

Georgia Habitat Detectives

Compare living things and habitats across Georgia's regions.

S3L1 "Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the similarities and differences between plants, animals, and habitats found within geographic regions (Blue Ridge Mountains, Piedmont, Coastal Plains, Valley and Ridge..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each habitat feature in the passage. Circle each plant or animal, then number two details that show how regions are alike or different.

Living Things Across Georgia

- ① Georgia has five geographic regions. Each region has habitats, or places where living things meet their needs. The Blue Ridge Mountains have high slopes, cool streams, and forests. Black bears, brook trout, and rhododendron live there. The Appalachian Plateau also has forests and streams, but its flatter top has rocky cliffs and coal-bearing ground in some places.
- ② The Piedmont has rolling hills, red clay soil, and many rivers. White-tailed deer, gray foxes, and oak trees use its woods and fields. In the Valley and Ridge, long ridges stand beside lower valleys. Forests grow on the ridges, while farms and streams may be found in valleys. Deer and oak trees can live in both regions.
- ③ The Coastal Plain is low and sandy. It includes pine forests, wetlands, rivers, and beaches. Longleaf pine trees grow in sandy areas, and gopher tortises may use sandy ground. All five regions have plants, animals, water, and shelter. Yet the land, soil, and water in each region shape which living things are most common there.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two habitat features do the Blue Ridge Mountains and Appalachian Plateau both have?

2 How is the land in the Piedmont different from the land in the Valley and Ridge?

3 Name one Coastal Plain plant or animal and tell how it connects to the habitat.

4 According to the passage, what three things shape which living things are common in a region?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two Georgia regions from the passage. Write three sentences that compare them: tell one habitat similarity, tell one land difference, and name a plant or animal connected to one region.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each habitat feature in the passage. Circle each plant or animal, then number two details that show how regions are alike or different. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two habitat features do the Blue Ridge Mountains and Appalachian Plateau both have?	Both regions have forests and streams.
2	How is the land in the Piedmont different from the land in the Valley and Ridge?	The Piedmont has rolling hills and red clay soil. The Valley and Ridge has long ridges beside lower valleys.
3	Name one Coastal Plain plant or animal and tell how it connects to the habitat.	Answers may include: Longleaf pine trees grow in sandy areas. Gopher tortoises may use sandy ground.
4	According to the passage, what three things shape which living things are common in a region?	The land, soil, and water shape which living things are common.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Blue Ridge Mountains and the Appalachian Plateau both have forests and streams. The Blue Ridge has high slopes, while the Appalachian Plateau has a flatter top with rocky cliffs. Black bears live in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Accept comparisons supported by the passage and allow students to choose any two regions. For the open task, accept three clear sentences that include a similarity, a difference, and an accurate plant or animal connection.