

## **NEH Hudson River Workshop Lesson Plan 2013**

**Teacher:** Catherine Hackney

**Subject:** Social Studies

**Grade Level:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Summary:**

This lesson teaches students the geography of Georgia. It will help them understand how land in general affects the creatures living on it and how the creatures (especially human beings) affect the land. This lesson will show students how to read a map as well as understand the importance of Georgia's waterways and then waterways in general.

# LESSON PLAN

## NEH Hudson River

This lesson was created to work with the Georgia 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies standards. It is adapted from the workshop information gathered during the week of the NEH Seminar.

**Teacher:** Catherine Hackney

**Date:** August 2013

**Unit:** Geography of Georgia

**Today's Topic:** Georgia's geographic features and regions

**EQ of the Day:** How do Georgia's physical features affect its people?

**Standards Addressed:**

**SS8G1**

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

Element: SS8G1.b

Describe the five geographic regions of Georgia; include the Blue Ridge Mountains, Valley and Ridge, Appalachian Plateau, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain.

Element: SS8G1.c

Locate and evaluate the importance of key physical features on the development of Georgia; include the Fall Line, Okefenokee Swamp, Appalachian Mountains, Chattahoochee and Savannah Rivers, and barrier islands.

**SS8G2**

The student will explain how the Interstate Highway System, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, and Georgia's deepwater ports, and the railroads help drive the state's economy.

**Warm-up (hook):**

Show a 3 min. video clip "US Ports Compete for Giant Cargo Ships", this will give them a view of the Savannah Port and container shipping.

**Teaching Strategies:**

The students will rotate around three centers to complete this activity. They will be “ability grouped” so stronger students can lead.

**Lesson:**

Center 1- Map puzzle of a transportation highway map of Georgia

Each group will put together the puzzle and complete the inquiry based questions.

Center 2-NOAA Map puzzle of the coast from Charleston, SC, to Cape Canaveral, FL

Each group will put together the puzzle and complete the identification questions.

Center 3- Individually students will read section 2 of Chapter 1 and finish the map handout by creating the physiographic regions on the map of Georgia.

**Assessment to check for learning (check one, then describe):**

Formative  Common Formative  Summative  Benchmark

## Georgia Geography Map Activity

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

**You will need to use the Georgia transportation map to answer the questions below.**

1. The United States government has a number of **national** seashores, recreation sites, wildlife areas, forest, historic sites, and military bases in Georgia. Use the map key to identify one of each of these features.

\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Situation:** You are the owner of a company that wants to build a factory in Georgia. You are looking for an ideal location. One that has access to a river, railroad connections, and direct interstate highway connections to Atlanta, central Florida, and the port of Savannah. In what large city would you build this factory based on the criteria listed.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. This important river begins north of Helen, Georgia and is a source of water for many Georgians. It is our longest river, and eventually flows through Florida and empties into the Gulf of Mexico. Name this river:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Using the map's key, identify all the interstate highways that go through Georgia: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**You will need to use the Charleston Light to Cape Canaveral OceanGrafix map to answer the questions below.**

**1. Locate the St. Mary's River and the Savannah River. What do these two rivers have in common?**

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**2. Find the Tower Horn east of the Jekyll Island. Using the map key for sounding fathoms, calculate the depth in feet at this point.**

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**3. What is the scale of this map?**

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**4. List any six of Georgia's Barrier Islands:**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## Land Regions of Georgia

## Chapter 1

**Directions:** On the outline map below, draw lines to divide Georgia into its five physiographic regions. Label and lightly shade each region using a different color or shading pattern for each region. When you have completed your map work, answer the questions that follow.



1. Which regions are the most mountainous? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which region contains the world's largest inland swamp? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which region probably receives the most snow? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which region produces the most agricultural products? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Which region has the largest percentage of the state's population? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which regions mark the beginning of the famed Appalachian Trail? \_\_\_\_\_