

Title: America the Beautiful by Katharine Lee Bates, (Maxwell Macmillan International, New York, Oxford, Singapore, Sydney, 1993, ISBN 0-15-201679-1)

Lesson Developed: by: Patricia King Robeson

Literature Annotation: This book is an introduction to physical and human-made features using the song "America the Beautiful."

Grade Level: 2 - 3

Duration: 2 class periods

Geography Concepts: Physical and Human-made Features, Map Elements

Maryland Learning Outcomes

Social Studies Skills: Students will demonstrate an understanding of historical and current events using chronological and spatial thinking, develop historical interpretations, and frame questions that include collecting and evaluating information from primary and secondary sources.

- Find, interpret, and apply information from primary and secondary sources including pictures, graphics, maps, atlases, artifacts, and timelines.

Geography: Students will use geographic concepts and processes to examine the role of culture, technology, and the environment in the location and distribution of human activities and spatial connections throughout time.

- Describe and classify physical and human-made features of places and regions.

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- identify map elements.
- use pictures to identify physical features located in the U.S.
- use pictures to identify human-made features located in the U.S.
- locate physical and human-made features on a U.S. map

Vocabulary: physical features - landforms and bodies of water
human-made features- modifications people have made to the land

Materials:

Book: America the Beautiful

U.S. Map

Ruler

"America the Beautiful" Song - make a transparency

"America the Beautiful Physical and Human-made Features" - make a transparency

Handout: "America the Beautiful" pictures – one set for each student

Handout: "Physical and Human-made Features – one set for each group of four students

Handout: "Looking at a Place" - one for each student

Teacher Background:

Knowledge of the physical features and human-made features of the Earth.

(It would be a good idea to use the book Our Earth before you begin this lesson. It introduces students to physical features.) Our Earth by Anne Rockwell, (Harcourt Brace & Company, California, New York, London, 1998, ISBN 0-15-201679-1)

Note: Before beginning this lesson you may want to cut out pictures and definition cards from handout, "Physical and Human-made Features" for use in the closure activity and place them in envelopes. You will need one set of pictures and definitions for each group of four students. You could also have students cut out the cards.

Lesson Development:

Review/Motivation:

Setting for the story:

1. Show the students a globe and ask them what two things make up the surface of the Earth (land and water). Explain that the surface of our planet also has smaller pieces of land and bodies of water and that these are called physical or natural features. Write the term "Physical Features" on the board. Ask students to identify physical features (mountain, lake, valley, hill, ocean, river, etc.)
2. Write the term " human-made features" on the board and explain that human-made features are modifications people have made to the land. Have students name human-made features (bridge, building, tunnel, street, etc.)
3. Read the book, America the Beautiful, to the students.

Foldout Book Activity:

1. Give each student a sentence strip and the handout, "America the Beautiful." Instruct students to cut out pictures.
2. Have the students sing the song, "America the Beautiful."

*O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!*

3. Tell the students that about one hundred years ago Katharine Lee Bates wrote this poem, which later was made into a song by Samuel A. Ward. Write the words from the song on the board using the model below. Discuss the song with the students and beside each phrase of the song, match the picture that goes with it. If you do not have the book, use the list below for this activity. Ask students to identify physical and human-made features that make our country beautiful. Help students locate these places on a U.S. map. Tell the students that they are now going to make a foldout book of the song.
4. Give each student a 3" x 24" sentence strip. Next, tell students that they are going to use a ruler to measure the sentence strip. Tell students to mark the sentence strip every 3 1/2". Now tell students to fold their sentence strip on the first mark. Next, they are to fold the sentence strip backward on the second mark. Tell students to fold the strip back and forth to make a foldout book. Students should continue doing this until the end of the strip. At the end, they will have one fold that is only 2" wide.
5. Instruct students to paste the pictures in the order below spacing them neatly on the sentence strip. When students have completed pasting their pictures on one side of the sentence strip they should turn it over and continue on the other side. On the 2" fold they are to paste the title box.

America the Beautiful	Niagara Falls	O beautiful
	Rocky Mountains	For spacious skies
	Fields of Corn	For amber waves of grain
	Yosemite	For purple mountain majesties
	Plains Midwest	Above the fruited plain
	Appalachian Mountains	America
	Grand Canyon	America
	Mesa Verde	God shed His grace on thee
	Chimney Rock	And crown thy good
	Mt. Rushmore	With brotherhood
	Golden Gate Bridge	From sea
	Statue of Liberty	To shining sea.

Closure:

Review the terms "physical and human-made features" with the students. Divide the students into groups of four and give each group an envelope containing picture cards and definitions "Physical and Human-made Features." Tell students to work in their group and match the picture cards and definitions. Discuss each picture and definition.

Assessment:

1. Give each student a copy of the handout "Look at a Place." Tell students to look carefully at the pictures and to list all the physical features and human-made features they see in the pictures.
2. Tell students to choose one of the pictures and write a paragraph describing this place as a setting for a story.

Scoring Tool:

2 points - Student identified at least two physical features.

2 points - Student identified at least two human-made features.

2 points - Student's paragraph included a description of at least two physical or human-made features.

Students can receive a total of six points if all parts of the Assessment are completed correctly. Students lose one point for each incomplete item.

Possible Answers:

Physical Features - Picture 1: mountain, river, lake, forest, plain

Human-made Features - Pictures 1: cabin/building

Physical Features - Picture 2: river, lake

Human-made Features - Picture 2: buildings, roads, parking lot, park, railroad tracks, swimming pool



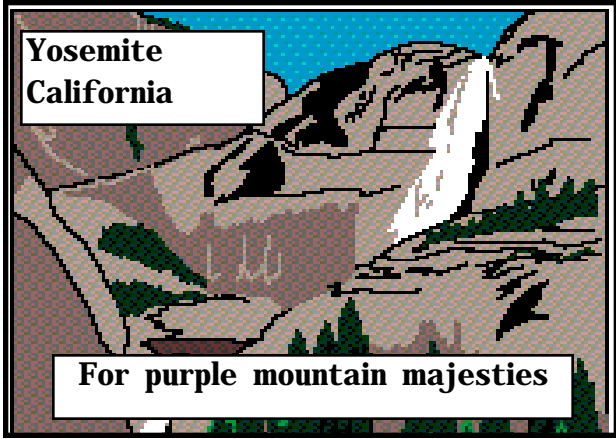
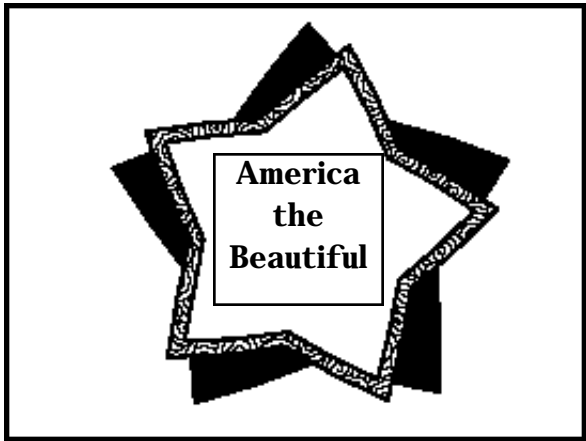
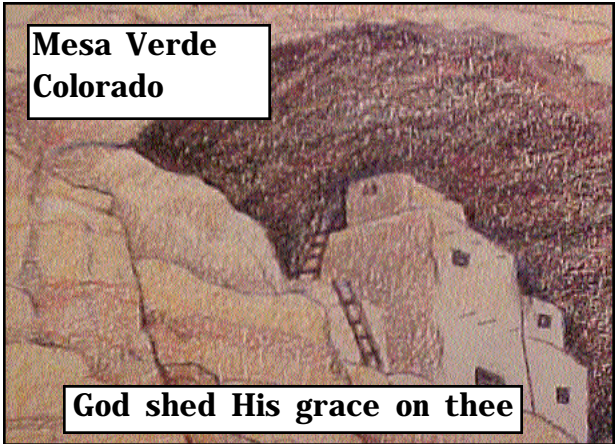
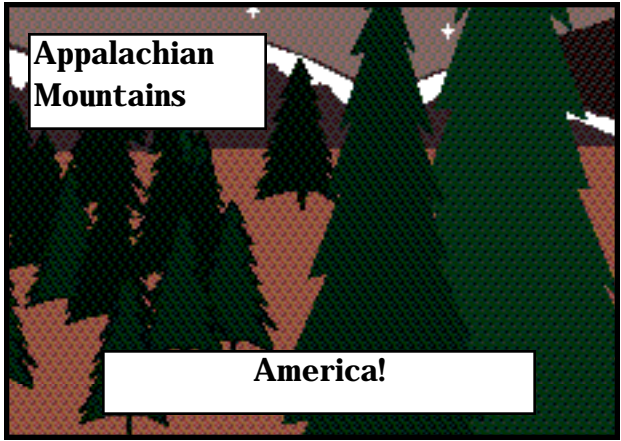
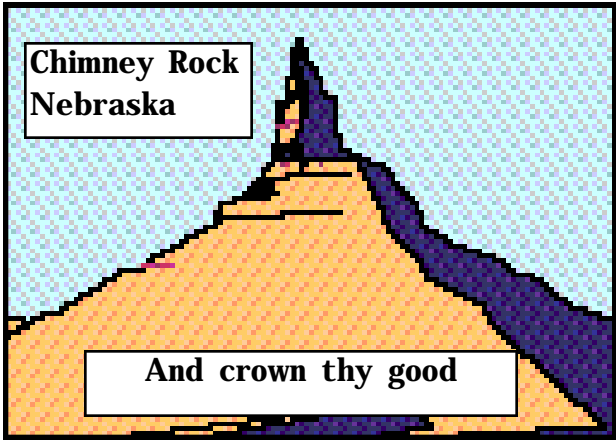
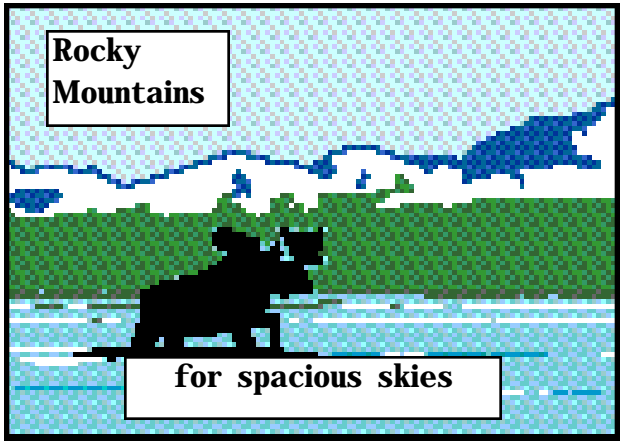
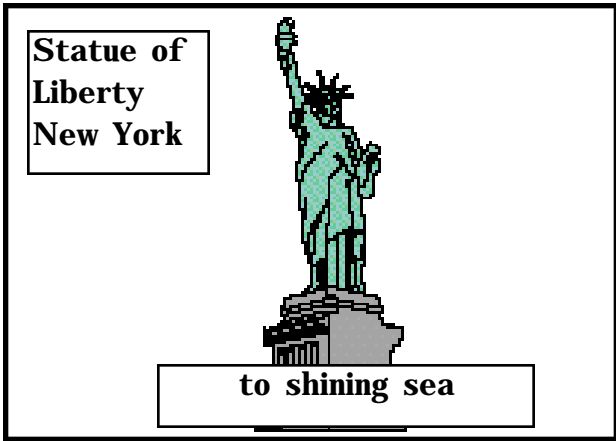
America the Beautiful

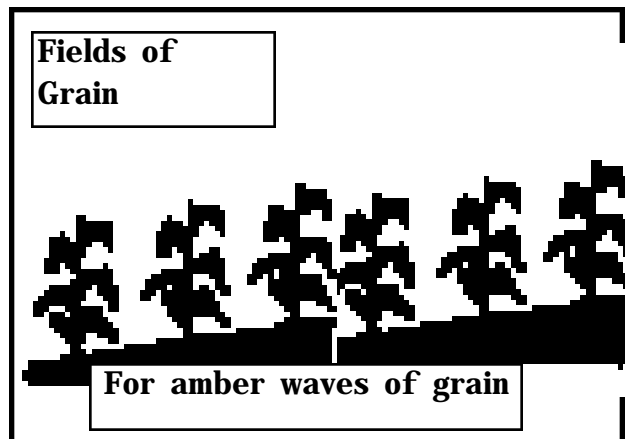
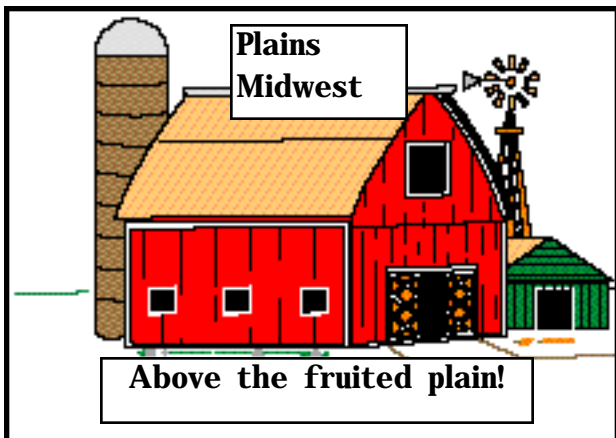
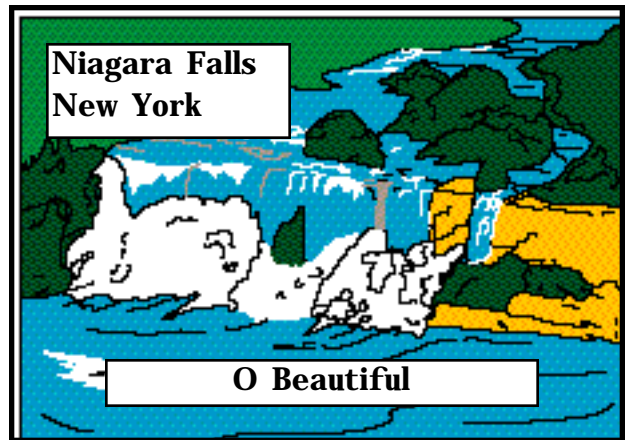
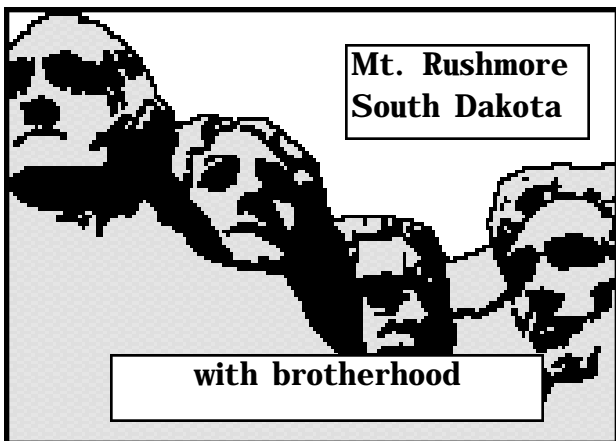
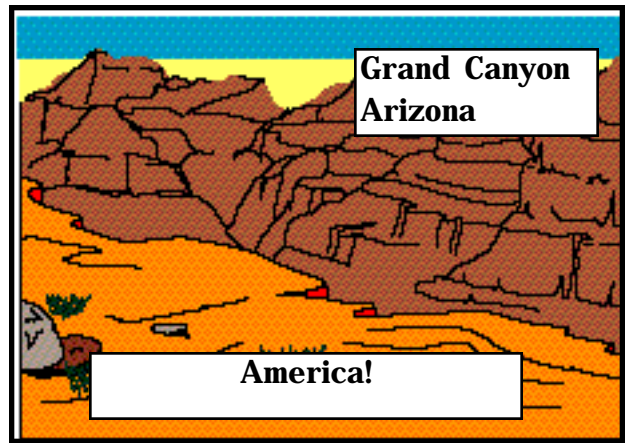
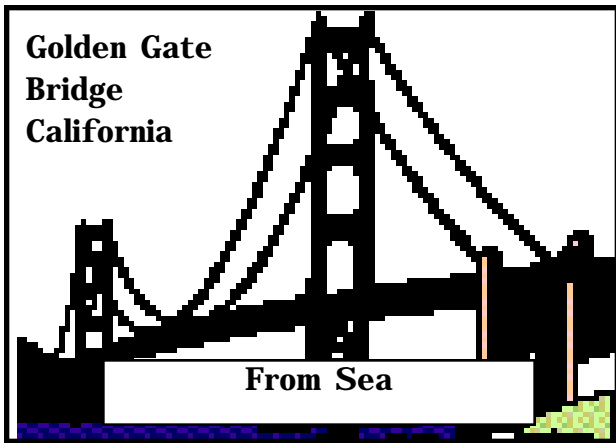
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For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!**

America the Beautiful

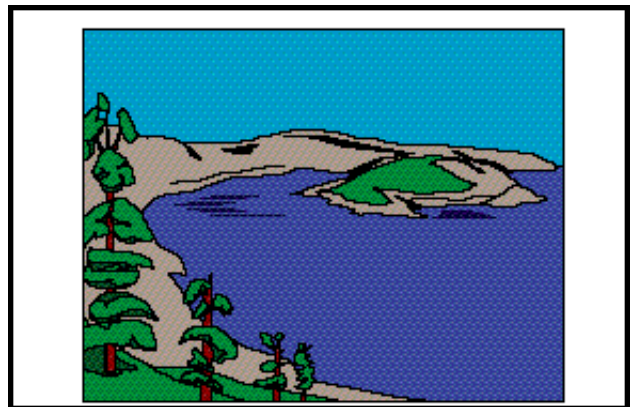
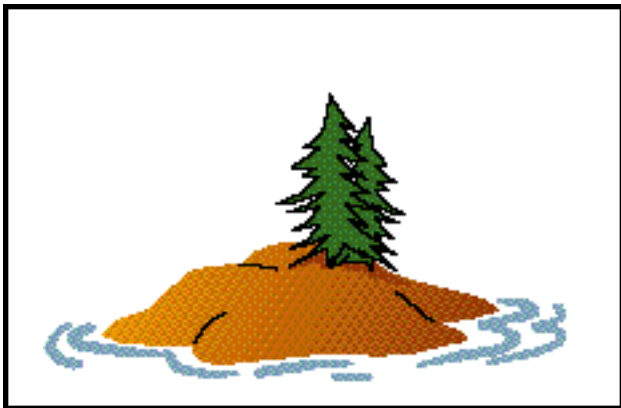
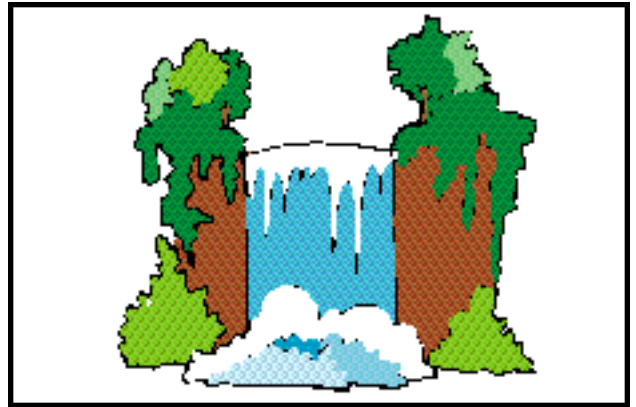
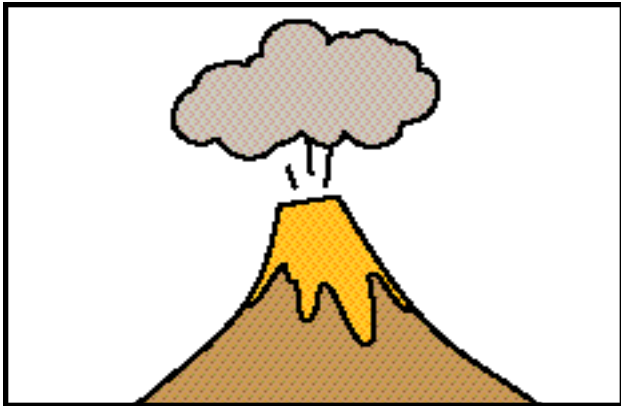
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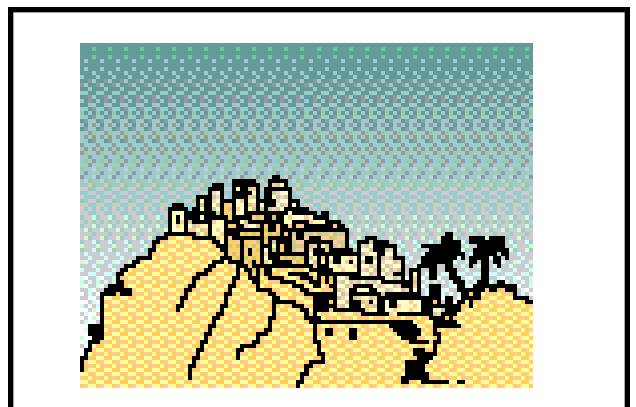
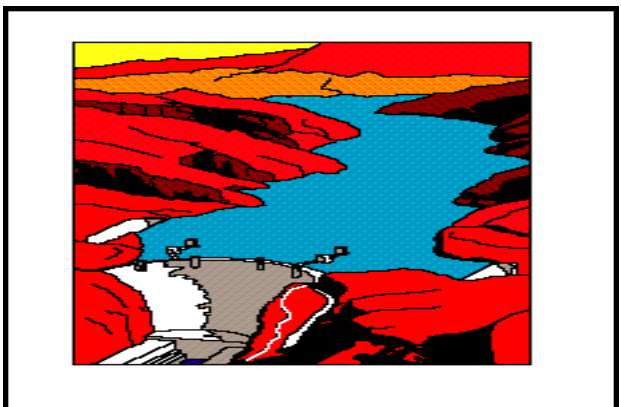
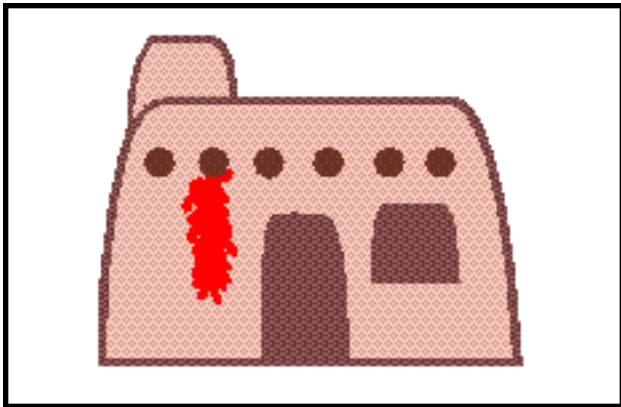
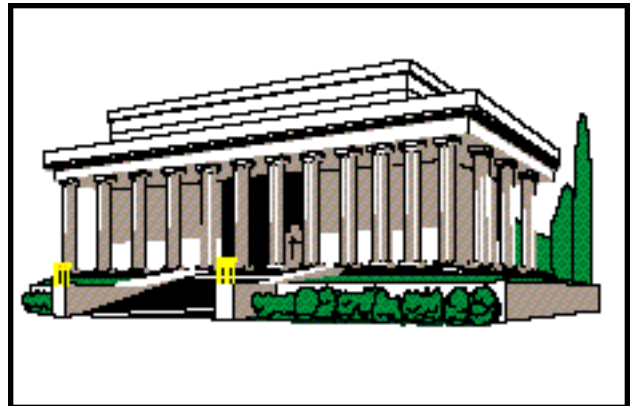
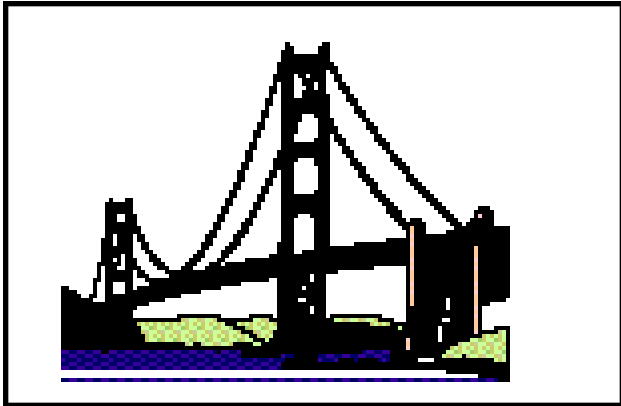
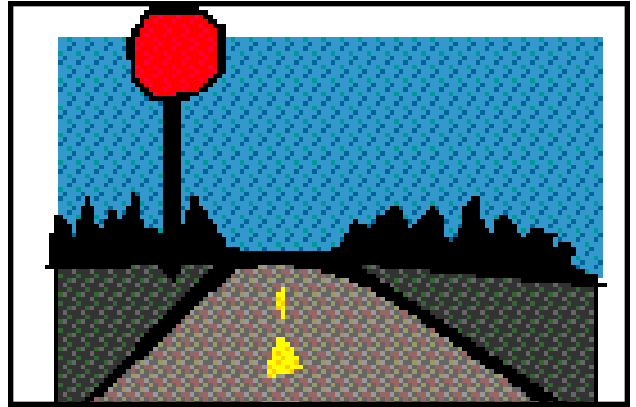




Physical and Human-made Features



Physical and Human-made Features



Physical and Human-made Features

Desert

a land area having very little or no moisture or vegetation

Island

an area of land surrounded by water

Mountain

a natural elevation of the earth's surface; higher than a hill

Forest

a large area of land covered with trees

Volcano

a hill or mountain formed when melted rock is forced through the earth's surface

Ocean

a larger body of salt water that surrounds the continents

Waterfall

a steep or vertical fall of water

Lake

a large inland body of water

Physical and Human-made Features

City

a settlement with a large number of people

Bridge

a structure built over a body of water to carry a walkway, road or railroad

Building

any structure with a roof and sides

Road

a surface on which people, animals, cars, and other vehicles travel

Monument

a structure built in memory of a person or event

Cultivated Land

land plowed and planted with crops

Dam

a structure that stops or slows the flow of a stream

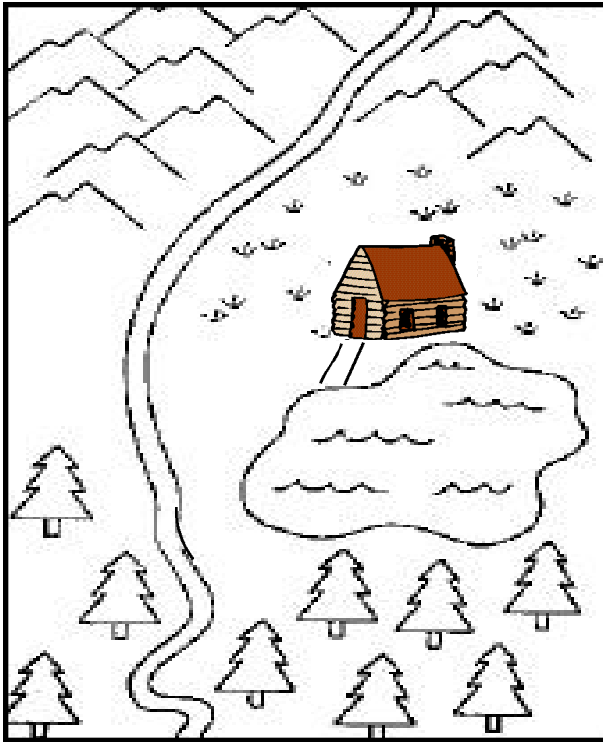
Village

a settlement with a small number of people usually in a rural area

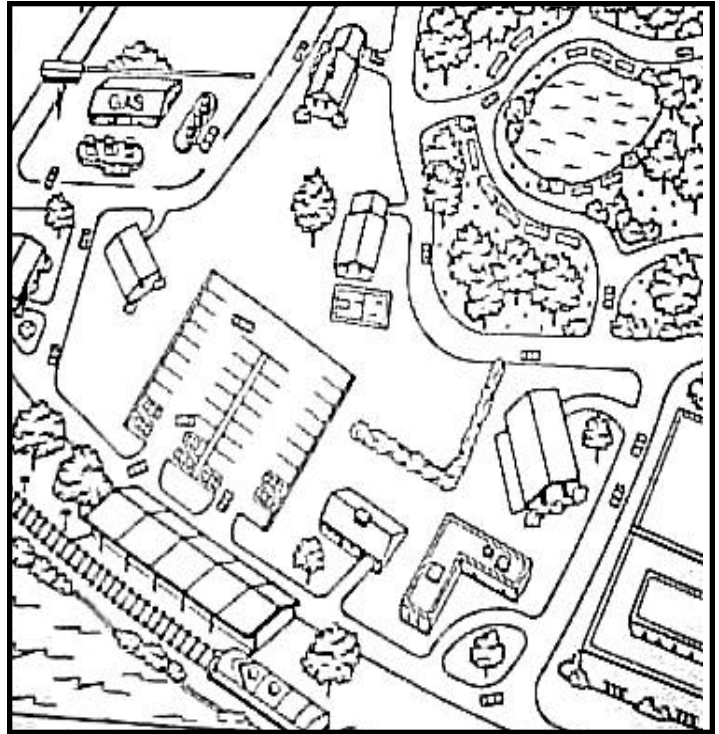
Looking at a Place

Name _____

Date _____



Picture 1



Picture 2

List the physical features you see in the pictures above.

Picture 1: _____

Picture 2: _____

List the human-made features you see in the pictures above.

Picture 1: _____

Picture 2: _____

Choose one of the pictures and write a paragraph describing this place as a setting for a story.

