

STANDARD USI.2b

The student will interpret maps, globes, photographs, pictures, or tables to

b) locate and describe major geographic regions of North America: Coastal Plain, Appalachian Mountains, Canadian Shield, Interior Lowlands, Great Plains, Rocky Mountains, Basin and Range, and Coastal Range;

Essential Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Geographic regions have distinctive characteristics.	<p>Geographic regions' locations and physical characteristics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coastal Plain<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located along the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico○ Broad lowlands, providing many excellent harbors• Appalachian Mountains<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located west of the Coastal Plain, extending from eastern Canada to western Alabama; includes the Piedmont○ Old, eroded mountains (oldest mountain range in North America)• Canadian Shield<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Wrapped around the Hudson Bay in a horseshoe shape○ Hills worn by erosion and hundreds of lakes carved by glaciers• Interior Lowlands<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located west of the Appalachian Mountains and east of the Great Plains○ Rolling flatlands with many rivers, broad river valleys, and grassy hills• Great Plains<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located west of the Interior Lowlands and east of the Rocky Mountains○ Flat lands that gradually increase in elevation westward; grasslands• Rocky Mountains<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located west of the Great Plains and east of the Basin and Range○ Rugged mountains stretching from Alaska almost to Mexico; high elevations○ Contains the Continental Divide, which determines the directional flow of rivers• Basin and Range<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located west of the Rocky Mountains and east of the Coastal Range○ Varying elevations containing isolated mountain ranges and Death Valley, the lowest point in North America• Coastal Range<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Located along the Pacific Coast, stretching from California to Canada○ Rugged mountains and fertile valleys○ Includes the Sierra Nevada and the Cascades