or trains.

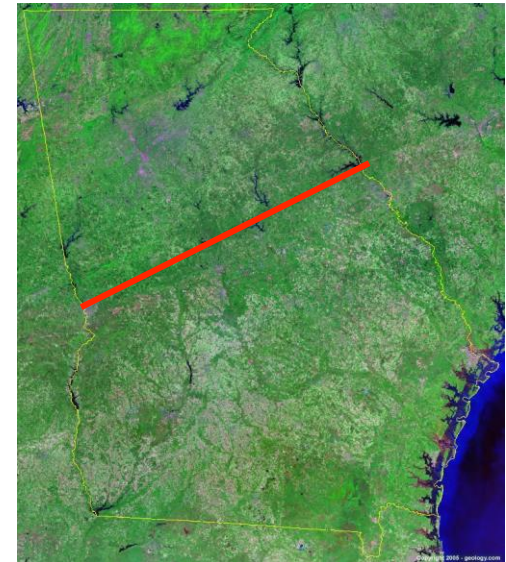


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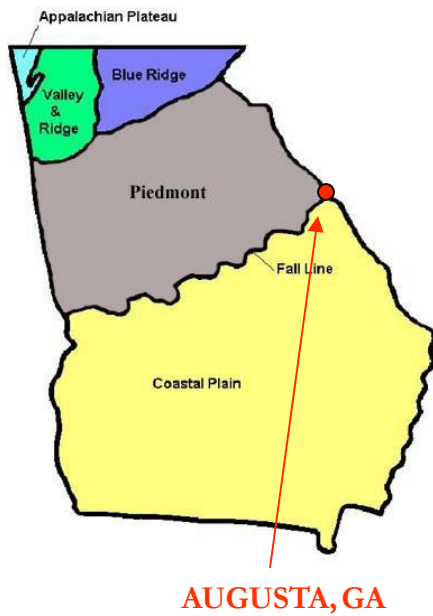


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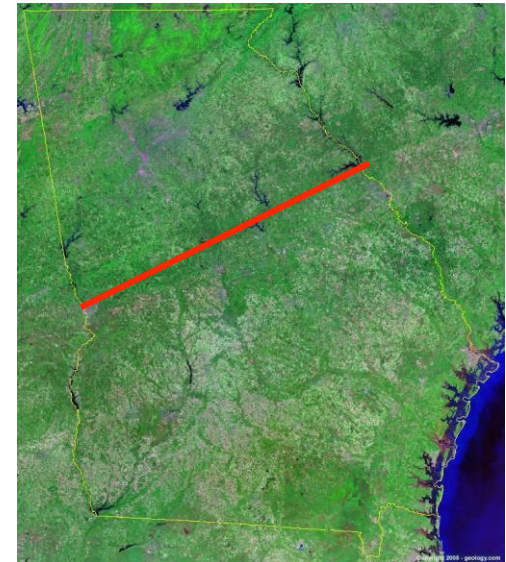


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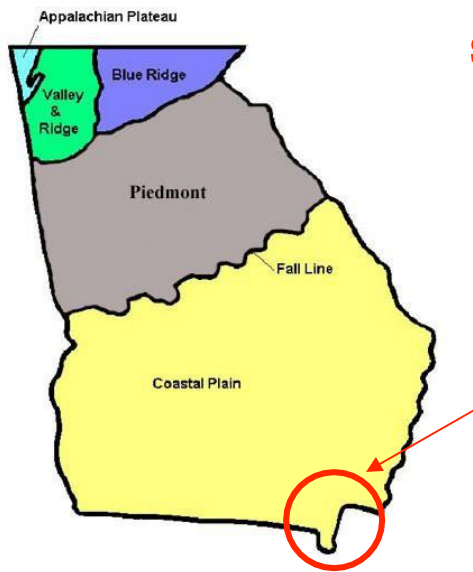


# FALL LINE



Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

Located in  
southeastern Georgia,  
the Okefenokee  
Swamp is the largest  
swamp in the entire  
United States.



# OKEFENOKEE SWAMP





Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:



The swamp is a  
National Wildlife  
Refuge that is home to  
over 1000 types of  
plants and animals.



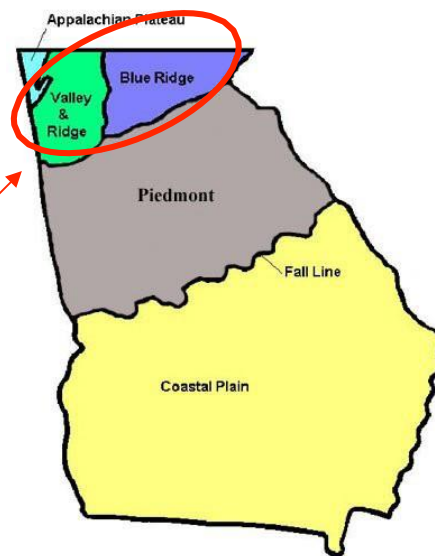
# OKEFENOKEE SWAMP

Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

The southern end of



The Appalachian Mountains are in Georgia's Blue Ridge region. The site of the first American gold rush, today tourism is this region's most important industry.

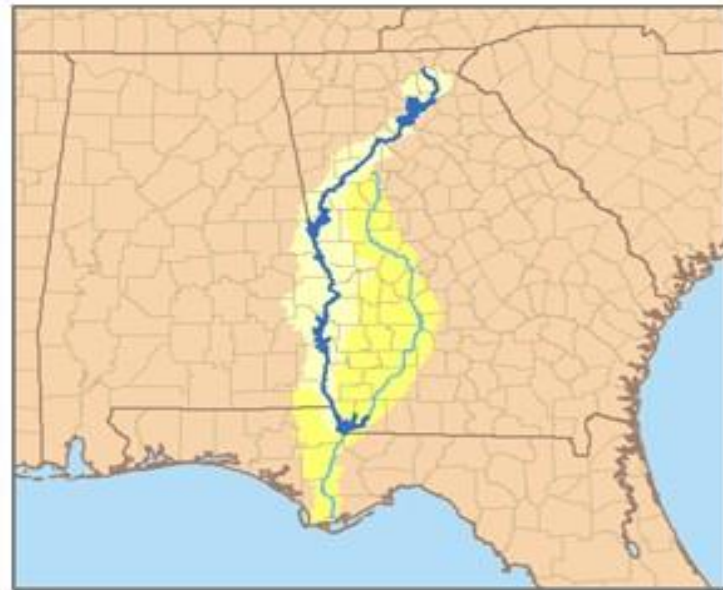


# APPALACHIAN MTNS.



Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

It is Georgia's most important river. It is a major transportation route that carries cotton and other freight, furnishes hydroelectric power to factories and mills, and is a major source of drinking water.



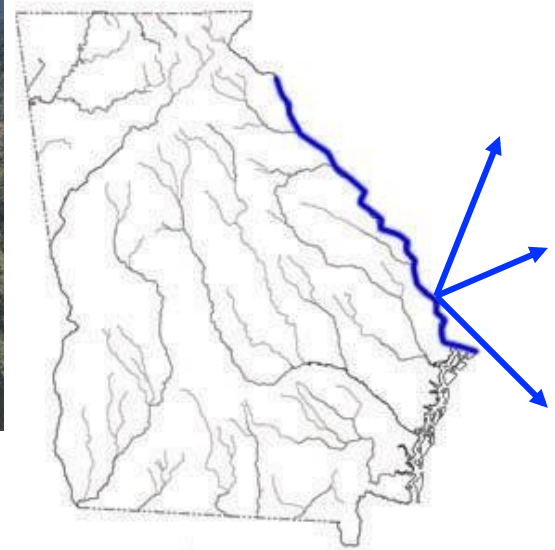
# CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER





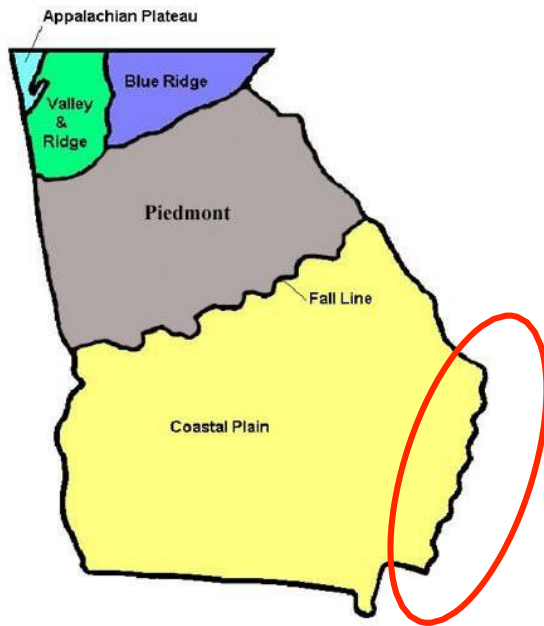
Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

The Savannah River was extremely important to Georgia's first European settlers. Today it gets goods to and from Georgia's interior to all parts of the world.



# SAVANNAH RIVER

Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

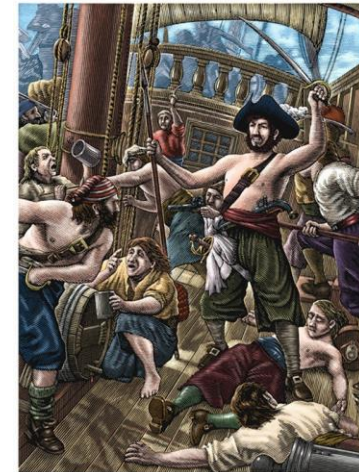


# BARRIER ISLANDS



Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

In Georgia's early days, the barrier islands were used as places to build forts to protect against enemy countries, like Spain, and against pirates.



# BARRIER ISLANDS



Among the most important of Georgia's physical features are:

Today, the barrier islands are a popular tourist attraction, and they protect Georgia's mainland from violent storms, sand, storm surge, and hurricanes.



# BARRIER ISLANDS



## What do you remember about... Georgia's physical features???

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. This feature flows along GA's eastern border.

A. Fall Line

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Gold was found in this area in the early 1800s.

B. Okefenokee Swamp

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Forts were built here to defend GA's early settlers.

C. Savannah River

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. This area is a wildlife refuge for over 1000 species.

D. Chattahoochee River

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. This geographical boundary separates the Coastal Plain from the Piedmont.

E. Appalachian Mtns.

F. Barrier Islands

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. This major river provides drinking water and forms part of the state's western border with Alabama.



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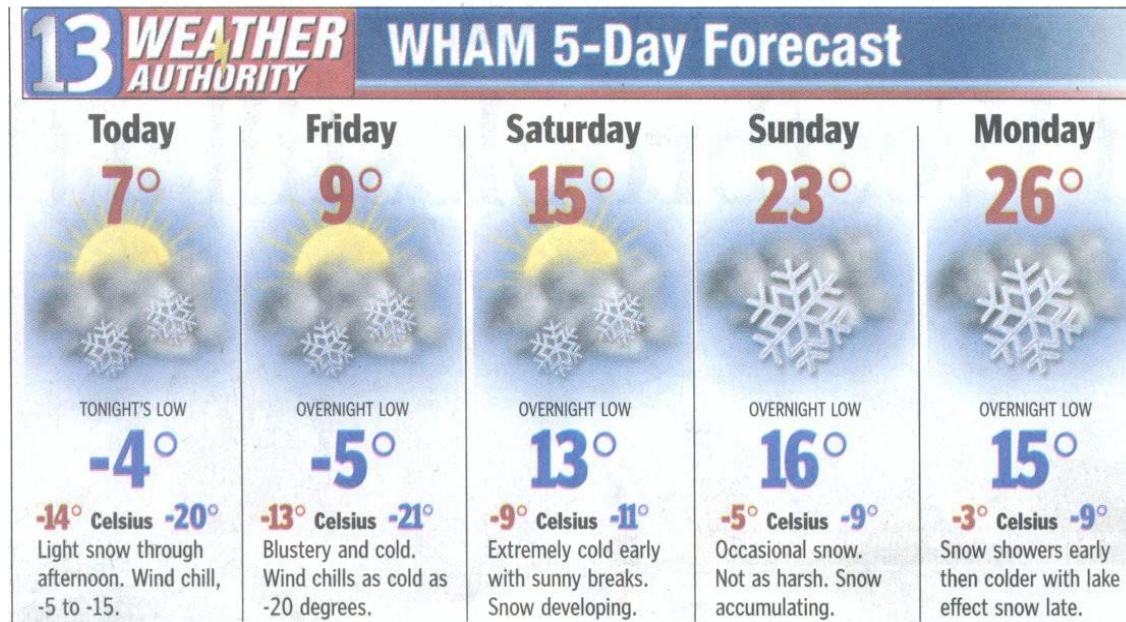
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The condition on a particular day  
(ex., rain, snow, thunderstorms,  
etc.) is called weather.

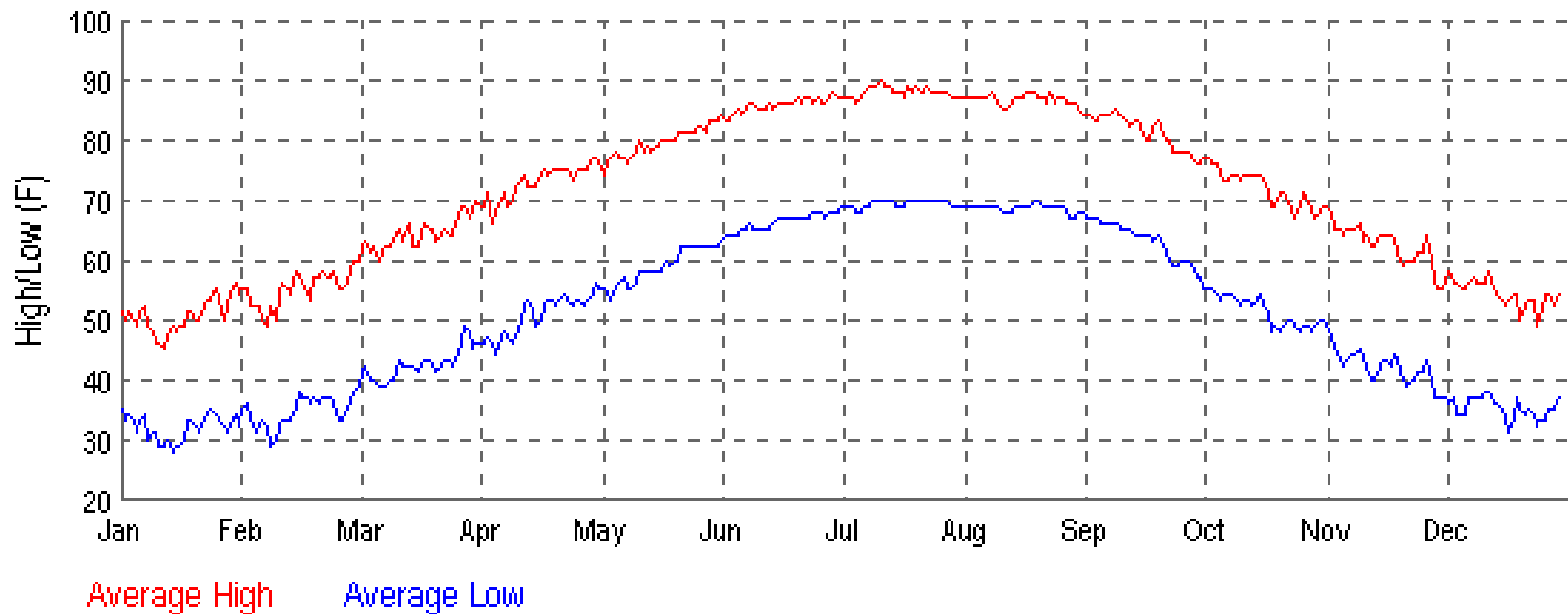


The weather over a long period of time  
is called climate.





**Georgia's location causes it to have a mild or temperate climate, with cool summers and cold winters in the North Georgia Mountains, but hot summers and mild winters in South Georgia.**





Georgia's mild climate effects the state in many ways:

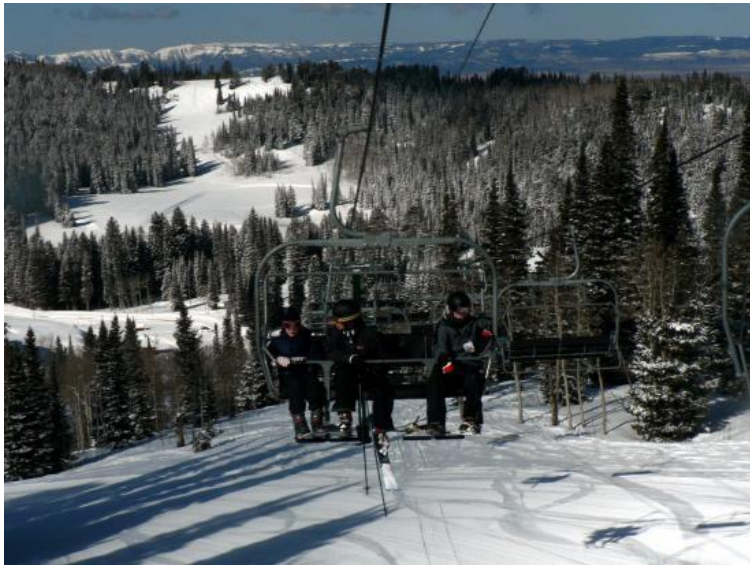
Because of the mild temperatures, Georgia has a longer growing season than the northern states. It also has the perfect amount of annual rainfall to support tobacco, peanut, cotton, and lumber farming. **FOR MOST OF ITS HISTORY, GEORGIA'S ECONOMY WAS BUILT ON FARMING (also called agriculture)**





Georgia's mild climate effects the state in many ways:

The cool summers and cold winters in the mountains attract hikers and skiers.





Georgia's mild climate effects the state in many ways:

Beach-goers and people escaping cold northern winters will often come to Georgia's coastal plain.







Georgia's mild climate effects the state in many ways:

Georgia and its neighbor states in the South are part of a warm region of the United States called the Sun Belt. The warm climate has attracted many major corporations to relocate to Georgia.







## What do you remember about... Georgia's climate???

1. In which of Georgia's regions would tourists most likely go hiking?
2. Why do peanuts and tobacco grow so well in Georgia?
3. Which region attracts people who love to go to the beach?
4. Georgia, along with the other states of the deep south, has a very warm climate and is, therefore, said to make up part of what?
5. Why does Georgia have a longer growing season than many northern states?



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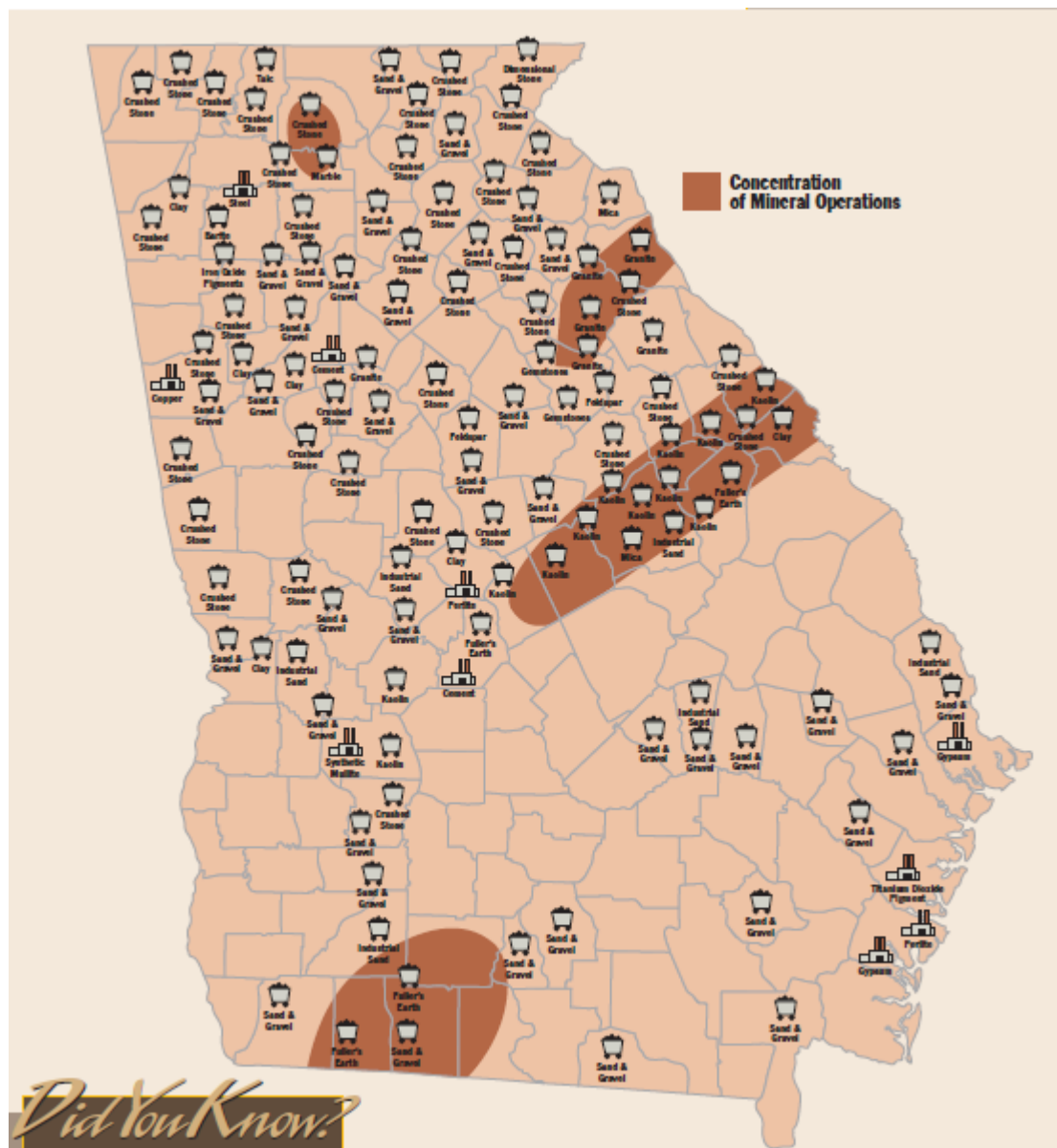
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*Georgia has mild temperatures*

# Georgia's Natural Resources

Includes:

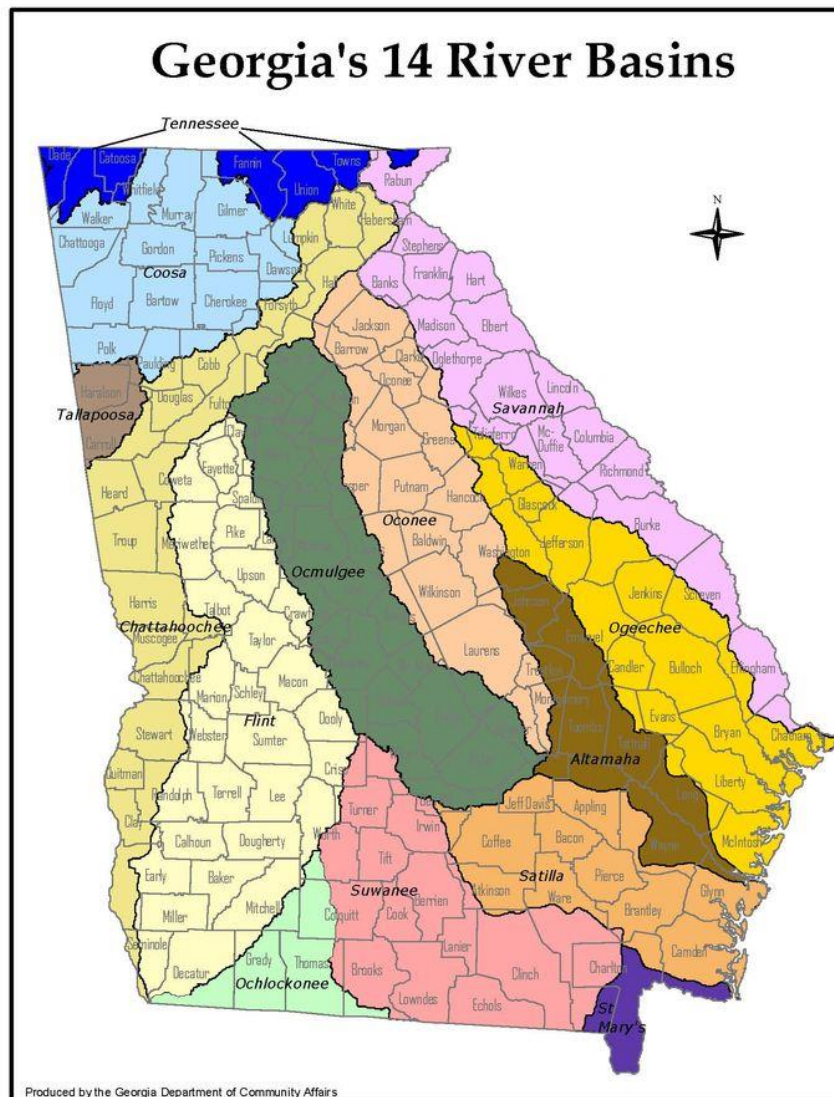
- Coal
- Marble
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- Kaolin
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- Lumber
- Large river basins
- Fertile soil



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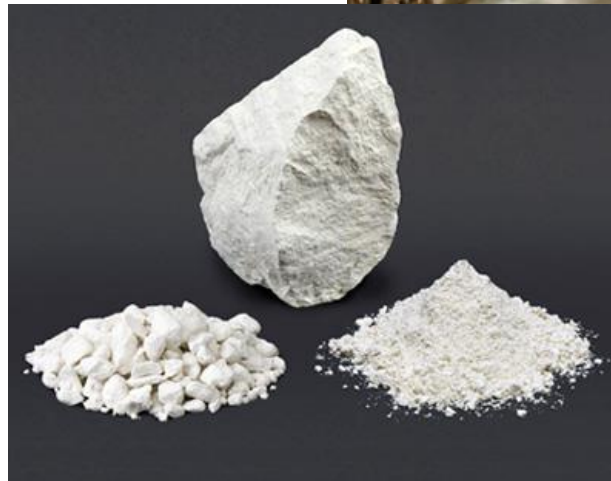


# Georgia's Economic Impact



We lead the world in the production of:

- Marble
- Carpet
- Kaolin
- Peaches
- Pecans
- Vidalia Onions
- Peanuts





# ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS:

Based off of what you know regarding Georgia's location, geographic regions, physical features and climate, how has Georgia's geography affected Georgia's culture, economy, and historical development?