

## Natural Communities of Georgia Lesson Plan

**Lesson title and grade level:** Ecoregions of Georgia Top 10 Task, Grade 5

**Credit:** Created by Demetreia Head, Vanderlyn Elementary School

**Program Description:** In this lesson, students will be tasked with creating a top 10 list of sights for an assigned Georgia ecoregion. The students will be required to research in order to construct this list and then they will need to turn their list into a multimedia presentation that could be used for a Georgia tourism campaign titled *C U in Georgia.*

**Focus Standards:** Earth Science S5E1. Students will identify surface features of the Earth caused by constructive and destructive processes. a. Identify surface features caused by constructive processes such as deposition (deltas, sand dunes, etc.), earthquakes, volcanoes, and faults b. Identify and find examples of surface features caused by destructive processes such as erosion (water --- rivers and oceans, wind), weathering, impact of organisms, earthquakes, and volcanoes c. Relate the role of technology and human intervention in the control of constructive and destructive processes. Examples include but are not limited to seismological studies, flood control (dams, levees, storm drain management, etc.), and beach reclamation (Georgia coastal islands).

**Materials needed:** Book – The Natural Communities of Georgia by Leslie Edwards, Jonathan Ambrose and L. Katherine Kirkman; student textbook; student assignment worksheet (attached); computers, I-pads, or laptops.

**Teaching Outline:** This lesson can be used to introduce students to the ecoregions in Georgia or as a culminating activity at the end of the science unit on Landforms.

**Introduction** – share this fictional scenario with students: **Our class has been recruited by the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) Tourism Division to create presentations on the ecoregions of Georgia that they can share with their perspective clients. The goal of these presentations will be to develop the new tourism campaign called *C U in Georgia.***

**Activity description/direction** – Students will need to be grouped together and given the student assignment sheet. Assign students their ecoregion and remind them of the required sights that must be included in their top 10 list. Allow students to work on research (time will vary). Once students have completed their top 10 list, they need to create a multimedia version of their list that they will share with the class.

**Wrap-up** – Have students give feedback on the presentations and their effectiveness to create buzz or interest tourist to visit Georgia.

## Ecoregions of Georgia Top 10 Task



There are **five ecoregions** in Georgia. They are:

Blue Ridge    Cumberland Plateau/Ridge and Valley

Piedmont    Coastal Plain    Maritime

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**Task:** Work with your group to determine the top 10 sights and landforms that tourist should know from your given ecoregion. Your top 10 should include animals, plant life, trees, birds, and landforms (natural and man-made).

**Process:** To make your top 10 list, you need to consult your notes, your textbook, the research book The Natural Communities of Georgia, your own understanding from what you have learned, and any other sources.

**Presentation:** You will then present the top 10 sights from your ecoregion to the class. Your presentation must include a visual representation of your top 10. Some ideas for visuals are: brochure, flyer, poster, PPT, Prezi, Movie Trailer or artifact Gallery Walk. Be creative but don't forget the purpose of the presentation is to encourage tourist to want to see your ecoregion. Make sure every group member has a speaking part in the presentation.

**Assessment:** You will be graded on the completeness and accurateness of your top 10 list as well as your presentation.

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Group Members

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Assigned ecoregion \_\_\_\_\_