



Grade 4 - Regions of Alberta



4.1 Alberta: A Sense of the Land

General Outcome

Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how elements of physical geography, climate, geology and paleontology are integral to the landscapes and environment of Alberta.

Specific Outcomes

Values and Attitudes

Students will:

4.1.1 Value Alberta's physical geography and natural environment:

- appreciate the diversity of elements pertaining to geography, climate, geology and paleontology in Alberta (LPP)
- appreciate how Alberta's fossil heritage contributes to the province's unique character (LPP)
- appreciate the variety and abundance of natural resources in Alberta (ER, LPP)
- appreciate the environmental significance of national and provincial parks and protected areas in Alberta (ER, LPP)
- appreciate how land sustains communities and quality of life (ER, LPP)
- demonstrate care and concern for the environment through their choices and actions (LPP)

Knowledge and Understanding

Students will:

4.1.2 Examine, critically, the physical geography of Alberta by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

- Where is Alberta located in relation to the other provinces and territories of Canada? (LPP)
- What are the major geographical and natural vegetation regions, landforms and bodies of water in Alberta (e.g., prairie region, forests, rivers, hoodoos, Rocky Mountains, oil sands)? (LPP)
- What are the factors that determine climate in the diverse regions of Alberta (e.g., latitude, mountains)? (LPP)
- What are the significant natural resources in Alberta, and where are they located (e.g., mineral deposits, coal, natural gas and oil, forests)? (ER, LPP)
- How are Alberta's provincial parks and protected areas and the national parks in Alberta important to the sustainability of Alberta's natural environment? (ER, LPP)

4.1.3 Examine, critically, how geology and paleontology contribute to knowledge of Alberta's physical geography by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

- What geological features make Alberta unique (e.g., hoodoos, Rocky Mountains, foothills, oil sands)? (LPP, ER)

4.1.4 Analyze how Albertans interact with their environment by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

- In what ways do the physical geography and natural resources of a region determine the establishment of communities? (LPP)
- How are natural resources used by Albertans (i.e., agriculture, oil and natural gas, forests, coal)? (ER, LPP)
- How do Albertans deal with competing demands on land use (e.g., conservation, solar and wind power, recreation, agriculture, oil exploration, forestry)? (ER, LPP)
- Whose responsibility should it be to ensure the preservation of national parks, provincial parks and protected areas in Alberta? (C, LPP, PADM)

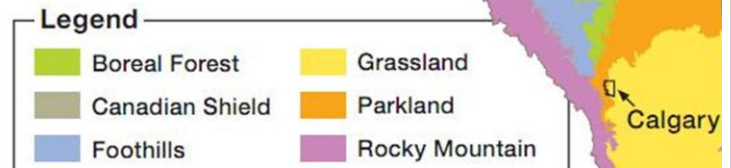


Regions of Alberta

Alberta is a big province.

It has six natural regions.
Can you find the six regions on
the map?

Use the legend to color your map.



http://aet.alberta.ca/englishexpress/articles/pdf/ra11_09_13.pdf

Zooming In...Alberta's Regions – (Learn Alberta) <http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/sszi/en/index.html>

Grassland Region

The Grassland region is in southern Alberta

In this region, many people live in cities,
towns and villages. Some people live on
farms and ranches.



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.travelinalberta.com/southern-alberta.cfm>



IMAGE SOURCE

PAGE: <http://www.weipphoto.com/Portfolio/SouthernAlberta/pages/S>

Grassland Region

Land

- Hoodoos
- Barley crops
- Bodies of water – Red Deer River, Milk River, Old Man River, Bow River, Elbow River



IMAGE SOURCE

PAGE: <http://www.albertabarley.com/policy/updates/updates.html>



IMAGE SOURCE

PAGE: <http://www.panoramio.com/photo/4607700>



IMAGE SOURCE

PAGE: <http://allglobalphotos.com/search/meandering.html>

Grassland Region

Plants

- Before settlers, there were tall grasses and few trees, but most of the area is now farm and ranch lands.

Why would this happen?



IMAGE SOURCE

PAGE: <http://albertawilderness.ca/issues/wildlands/milk-river-ridge>



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE:

<http://www.ualberta.ca/~anaeth/researchteam.html>

Grassland Region

Animals

- Before settlers, there were huge herds of buffalo. When the buffalos moved as a herd, they sounded like thunder. There were also large herds of antelope and deer. Grizzly bears and cougars also roamed the grasslands.

All of these animals are not living in the grasslands in such large numbers today, why is that?

- Today, a few small herds of pronghorn antelope, deer, rattlesnakes, swift fox and burrowing owls.



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://theintelhub.com/2010/09/16/deer-with-chronic-wasting-d>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.huntingtripsrus.com/pronghorn-antelope-hunting>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.srd.alberta.ca/FishWildlife/WildSpecies/Reptiles>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: http://www.cpaws-southernalberta.org/events/capture_wild

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://westcountry.wolfcreek.ab.ca/Wildlife%20Resources>

Grassland Region

Land Use (Natural Resources)

- The Oldman River Dam near Pincher Creek helps store water for dry periods and is also used to create hydroelectric power.
- Crops – canola, wheat, barley, sugar beets, alfalfa, hay – **What are these crops used for?**
- Irrigation – **Why is this necessary?**
- Oil and Gas
- Wind plant/farms – Pincher Creek



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE:
http://www.uleth.ca/vft/Oldman_River/OldmanDam.html



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.worldofstock.com/closeups/BEN1186.php>

Grassland Region

Climate

- very low rainfall – 30-40 cm per year
- less snow than other regions
- **arid**/very dry
- The Badlands have desert like conditions

It is important that Alberta's water resources are used carefully. **Why?**

Drought – What is drought? Not enough precipitation to meet the needs of people or crops. **What are the effects of drought?** Why does this happen in this region? Warm temperatures evaporate water from the land, not allowing crops to grow. People need to **irrigate** in order for crops to grow.



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE:
http://www.uleth.ca/vft/Oldman_River/Irrigation.html



IMAGE SOURCE PAGE:
<http://www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com/ICDC/forage.htm>

Grassland Region

Travel Alberta
Canada 141



- Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump - <http://www.head-smashed-in.com/>
- Writing on Stone Provincial Park - <http://www.pc.gc.ca/docs/r/ab/sites/writing-on-stone.aspx>
- Drumheller – Royal Tyrrell Museum <http://www.tyrrellmuseum.com/>
- Birds of Prey Centre - <http://www.burrowingowl.com/>
- Bar U Ranch - <http://www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/ab/baru/index.aspx>
- Waterton Lakes National Park - <http://www.mywaterton.ca/>

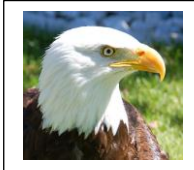


IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.wingrider.net/Canada/Page54.htm>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: http://www.tripadvisor.ca/Attraction_Review-g815290-d536

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/topics/Writing-on-Stone>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://canadabadlands.com/2010/02/highlights-of-our-can>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://www.visualphotos.com/image/1x5601435/waterton>

IMAGE SOURCE PAGE: <http://photobucket.com/images/Smashed+head/>

Grassland Region

Jobs –

What types of jobs do you think are available in this region?

