

Florida Industry Stories

Trace how resources, transportation, and jobs helped Florida industries grow.

SS.4.A.6.1 "Describe the economic development of Florida's major industries."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each Florida industry named in the passage. Underline words or phrases that explain how an industry grew, made products, moved goods, or created jobs.

Businesses That Changed Florida

- ① In the late 1800s, Florida's pine forests supported two related industries. Workers cut pine trees, and sawmills changed the wood into lumber for buildings and railroad ties. Other workers collected sticky pine resin. Factories processed this resin into turpentine and rosin, products used in paints and soaps. Railroads carried these goods from forest towns to ports and growing cities.
- ② Florida's warm climate helped citrus groves grow oranges and grapefruit. At first, growers sold much of their fruit nearby. As railroad lines reached more parts of the state, growers could ship fresh fruit to northern markets. Packing houses sorted, boxed, and loaded the fruit. This created jobs for pickers, packers, railroad workers, and people who sold supplies to groves.
- ③ Tourism also became a major Florida industry. Railroad builders such as Henry Flagler and Henry Plant helped visitors reach hotels on both coasts. Later, highways and air travel brought even more visitors to beaches, parks, and attractions. Florida also mined phosphate, a rock used to make fertilizer. Mining companies employed workers and shipped phosphate through ports, connecting Florida businesses with faraway customers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Florida's pine forests support two different industries?

2 Describe one way railroads helped forest products and one way they helped citrus.

3 What jobs did the citrus industry create?

4 Which transportation changes increased tourism, and where did visitors go?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two industries from the passage. Write exactly three sentences explaining how each industry used a Florida resource or service, then tell one way their economic development was alike or different.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each Florida industry named in the passage. Underline words or phrases that explain how an industry grew, made products, moved goods, or created jobs. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Florida's pine forests support two different industries?	Sawmills turned pine wood into lumber. Workers collected pine resin, which factories processed into turpentine and rosin.
2	Describe one way railroads helped forest products and one way they helped citrus.	Railroads carried forest goods from towns to ports and cities. They let citrus growers ship fresh fruit to northern markets.
3	What jobs did the citrus industry create?	It created jobs for pickers, packers, railroad workers, and people who sold supplies to groves.
4	Which transportation changes increased tourism, and where did visitors go?	Railroads, then highways and air travel, increased tourism. Visitors went to hotels, beaches, parks, and attractions.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Citrus growers used Florida's warm climate to grow fruit, while tourism businesses served visitors to beaches and parks. Both industries grew when transportation made it easier for goods or people to travel. Citrus sent fruit to northern markets, but tourism brought visitors into Florida.

Accept accurate comparisons using any two industries from the passage. The response should name a resource or service for each industry and state a clear similarity or difference in how the industries developed.