21 Landform Regions of the United States

Landform Regions of the United States

- Coastal plains
- Interior plains or lowlands
- Mountains
- Plateaus or highlands
- Plains and mountains

Map showing landform regions of the United States.
22 Exploring Landforms

- Mountains
- Plains
- Plateaus
23 Determining Latitude and Longitude

Prime meridian
North Pole
Greenwich, England

Equator
South Pole

90° north
Prime meridian

27° north latitude

0° latitude
Equator

90° south

42° west longitude
Prime meridian
0° longitude

42°

90° N
60° N

Cairo, Egypt
30° N, 31° E
30° N

90° W 60° W 30° W 0° 30° E 60° E 90° E

30° S

60° S
90° S
24 Exploring Topographic Maps

- Contour lines
- Depression
- Index contour
- Hilltop
- V-shaped contours

Scale

Contour interval = 20 feet
25 Forces of Mechanical Weathering

- Release of Pressure
- Freezing and Thawing
- Plant Growth
- Abrasion
- Animal Actions
26 Soil Composition and Soil Horizons

Composition of Loam

- Air 25%
- Water 25%
- Silt 18%
- Sand 18%
- Clay 9%
- Organic matter 5%

Gravel: 2 mm and larger
Sand: less than 2 mm
Silt: less than 1/16 mm
Clay: less than 1/256 mm

A horizon
B horizon
C horizon
27 Exploring Living Organisms in Soil

**Horizons**
- **Litter**
- **A horizon**
- **B horizon**
- **C horizon**

**Organisms**
- **Bacteria** (decomposers)
- **Earthworms**
- **Ants**
- **Insect larvae** (mouse)
- **Burrowing animals** (mouse)
- **Plant roots**
- **Snails and beetles**
- **Chipmunks**

**Decomposers**
- **Fungi**
28 Soils of North America

- **Tundra soils**: Form where it is cold year-round; thin soil with little humus.
- **Northern forest soils**: Form in cool, wet climates; range from thick and fertile to thin with little humus.
- **Prairie soils**: Form in cool, dry climates of grasslands; topsoil thick and rich in humus.
- **Mountain soils**: Topsoil often thin because cold temperatures slow chemical weathering and erosion causes soil loss.
- **Southern forest soils**: Form in warm, wet climates; may be low in humus.
- **Desert soils**: Form in dry areas with few plants and little chemical weathering; often sandy, thin soil that is low in humus.
- **Tropical soils**: Form in wet, tropical climates; often low in humus and minerals.
29 Landslide, Slump, and Creep
30 Exploring the Course of a River

- Valley widening
- Tributary
- V-shaped valley
- Meanders
- Delta
- Oxbow lake
- Flood plain
- Beaches
- Waterfalls and rapids
31 Water Erosion, Deposition, and Movement of Sediment

- **Dissolved sediment**
- **Direction of flow**
  - Suspended sediment
  - Larger particles pushed or rolled along streambed
  - Smaller particles move by bouncing

- **Cross Section of Stream**
  - Sediment eroded from outside curve
  - Sediment deposited on inside curve

- **Speed of Stream**
  - Faster
  - Slower

- **A** --- **B**

- **Cross Section of Stream**
  - Inside curve
  - Outside curve
32 Exploring Glacial Landforms

- Horn
- Cirque
- Arête
- Fiord
- Glacial lake
- Moraine
- Drumlin
- Kettle lake
- U-Shaped valley
33 Wave Erosion and Wind Erosion

Wave Erosion

Wind Erosion

Fine particles carried through air
Medium-sized particles skip or bounce
Larger particles slide or roll