

Landform Location Hunt

Use location clues to find major U.S. physical features.

SS3G1 "Locate major topographical features on a physical map of the United States."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each named landform or water feature, and circle the words that tell where it belongs in the United States.

Clues on a Physical Map

- ① A physical map uses colors and land shapes to show Earth's surface. Brown areas often show high land, such as mountains. Green or yellow areas may show lower land, such as plains. Blue lines and shapes show water. To locate a feature, look at where it is compared with the country's edges, other landforms, and nearby water.
- ② The Rocky Mountains form a long chain in the western United States. They run mostly from north to south. East of the Rockies lie the Great Plains, a wide area of mostly flat or rolling land. Farther east, the Mississippi River flows from north to south. This river helps divide the central part of the country from the land farther east.
- ③ Near the eastern side of the United States, the Appalachian Mountains stretch from the northeast toward the south. The Great Lakes sit along the northern border, east of the Great Plains. The Coastal Plain is low land beside the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. On a physical map, these clues help you place each feature in its region.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which major landform is east of the Rocky Mountains?

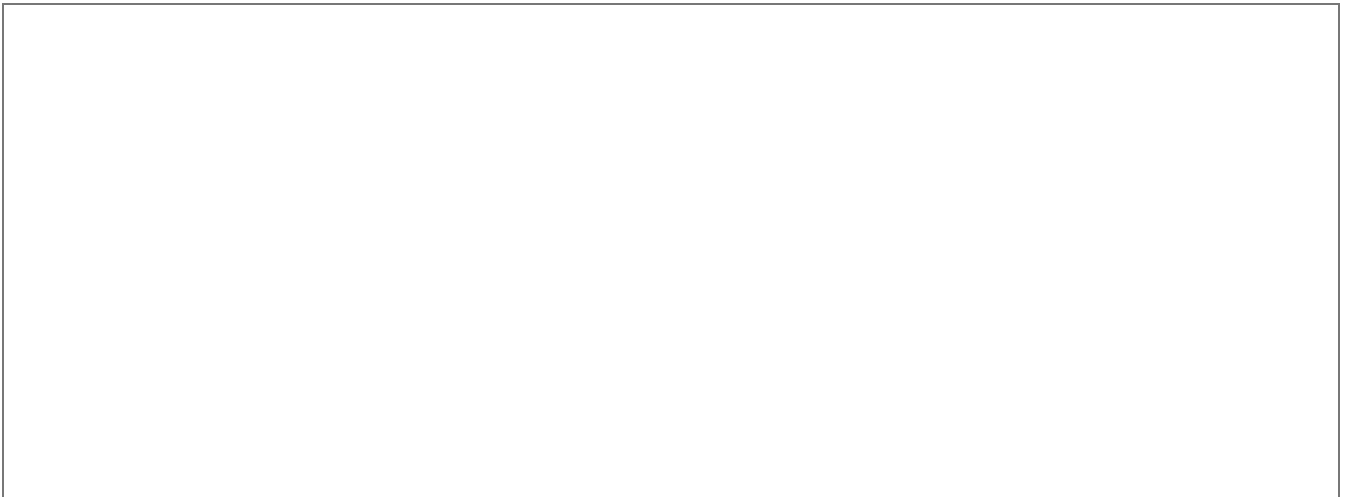
2 What two location clues help you find the Great Lakes?

3 Which landform is beside both the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico?

4 Which mountain range stretches from the northeast toward the south on the eastern side of the United States?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

In the box, draw a simple outline of the contiguous United States. Choose four features from the passage, including one water feature and one mountain range, and label each feature in the correct area of your drawing.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each named landform or water feature, and circle the words that tell where it belongs in the United States. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which major landform is east of the Rocky Mountains?	The Great Plains are east of the Rocky Mountains.
2	What two location clues help you find the Great Lakes?	They are along the northern border and east of the Great Plains.
3	Which landform is beside both the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico?	The Coastal Plain.
4	Which mountain range stretches from the northeast toward the south on the eastern side of the United States?	The Appalachian Mountains.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A simple U.S. outline has the Rocky Mountains labeled in the west, the Great Plains east of them, the Mississippi River in the central area, and the Appalachian Mountains near the eastern side.

Accept simple outlines and labels placed in the correct relative regions. The student may choose any four named features, as long as the drawing includes a water feature and a mountain range.