

## GUIDED READING

### Alabama: Our Beautiful Home

#### Chapter 2: The Land We Call Alabama

##### Section 1

##### Regions

##### Directions:

Use the information from pages 37- 49 to complete the following.

1. What was Alabama's \_\_\_\_\_ environment like?
2. The **natural** \_\_\_\_\_ is the things that are part of nature.
3. **Natural** \_\_\_\_\_ are things in the natural environment that people can use.
4. American \_\_\_\_\_ (Native Americans) came first.
5. Then later, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ arrived.
6. They found a land rich in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. These people found an ideal place for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The people living here found that Alabama has \_\_\_\_\_ distinct \_\_\_\_\_.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ is what is going on outside.
10. It [weather] includes how \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ it is, cloudiness, \_\_\_\_\_, snow, and wind.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ is the average weather over a long time.
12. Explorers and \_\_\_\_\_ (early settlers) were the first \_\_\_\_\_ to come to Alabama.
13. Alabama's land is divided into \_\_\_\_\_ based on the geology of rocks.

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14. \_\_\_\_\_ deals with the history of Earth, especially the history recorded in \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ part of Alabama seems almost flat.
16. It lies in a region called the \_\_\_\_\_.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are found in this region.
18. More than \_\_\_\_\_ of Alabama's land lies in the Coastal Plain.
19. Many settlers moved into this area because they \_\_\_\_\_ by river or over flat land.
20. The \_\_\_\_\_ Belt is an area with deep, rich \_\_\_\_\_ that is very dark.
21. This soil grew \_\_\_\_\_ than other soils.
22. Another region, the \_\_\_\_\_, begins in east-central Alabama and extends through Georgia and the Carolinas all the way to New Jersey.
23. Settlers moved into the Piedmont where there was good \_\_\_\_\_.
24. Some of the rocks in this area changed long ago to \_\_\_\_\_.
25. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ region begins just south of Birmingham.
26. The Ridge and Valley region is rich with natural \_\_\_\_\_ resources.
27. \_\_\_\_\_ are ores or other substances found naturally in the earth.
28. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are found in this region.
29. North and west of the Ridge and Valley are two \_\_\_\_\_ regions.
30. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a higher area made of layers of rock that are nearly flat.

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31. The \_\_\_\_\_ Plateau region begins in Alabama around Jasper.
32. The \_\_\_\_\_ Plateau begins in northern Alabama.
33. Many farmers moved to the river valleys of the region to grow \_\_\_\_\_.

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##### **Section 2 Mineral, Energy, and Water Resources**

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 50 - 57 to complete the following.

1. The layers of \_\_\_\_\_ in Alabama contain many minerals that people use.
2. Some of these rocks give us clues about Alabama's \_\_\_\_\_ (before written history) environment.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ formed at the bottom of a saltwater sea.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is made of plants and animals that once lived in a swampy environment.
5. So where you find coal, you know that there once was a \_\_\_\_\_ (flooded forest) in that area.
6. Rocks break down very slowly, forming \_\_\_\_\_.
7. So Alabama has \_\_\_\_\_ of soil.
8. Some soils are very \_\_\_\_\_; that is, they are good for growing things.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ is an important part of the natural environment.
10. Plants , animals, and people \_\_\_\_\_ without water.
11. A great amount of water is stored \_\_\_\_\_ the surface of the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. When it \_\_\_\_\_, some of the water soaks into the ground and fills up tiny spaces in \_\_\_\_\_ of gravel and rock.
13. These layers act like sponges and are called \_\_\_\_\_.

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14. Water stored in the aquifers is called \_\_\_\_\_.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ is found in rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ are places that are wet all or part of the year.
17. The state has 6 \_\_\_\_\_ that are deep and wide enough for large boats.
18. Rivers used for transportation are called \_\_\_\_\_.
19. Indians, settlers, traders, farmers, miners, and others used the waterways to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ supplies.
20. Three of Alabama's rivers form parts of the state's \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The most common type of wetland in Alabama is a \_\_\_\_\_.
22. Along the Gulf Coast are \_\_\_\_\_.
23. Salt marshes are \_\_\_\_\_ with saltwater each day when the sea level rises with the tide.
24. One of the most important \_\_\_\_\_ in Alabama is the Mobile-Tensaw Delta.
25. A \_\_\_\_\_ is an area where a river divides before flowing into a larger body of water.
26. Mobile Bay and the Delta form an area called an \_\_\_\_\_.
27. An **estuary** is a place where \_\_\_\_\_ from rivers \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ from the ocean.
28. This special mix of water is an ideal place for many \_\_\_\_\_ animals to live.
29. \_\_\_\_\_, blue crabs, and \_\_\_\_\_ need this kind of water when they are young.

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**Section 3**                      **Weather, Climate, and Natural Hazards**  
**Directions:**                **Use the information from pages 58 - 64 to complete the following.**

1. The state's \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ or temperate.
2. Average monthly summer \_\_\_\_\_ (how hot or cold it is) are in the low-80s°F (Fahrenheit).
3. \_\_\_\_\_ here are short and mild with average temperatures in the mid-40s°F.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is water in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or hail.
5. Certain kinds of weather can cause harm and are called \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ storms occur when drops of rain fall on frozen surfaces.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is another frozen hazard.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is necessary for life.
9. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a period of weeks or months with almost no rainfall.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ floods can happen when there is heavy rainfall.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ occur often in Alabama.
12. The biggest danger from thunderstorms is the \_\_\_\_\_ they produce.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ is electricity moving from cloud to cloud or from a cloud to Earth.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ are small balls of ice that can even fall in summer thunderstorms.

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15. \_\_\_\_\_ also begin in very bad thunderstorms.

16. A **tornado** is a storm with swirling winds and a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ cloud.

17. Tornadoes are the most \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ storms in Alabama.

18. The National Weather Service gives \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for flash floods, thunderstorms, and tornadoes.

19. \_\_\_\_\_ are powerful storms that form over warm seas.

20. Water \_\_\_\_\_ most of the \_\_\_\_\_ in a hurricane.

21. Because these storms move so \_\_\_\_\_, people have time to evacuate low coastal areas.

22. \_\_\_\_\_ means to leave the area because of danger.

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##### Section 4 Natural Vegetation and Wildlife

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 66 - 68 to complete the following.

1. Plants growing naturally in an area are called the **natural** \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of evergreen trees grew across the southern two-thirds of the state.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **trees** keep their leaves throughout the year.
4. Evergreen forests gradually gave way to \_\_\_\_\_ **trees** (trees that lose their leaves each winter).
5. Thousands of kinds of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are also native to Alabama.
6. All of this \_\_\_\_\_ is part of Alabama's many ecosystems.
7. An \_\_\_\_\_ includes living things such as plants, animals, and insects.
8. It [ecosystem] also includes \_\_\_\_\_ things such as air, water, soil, and climate.
9. Alabama has more kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ than many other states.
10. Alabama is home to about 850 kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ (animals with backbones).
11. \_\_\_\_\_ are animals without backbones, such as insects and snails.



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##### **Section 5**

##### **Culture**

##### **Directions:**

**Use the information from pages 69 - 71 to complete the following.**

1. Culture is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of a group of people.
2. Some things you were \_\_\_\_\_ with — such as the color of your eyes, hair, and skin.
3. Some things you were \_\_\_\_\_ — like what to eat, what to wear, and how to behave.
4. Each culture had ideas about how to \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_.  
They had \_\_\_\_\_ and knew how to use them to do various jobs.
5. These tools and skills are known as \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Sometimes your culture \_\_\_\_\_ from one year to the next.
7. Technology \_\_\_\_\_ too.
8. In the past, people used \_\_\_\_\_ tools.
9. Now they may use \_\_\_\_\_ tools and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ are used in homes, schools, and business today.
11. Each way of making a living needs \_\_\_\_\_ resources.
12. Alabama's many \_\_\_\_\_ made it possible for people from different cultures to live well.