

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

► **3rd Grade** | Unit 7

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HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 307

MIDWESTERN STATES

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LIFEPAC Test | **Pull-out**



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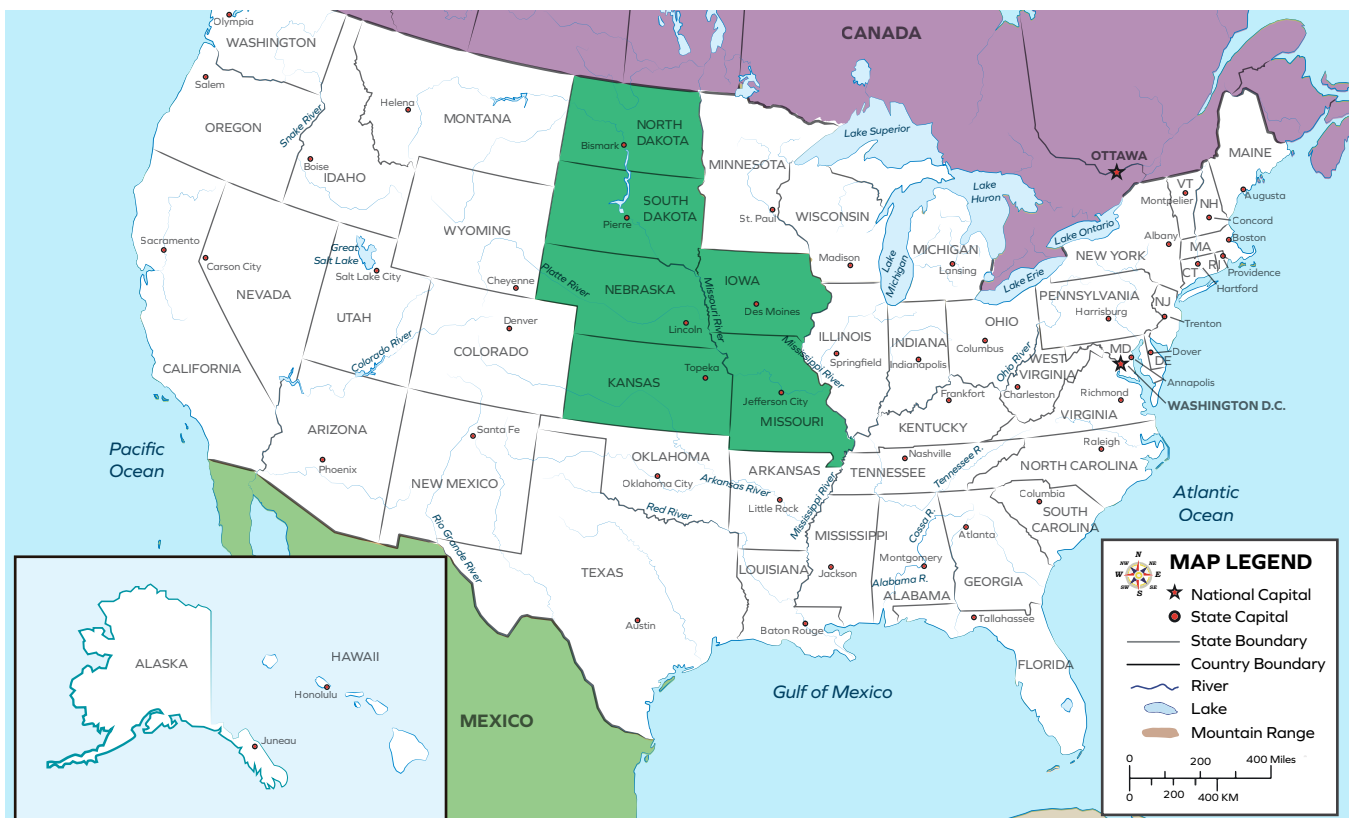
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MIDWESTERN STATES

North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa

The next region of the United States you will study is the Midwestern region. As you look at the map below, you will see the area of the Midwestern region in green. The Midwestern states are located in the north and central part of the United States. The country of Canada is north of these states. The Great Lakes states are to the east. The Southern states are to the south while the Mountain states are to the west. The states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa are Midwestern states.



Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK. Each section will list according to the numbers below what objectives will be met in that section. When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. Locate the Midwestern states.
2. Know the geography of the Midwestern states.
3. List natural resources found in the Midwestern states.
4. State the types of businesses and employers found in the Midwestern region.
5. Know some of the Midwestern settlers.
6. Recognize the importance of Native-American history in the Midwestern states.
7. Identify the pastimes of the people living in the Midwestern states.



1. MIDWESTERN GEOGRAPHY

You will begin this LIFEPAK by studying the geography of the Midwestern states. You will learn the names of some of the Midwestern states' land features. You will also learn the names of the Midwestern states' major cities. The Midwestern states' location impacts the types of food people grow, the places they live, and the activities they do.

Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Locate the Midwestern states.
2. Know the geography of the Midwestern states.

Vocabulary

Study these new words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAK.

irrigate (ĩr'ĩ-gāt'). To put water on land to help a crop grow.

strategic (str ə-tē'jĩk). A plan of action.

treaty (trē'tē). A peace agreement between two groups.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, ĩce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pũt, rũle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

Ask your teacher to say these vocabulary words with you.

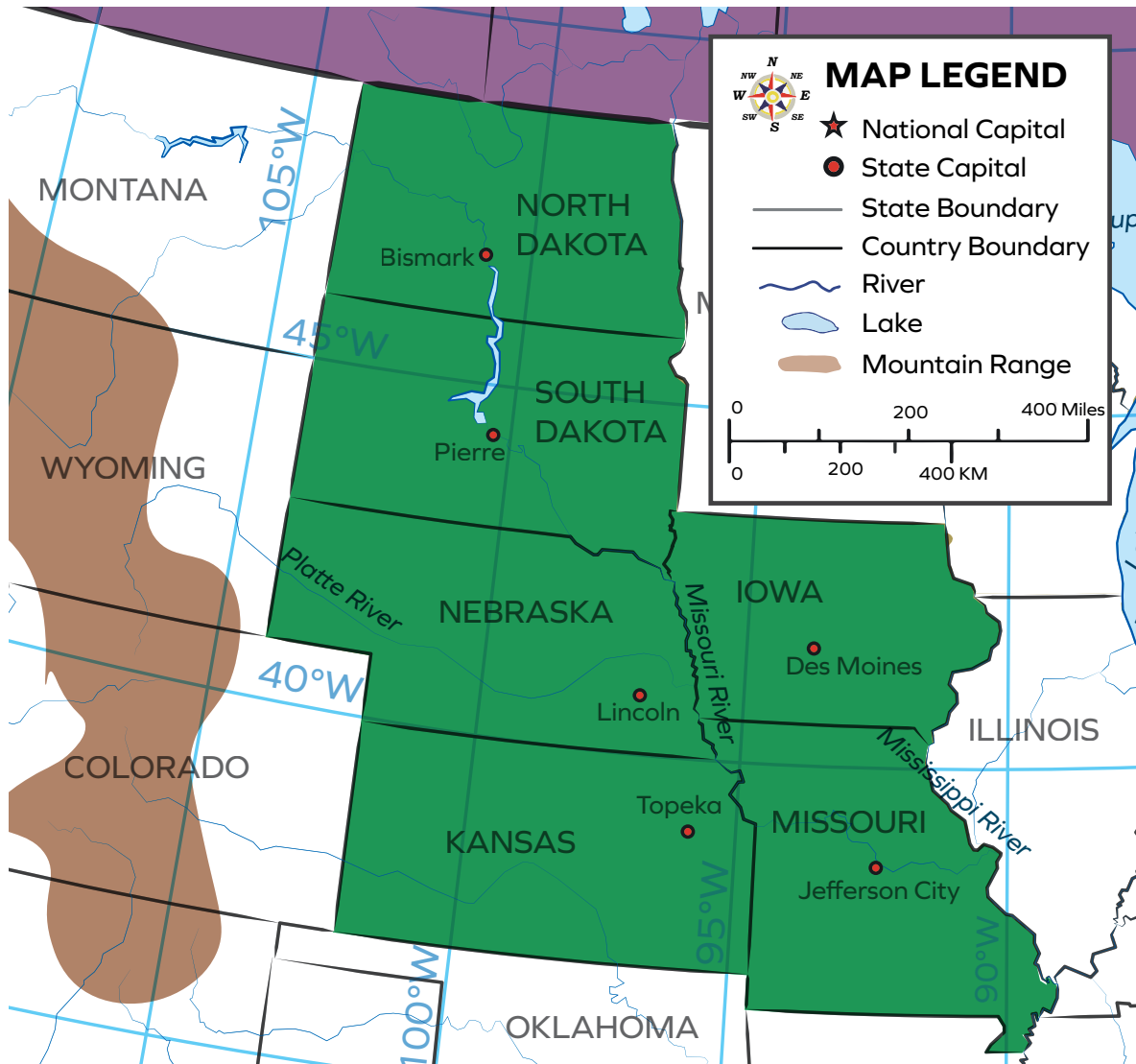


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States in the Midwestern Region

Before you study the Midwestern states, look at the map below. The map will introduce you to the Midwestern area.





Answer the questions based on the map of the Midwestern region.

- 1.1** List the capitals of the Midwestern states:
- a. North Dakota _____
 - b. South Dakota _____
 - c. Nebraska _____
 - d. Kansas _____
 - e. Iowa _____
 - f. Missouri _____
- 1.2** Through which states does the Missouri River run or border?

- 1.3** Through which states does the Mississippi River run or border?

- 1.4** Through which states does the 100 degree line of longitude run?

- 1.5** Which is the most eastern state? _____
- 1.6** The 40 degree line of latitude forms the border between which two states? _____
- 1.7** Which country is north of North Dakota? _____
- 1.8** Which is the southernmost state? _____
- 1.9** Which state is south of Minnesota? _____
- 1.10** Which state capital is the farthest north? _____

Geographical Features

The Missouri River plays an important role in the geography of the Midwestern states. The river flows through all of the states of the region and serves as a border for many. The Missouri River begins in Montana and flows north through North Dakota and then on through South Dakota. Eventually, the Missouri River empties into the Mississippi River in the state of Missouri. The Missouri River is the longest river in the United States at over 2,500 miles. It provides water for much of the region. Dams have been placed on the river at **strategic** places. This allows farmers to use the water for **irrigation**. Additionally, the southern part of the river is used to transport goods across the region.

Much of the Midwestern region is flat or slightly hilly. The land is particularly suited for farming. The soil is rich in nutrients. Because the land is relatively flat, farmers are able to plant large fields of crops. The Midwest region provides much of the food for the United States.



| Irrigation allows the Midwest to grow much of America's food.

There are two small mountain ranges in the Midwestern region. The Black Hills are in western South Dakota. The Ozark Mountains, are located in southern Missouri. The Black Hills in South Dakota are the tallest mountains east of the Rocky Mountains. The land is sacred to Native-American tribes in the region. However, once gold was discovered in the region in the mid 1800s, settlers flocked to the area. The United States broke its **treaty** agreement with the Native-American tribes and took the land. Today, the Black Hills are home to mining, timber, and tourism industries.

The Ozarks are primarily located in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. They are the most extensive mountain range between the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains. The Ozarks are a popular tourist destination. They are also a source for lead. Lead is used in making batteries and other products.



| The Ozark Mountains are popular for vacations and lead mining.



Fill in the blank.

- 1.11** The Missouri River is the _____ river in the United States.
- 1.12** The Missouri River begins in the state of _____ .
- 1.13** The _____ are the tallest mountains east of the Rocky Mountains.
- 1.14** The _____ are the largest mountain range between the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains.

Weather

A winter blizzard is a type of strong Midwestern storm. Blizzards have strong winds and often heavy amounts of falling snow. The strength of the wind turns a snowstorm into a blizzard. Because the winds are so strong, travel becomes dangerous. Drivers are unable to see the road because of the way the snow is whipped around by the wind. The incredibly cold temperatures also make being outside dangerous. Blizzards can shut down roads, businesses, and schools. The winds cause the snow to drift, making huge banks on the sides of buildings and roads. Some blizzards cause power outages. Because the temperature is so cold, people need to put on many layers of clothes and blankets when the power is not working. All the northern states in the United States can experience blizzards.

The winters are cold throughout the region. In January, temperatures are often below freezing. Of course in the southern states of the region, the average temperature is warmer.

While there are significant snowfalls, they are not as great as those in the Great Lakes region. The Midwestern region is largely sunny. Even during the cold winters, the sun shines brightly.

Midwestern summer months are generally hot. In July, most of the states in this region have average temperatures around 85 degrees.

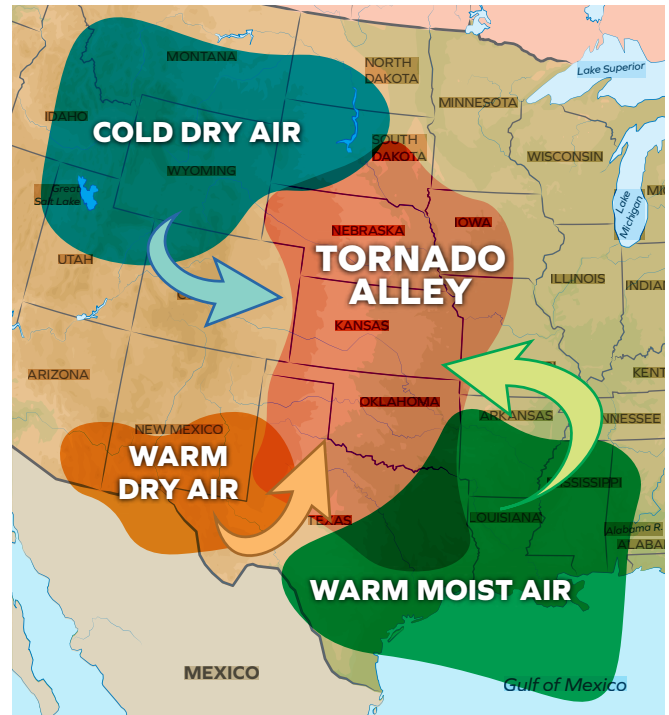


| Blizzards make driving dangerous.



| Tornadoes are also known as twisters or cyclones.

The Midwestern region is known for the temperature extremes in the winter and summer months. The summer months can produce violent thunderstorms. Some of these storms create tornadoes. Most of Kansas and Nebraska along with parts of South Dakota, Iowa, and Missouri are part of what is called the “Tornado Alley.” Tornadoes form more frequently in these areas than in others.



Answer *true* or *false*.

- 1.15 _____ Blizzards are only dangerous because of the amount of snow they bring.
- 1.16 _____ Blizzards can close down schools, businesses, and roads.
- 1.17 _____ The Midwestern region has very cold winters and very hot summers.
- 1.18 _____ The Midwestern region is generally sunny.
- 1.19 _____ Iowa is not a part of “Tornado Alley.”



Teacher check:

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For this Self Test, study what you have read and done. The Self Test will check what you remember.

SELF TEST 1

Each answer = 1 point

Choose the correct answer.

- 1.01** The longest river in the United States is the _____.
a. Missouri b. Mississippi c. Ohio
- 1.02** The capital of North Dakota is _____.
a. Pierre b. Des Moines c. Bismarck
- 1.03** The Missouri River begins in the state of _____.
a. Minnesota b. Montana c. North Dakota
- 1.04** The Ozarks are located in the state of _____.
a. Missouri b. North Dakota c. South Dakota
- 1.05** The Midwestern weather is often _____.
a. cloudy b. rainy c. sunny

Answer true or false.

- 1.06** _____ The Missouri River joins the Mississippi River in the state of Missouri.
- 1.07** _____ The Ozarks are the highest mountains west of the Rocky Mountains.
- 1.08** _____ The state of North Dakota is not in "Tornado Alley."
- 1.09** _____ Much of the Midwest is relatively flat making it suitable for farming.
- 1.010** _____ The state of Iowa is the most eastern of the states in this region.

Fill in the blank.

1.011 The Black Hills are located in the state of _____ .

1.012 A snow storm that can close down schools and businesses is called a(n) _____ .

1.013 Lincoln is the capital of _____ .

1.014 Iowa is bordered by the Missouri and _____ Rivers.

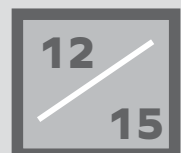
1.015 The Midwest has _____ winters and hot summers.

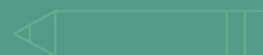
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