

#9713

FLORIDA GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

SVE & CHURCHILL MEDIA, 2002

Grade Levels: 7-10

22 minutes

2 Instructional Graphics Enclosed

DESCRIPTION

Presents an overview of Florida's history, climate, ecosystems, and economy. Also points out its cultural diversity and primary geographic features.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Geography - Places and Regions

- ★ Standard: Understands that culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
 - Benchmark: Knows how technology affects the ways in which culture groups perceive and use places and regions (e.g., impact of technology such as air conditioning and irrigation on the human use of arid lands; changes in perception of environment by culture groups, such as the snowmobile's impact on the lives of Inuit people or the swamp buggy's impact on tourist travel in the Everglades) (See Instructional Goal #3.)

Subject Area: Geography - The World in Spatial Terms

- ★ Standard: Knows the location of places, geographic features, and patterns of the environment
 - Benchmark: Knows the relative location of, size of, and distances between places (e.g., major urban centers in the United States) (See Instructional Goal #1.)

Subject Area: Geography - Physical Systems

- ★ Standard: Knows the physical processes that shape patterns on Earth's surface
 - Benchmark: Understands how physical processes affect different regions of the United States and the world (e.g., effects of hurricanes in the Caribbean Basin and the eastern United States or of earthquakes in Turkey, Japan, and Nicaragua; effects of desertification and soil degradation, flash floods, dust storms, sand movement, soil erosion and salt accumulation in dry environments) (See Instructional Goal #2.)

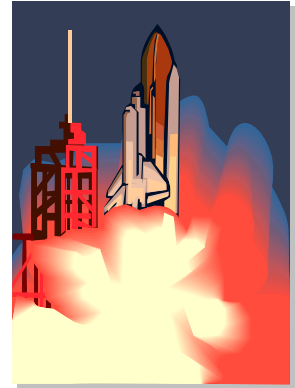
Subject Area: Geography - Human Systems

- ★ Standard: Understands the nature, distribution and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
 - Benchmark: Knows the ways in which human movement and migration influence the character of a place (e.g., New Delhi before and after the partition of the Indian subcontinent in the 1940s and the massive realignment of the Hindu and Muslim

populations; Boston before and after the large-scale influx of Irish immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century; the impact of Indians settling in South Africa, Algerians settling in France, Vietnamese settling in the United States) (See Instructional Goal #3.)

Subject Area: Geography – Uses of Geography

- ★ Standard: Understands how geography is used to interpret the past
 - Benchmark: Knows the ways in which the spatial organization of society changes over time (e.g., process of urban growth in the United States; changes in the internal structure, form, and function of urban areas in different regions of the world at different times) (See Instructional Goal #3.)



INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To describe the geographical features of Florida.
2. To highlight the importance of water in Florida's ecosystems, its history, and its economy.
3. To introduce the history of Florida including the influence of cultural interactions and immigration.

VOCABULARY

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. aquifer | 8. heron |
| 2. bay | 9. key |
| 3. conquistador | 10. lagoon |
| 4. cypress forest | 11. manatee |
| 5. egret | 12. mangrove |
| 6. erosion | 13. peninsula |
| 7. estuary | 14. sinkhole |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. List places, people, plants, and animals commonly associated with Florida.
2. Locate the following places on a map of Florida:
 - a. the Atlantic Ocean
 - b. Cape Canaveral
 - c. Disney World
 - d. the Everglades
 - e. the Florida Keys
 - f. the Gulf of Mexico
 - g. Jacksonville
 - h. Lake Okeechobee
 - i. Miami
 - j. Orlando
 - k. St. Augustine
 - l. St. Johns River
 - m. Suwannee River
 - n. Tallahassee
 - o. Tampa

AFTER SHOWING

► Discussion Items and Questions

1. Why does Florida have more miles of shoreline than any other state? Where does freshwater in Florida come from? What are some characteristics of the Everglades?

2. What animals are found in Florida? What influence does water have on the food chain and Florida's endangered species?
3. What kind of weather does Florida have?
4. Discuss the history of Florida.
 - a. Who was the first European to land in Florida?
 - b. How did Florida become part of the United States?
 - c. Which side did Florida take in the Civil War?
 - d. What role did Florida play in the 2000 Presidential Election?
5. Discuss the culture of Florida. What kinds of people make Florida their home? What draws tourists to Florida?



► **Applications and Activities**

1. Research Florida plants and animals. Consider habitat, reproduction, unique characteristics, and endangered status.
 - a. Animal examples include the American alligator, anhinga, bottle-nosed dolphin, egret, great blue heron, great horned owl, manatee, roseate spoonbill, and the vulture.
 - b. Plant examples include cattails, cord grass, cypress trees, ferns, mangrove trees, and sedge.
2. Complete "An Exercise in Florida Geography" and a Florida geography crossword puzzle. (See Instructional Graphics.)
3. Plan a trip to Florida. Use maps, Internet resources, books, articles, and the video. Consult a travel agency. Consider visiting the following places of interest:
 - a. geographic features including the Atlantic Ocean, the Everglades, the Florida Keys, the Gulf of Mexico, Lake Okeechobee, St. Johns River, and the Suwannee River
 - b. tourist attractions including the John F. Kennedy Space Center and Disney World
4. Make an annotated timeline of the history of Florida. Include the following important people, places, and events.
 - a. Pedro Menendez de Aviles
 - b. Castillo de San Marco
 - c. Huguenots
 - d. Andrew Jackson
 - e. Juan Ponce de Leon
 - f. The Louisiana Purchase
 - g. Mound Builders
 - h. Paleo-Indians
 - i. Hernando de Soto



RELATED RESOURCES



- [Southeast Region #9419](#)



World Wide Web

The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **CULTURALLY FLORIDA**

<http://www.culturallyflorida.com/>

This site samples the cultural resources of Florida including modern architecture, African American influences in art, regional events, visitor’s guides, and cultural attractions.

- **SEARCH FLORIDA.NET**

<http://www.searchflorida.net/>

A searchable site with links to all topics related to Florida including cities, maps, attractions, and government.

- **NATURE: SPRINGS ETERNAL: FLORIDA’S FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH**

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/springs/>

This PBS site offers detailed information about the mysterious creatures of the water, from the manatee to the alligator. Includes teacher resources and links to related sites.

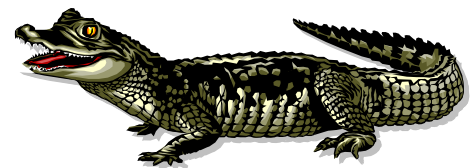
- **FLORIDA TODAY.COM**

<http://www.flatoday.com/space/>

Comprehensive searchable site with the latest news from the John F. Kennedy Space Center. Includes articles about local space launches, international space missions, and footage of launches.

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS

- CROSSWORD PUZZLE: FLORIDA GEOGRAPHY
- AN EXERCISE IN FLORIDA GEOGRAPHY



Crossword Puzzle: Florida Geography

Name: _____

The crossword puzzle grid consists of 14 numbered starting points for words:

- 1: 10-letter word starting at the top left.
- 2: 1-letter word starting at the top left, below 1.
- 3: 1-letter word starting in the middle right.
- 4: 7-letter word starting on the left side.
- 5: 6-letter word starting in the middle left.
- 6: 6-letter word starting on the right side.
- 7: 6-letter word starting in the middle right.
- 8: 5-letter word starting in the middle left.
- 9: 4-letter word starting in the middle right.
- 10: 4-letter word starting in the middle right.
- 11: 10-letter word starting in the middle right.
- 12: 8-letter word starting on the left side.
- 13: 7-letter word starting on the left side.
- 14: 6-letter word starting at the bottom left.

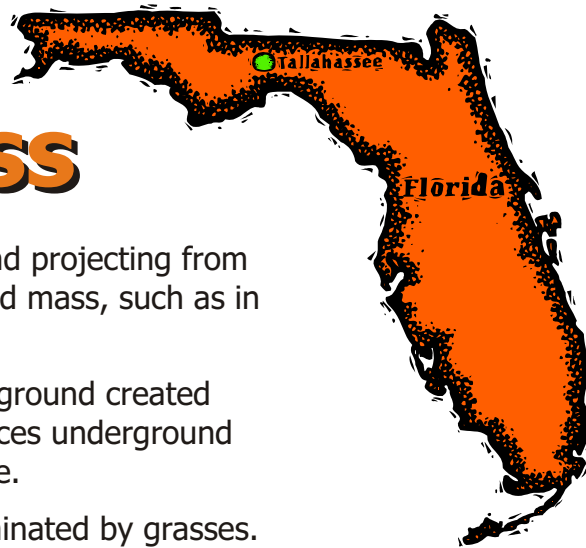
To the right of the grid is a map of Florida in orange. A green dot is located at the top left of the state, labeled "Tallahassee". The word "Florida" is written in black text across the middle of the state.

See page 2 for word clues.

Crossword Puzzle: Florida Geography

Across

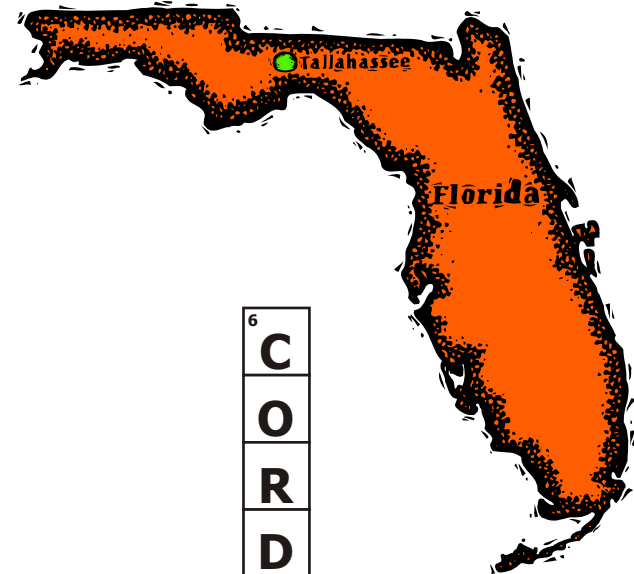
1. A narrow strip of land projecting from a larger, broader land mass, such as in Florida or Texas.
4. A depression in the ground created when erosion produces underground caverns that collapse.
8. An area of land dominated by grasses.
11. A tropical/subtropical swamp area of southern Florida.
12. A tropical storm that causes high wind speeds and heavy rains.
13. An elevated expanse of land that is flat on top.
14. An aquatic mammal with paddlelike flippers that is found in warm coastal waters.



Down

2. A large reptile that has sharp teeth, powerful jaws, and a broad snout.
3. A lowland area that is saturated with moisture.
5. A low, offshore island or reef.
6. A perennial grass that forms colonies in salt marshes.
7. A natural process during which ground and soil material is worn away.
8. A mass of land that is surrounded by water on three sides.
9. A white heron bird that hunts in the water.
10. A small stream of water that flows naturally from the earth and sometimes collects, creating natural pools.

Crossword Puzzle: Florida Geography



1 P A N H A N D L E

2 L

3 W

4 S I N K H O L E

5 E

6 C O R D

7 E

8 P R A I R I E

9 G

10 S

11 E V E R G L A D E S

12 H U R R I C A N E

13 P L A T E A U

14 M A N A T E E

G A T O R

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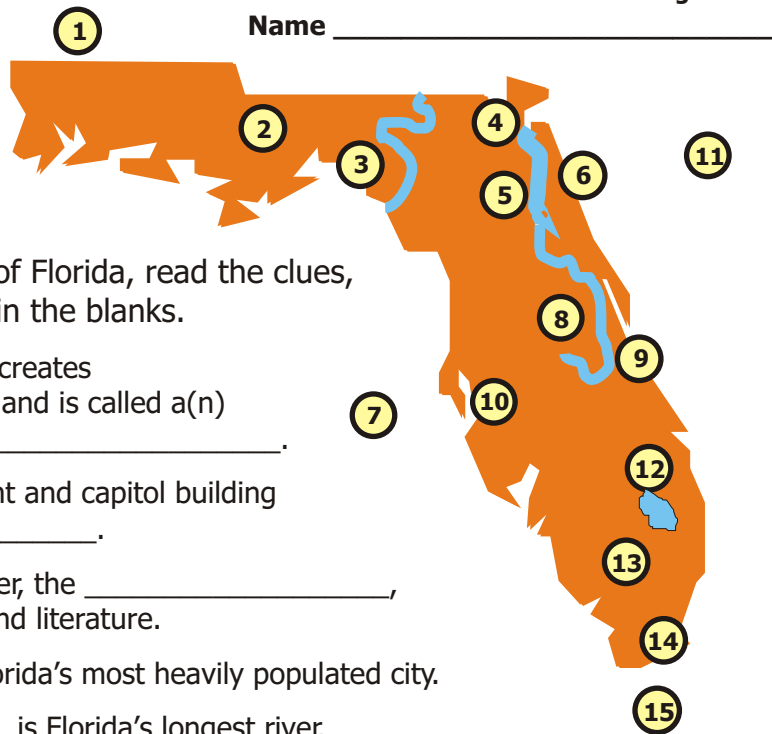
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An Exercise in Florida Geography

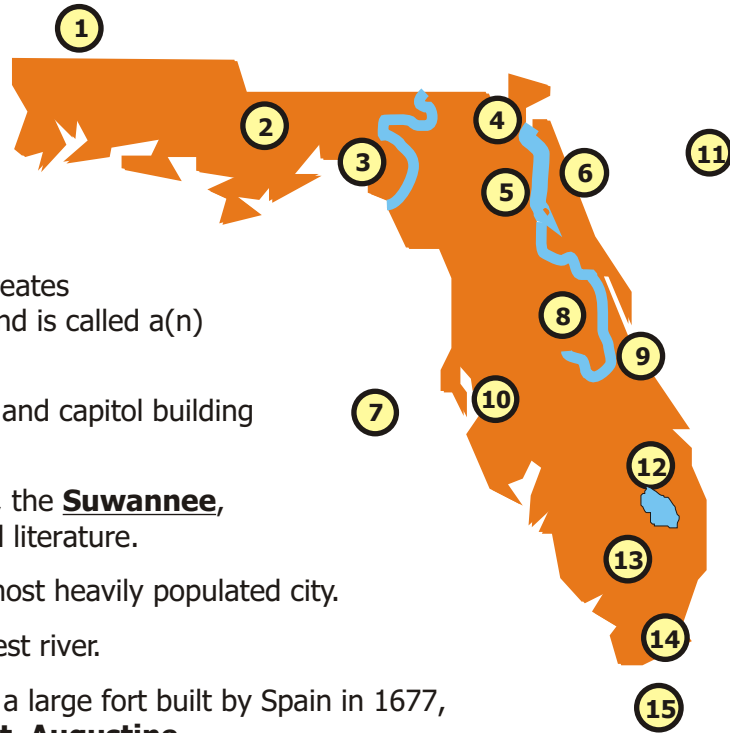


Directions: Study the map of Florida, read the clues, and then write your answers in the blanks.

1. This narrow strip of land creates Florida's northern border and is called a(n) _____.
2. Florida's state government and capitol building are based in _____.
3. Florida's most famous river, the _____, is immortalized in song and literature.
4. _____ is Florida's most heavily populated city.
5. _____ is Florida's longest river.
6. _____ is a large fort built by Spain in 1677, in the city now known as _____.
7. The body of water that borders Florida's west coast is called the _____.
8. _____, Florida's most popular amusement park, is located near the city of _____.
9. The center of the nation's manned space program, _____, is located on _____.
10. This bay has formed a natural harbor where the city of _____ thrives.
11. The body of water that borders Florida's east coast is called the _____.
12. The third largest body of fresh water wholly contained in the United States is named _____.
13. This distinctive type of wetland found nowhere else on the planet is called _____.
14. Florida's city of _____ has become an economic and cultural center because it is a gateway to the Caribbean and South America.
15. The _____ is a group of islands off the point of Florida's peninsula.

An Exercise in Florida Geography

Answer Key



1. This narrow strip of land creates Florida's northern border and is called a(n) **panhandle**.
2. Florida's state government and capitol building are based in **Tallahassee**.
3. Florida's most famous river, the **Suwannee**, is immortalized in song and literature.
4. **Jacksonville** is Florida's most heavily populated city.
5. **St. Johns** is Florida's longest river.
6. **Castillo de San Marco** is a large fort built by Spain in 1677, in the city now known as **St. Augustine**.
7. The body of water that borders Florida's west coast is called the **Gulf of Mexico**.
8. **Disney World**, Florida's most popular amusement park, is located near the city of **Orlando**.
9. The center of the nation's manned space program, **John F. Kennedy Space Center**, is located on **Cape Canaveral**.
10. This bay has formed a natural harbor where the city of **Tampa** thrives.
11. The body of water that borders Florida's east coast is called the **Atlantic Ocean**.
12. The third largest body of fresh water wholly contained in the United States is named **Lake Okeechobee**.
13. This distinctive type of wetland found nowhere else on the planet is called **the Everglades**.
14. Florida's city of **Miami** has become an economic and cultural center because it is a gateway to the Caribbean and South America.
15. The **Florida Keys** is a group of islands off the point of Florida's peninsula.