Clues From Above

Use source notes to locate features and compare places.

4.C.2.1.D "Interpret aerial photographs, satellite images, and thematic maps to locate and identify physical and human features of the United States of America and North America."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline clues about natural features, circle clues about things people made, and number the two population figures. These marks will help you use each kind of source.

Reading Views of the Land

1. Looking down from above can reveal how people use the land. An aerial photograph is taken from an aircraft and often shows a small area in detail. A satellite image is taken from space and can show a much wider area. In either kind of image, look for shape, color, and nearby features before deciding what you see.

2. A thematic map shows one topic, such as the number of people living in an area. Its key explains colors or numbers. Darker gray might stand for more people per square mile. The source log records clues from three kinds of sources. Read each row carefully before naming a feature or comparing places.

SOURCE LOG FOR U.S. PLACES

Source	Place	Recorded clue
Aerial photograph	Wyoming	A winding dark ribbon crosses grassy land. Thin, straight gray lines cross the ribbon.
Satellite image	Alaska	Tall white ridges line a dark blue coast.
Population thematic map	Florida	About 400 people per square mile.
Population thematic map	Wyoming	About 6 people per square mile.

3. The position of a clue matters as much as its shape. A green patch beside a stadium might help you find a park. Words such as north and beside can help you locate one feature in relation to another. If two places have numbers, check what the numbers measure before you compare them.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In the aerial photograph notes for Wyoming, what are the winding ribbon and the straight gray lines likely to be?

2. What physical feature could the white ridges in the satellite image help you locate? In which state is it?

3. According to the population map notes, which state has more people per square mile, Florida or Wyoming? How can you tell?

4. Which state appears in both an aerial photograph and a thematic map in the source log? Tell what each source helps you learn about it.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a North American place not named in the source log. Write a caption for an imagined aerial photograph that locates one physical and one human feature, then write a caption for an imagined land-use map with a two-color key and the location of each land-use type.

ANSWER KEY

Clues From Above

GRADE 4 · 4.C.2.1.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline clues about natural features, circle clues about things people made, and number the two population figures. These marks will help you use each kind of source. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In the aerial photograph notes for Wyoming, what are the winding ribbon and the straight gray lines likely to be?	**The winding ribbon is likely a river, and the straight gray lines are likely roads.**
2	What physical feature could the white ridges in the satellite image help you locate? In which state is it?	**They could help locate mountains in Alaska.**
3	According to the population map notes, which state has more people per square mile, Florida or Wyoming? How can you tell?	**Florida. The log lists about 400 people per square mile there, compared with about 6 in Wyoming.**
4	Which state appears in both an aerial photograph and a thematic map in the source log? Tell what each source helps you learn about it.	**Wyoming. The aerial photograph notes help identify a river and roads; the thematic map notes give its population density.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Aerial photograph of Vancouver, Canada: Water lies west of city streets. The water is a physical feature, and the streets are human features. Land-use map of Vancouver: Green means parks, and gray means buildings. A green area lies west of a gray area.

Accept reasonable feature identifications supported by the recorded clues. For Your Turn, check that the new place is in North America and that both captions include locations and the requested features or key.