Virginia Regions Study Guide (Answer Key)

**Standard VS.2a:** SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of the physical geography and native peoples, past and present, of Virginia by locating Virginia and its bordering states on maps of the United States.

Relative location may be described using terms that show connections between two places such as “next to,” “near,” “bordering.”

**Bordering bodies of water**
- Atlantic Ocean
- Chesapeake Bay

**Bordering states (Ketchup With Mustard Tastes Nasty)**
- Kentucky
- West Virginia
- Maryland
- Tennessee
- North Carolina

**Standard VS.2b:** SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of the physical geography and native peoples, past and present, of Virginia by locating and describing Virginia’s 5 geographic regions.

**Terms to know:**

- **Fall Line:** The natural border between the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) and Piedmont regions, where waterfalls prevent further travel on the river

- **Plateau:** Area of elevated land that is flat on top
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Regions (East to West)</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Tidewater Region                 | • Also known as the **Coastal Plain**  
• **Flat** land  
• Location near **Atlantic Ocean** and **Chesapeake Bay**  
• Includes **Eastern Shore**  
• **East** of the Fall Line |
| Piedmont Region                  | • Land at the Foot of **Mountains**  
• **Rolling hills**  
• **West** of the Fall Line |
| Blue Ridge Mountain Region       | • Old, rounded mountains  
• Part of **Appalachian** mountain system  
• Located between the **Piedmont** and **Valley and Ridge** regions  
• **Source** of many rivers |
| Valley & Ridge Region            | • Includes the **Great Valley of Virginia** and other valleys separated by **ridges**  
• Part of **Appalachian** mountain system  
• Located west of Blue Ridge Mountains |
| Appalachian Plateau Region       | • Located in **Southwest** Virginia  
• Only a small part of the **plateau** is located in Virginia |
**Standard VS.10b:** SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of government, geography, and economics by describing the major products and industries of Virginia’s five geographic regions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are the major products and industries of each region in Virginia?</th>
<th>Selected Examples of Products/Industries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Coastal Plain (Tidewater)** | **Products:**
1) Seafood 
2) Peanuts 

**Industries:**
1) Shipbuilding 
2) Tourism 
3) Military bases |
| **Piedmont** | **Products:**
1) Tobacco products 
2) Information technology 

**Industries:**
1) Federal and state government 
2) Farming 
3) Horse Industry |
| **Blue Ridge Mountains** | **Products:**
1) Apples 

**Industries:**
1) Recreation 
2) Farming |
| **Valley and Ridge** | **Products:**
1) Poultry 
2) Apples 
3) Beef 
4) Dairy 

**Industries:**
1) Farming |
| **Appalachian Plateau** | **Products:**
1) Coal 

**Industries:**
1) Coal mining |
Standard VS.2c: SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of the physical geography and native peoples, past and present, of Virginia by locating and identifying water features important to the early history of Virginia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Water Features</th>
<th>Characteristics of Water Features</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Which water features were important to the early history of Virginia?</td>
<td>Terms to know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Peninsula: A piece of land bordered by water on three sides.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Atlantic Ocean</strong></td>
<td>• Provided transportation links between Virginia and other places like Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chesapeake Bay</strong></td>
<td>• Provided a safe harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Was a source of food and transportation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Separates the Eastern Shore from the mainland of Virginia.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Potomac River</strong></td>
<td>• Flows into the Chesapeake Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Alexandria located along the Potomac River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rappahannock River</strong></td>
<td>• Flows into the Chesapeake Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fredericksburg located on the Rappahannock River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>York River</strong></td>
<td>• Flows into the Chesapeake Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Yorktown located along the York River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>James River</strong></td>
<td>• Flows into the Chesapeake Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Richmond and Jamestown located along the James River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lake Drummond</strong></td>
<td>• Located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Shallow natural lake surrounded by the Dismal Swamp</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dismal Swamp</strong></td>
<td>• Located in the Coastal Plain (Tidewater) region</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Variety of wildlife</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• George Washington explored and surveyed the Dismal Swamp.</td>
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