

REGIONS OF VIRGINIA

Purpose: Students will identify characteristics of the 5 regions of Virginia.

Suggested Grade Level: 4th

History & Social Science SOL: Virginia: The Physical Geography and Native Peoples VS.2

Equipment/Materials Needed:

1. 5 hula hoops
2. 5 labels (one for each region)
3. Index cards or card stock paper
4. Cones (approximately 5)

Advanced Preparation:

1. Write as many different characteristics of the 5 regions of Virginia on the index cards as you can, or print them onto cardstock, laminate and cut.
2. Make a label for each region.
3. Place hula hoops at one end of the playing area. Each labeled with a region of Virginia.
4. Place cones at other end of the playing area.
5. Take characteristics and spread them out between the labeled hoops and the starting cones.

Directions:

1. Split class into groups and place them behind cones.
2. Explain to the class that they will focus on the characteristics of the regions of Virginia.
3. Tell students they will take turns with people in their group.
4. Instruct the first student to skip out into the middle of the area and pick up a card.
5. Tell students they are to read the card and decide which region it goes with.
6. Explain that they will then take it to the proper regions and place it in its hoop.
7. As they return to their group, they must act out the region they went to using the following movements, or have the class create their own.
 1. Tidewater/Coastal Plains – swimming
 2. Piedmont – picking tobacco
 3. Blue Ridge - skiing
 4. Valley and ridge – picking apples
 5. Appalachian Plateau – shoveling coal

Teaching Suggestions:

1. Have students waiting in line doing an exercise while their group member is out retrieving and placing their card in the region.

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Modifications/Variations:

1. Have students return to their group prior to placing their fact into region they believe it belongs with.

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Coastal Plain

Piedmont

Blue Ridge
Mountains

Valley and
Ridge

Appalachian
Plateau

Shenandoah Valley	farming
skiing	apples & poultry
“Land at the foot of the mountain”	recreation
river source	old, rounded mountains
rolling hills	apples(only)
beaches	Richmond
shipbuilding	seafood

low, flat land	tourism
Virginia's smallest region	coal
high, flat land	plateau
Tidewater	Williamsburg
southwest Virginia	directly west of the Piedmont Region

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