4th SS LEAP Practice Workbook
Week 1
1. Complete each day's work.
Week 1 Day 1
Chapter 1

The Many Maps of the United States

Unit One: America the Beautiful

Standards Covered: 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.4, 4.4.5, 4.4.6, 4.4.7

Key term activity at the end of the chapter

Types of Maps

A map is a flat image of a place on Earth. A globe is a model of the Earth. People use maps and globes to understand where things are. They help people find cities, parishes, states, and countries. Maps and globes help people locate bodies of water like oceans, lakes, and rivers. They help people find mountains and deserts too.

A world map shows an image of the world. People use world maps to find continents, countries, oceans, and more. A continent is a large area of land. Most of the time, it is made up of several countries.
The world has seven continents and five oceans. They are listed below. They are numbered in order from biggest to smallest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continents of the World</th>
<th>Oceans of the World</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Asia</td>
<td>1. Pacific Ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Africa</td>
<td>2. Atlantic Ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. North America</td>
<td>3. Indian Ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. South America</td>
<td>4. Southern Ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Antarctica</td>
<td>5. Arctic Ocean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Europe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Australia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

World maps also show where the Earth's poles are located. The **North Pole** is at the very top of the world map. It is farther north than any other place on Earth. The **South Pole** is at the very bottom of the world map. It is farther south than any other place on Earth. The South Pole is on the continent of Antarctica.

Both the North Pole and the South Pole are very cold. This is because of the way the Earth revolves around the Sun. No matter which way the Earth tilts, both poles are always very far from the Sun. Therefore, they never get warm.

**Political Maps**

A **political map** shows how a country or state is organized. A political map can show states or regions of a country or towns, cities, counties, or parishes of a state. Usually the capital is marked with a different symbol, often a star, to differentiate it from ordinary cities.

**National maps** show images of countries. A **country** is a place on the Earth's surface that is ruled by a national government. The United States of America is a country with fifty states. Louisiana is one of these states. Below is a national map of the United States of America. A **state** is a territory in the United States ruled by a state government. A **state map** shows an image of a state. A map of Louisiana would be a state map.
A **parish** is an area within the state of Louisiana. It is ruled by a parish government. In other states, parishes are called counties. A **city** is a place inside a parish. It is legislated by a city government. New Orleans is the largest city in Louisiana. The capital of Louisiana is Baton Rouge.

You most likely live in a **parish**. You also live in a **city** (or a small **town**). These two are different. They might share the same name. For example, there is a city named Lafayette and a parish named Lafayette. Try not to be confused by the two. Think of it this way:

City/Town ➔ Parish ➔ State ➔ Country ➔ Continent

You live in a city or town that is in a parish. That parish is in the state of Louisiana. Louisiana is in a country called the United States of America. The USA is on the continent of North America.

**Activity 1**

Pick a state that is not Louisiana. Using your own paper, draw a map of the state. Label its capital city. Is the state north, south, east, or west of Louisiana? Draw an arrow showing the direction from your selected state to Louisiana. This activity will help you learn more about the fifty states and how to draw maps.
Week 1 Day 2
Population, Physical, and Resource Maps

Population maps show where people live. Some population maps show which states have the most people. Others might show which places have the most people belonging to a certain ethnicity.

Populated Areas of the United States

Physical maps show what the surface of the land is like. They are often called topographical maps. They show where mountains, forests, deserts, plains, and wetlands are located.
A resource map shows natural resources and products of a city, state, or country. These resources and products provide an income for the people of that area. Louisiana has many natural resources such as oil, natural gas, salt, and lumber. The state also produces cotton and rice, has dairy farms, and harvests shrimp and other seafood.

Activity 2

Using your own paper, make up an imaginary country. Draw a map of your country. Add in physical features on your map like forests and mountains. Then, add in some natural resources. Remember to name your country. Once you are done, you will present your country to the class.
Week 1 Day 3
Reading and Understanding Maps
Symbols, Keys, and Scale
Maps have symbols. Symbols are images on maps. Some symbols represent mountains. Some represent lakes, forests, or other geographic features. Others represent borders, highways, cities, or railroads.

To understand a map, you must know what its symbols mean. A map key or map legend tells the map reader what each symbol means.

A map key also tells the scale of a map. Scale has to do with distance. For instance, if a map key says that one inch equals one mile, then the scale of the map is one mile per inch.

Look at the map to the right. The distance from city A to city B is one inch. If the scale of the map is 100 miles per inch, then the distance from city A to city B is 100 miles.

Cardinal and Intermediate Directions
There are four cardinal directions. They are north, south, east, and west. North is the top of the map. South is the bottom of the map. East is on the right side of the map. West is on the left side of the map. Intermediate directions are directions in between cardinal directions. On the chart is a list of cardinal and intermediate directions.

A compass rose is an image on a map that shows which direction is north, south, east, or west. It helps the reader understand cardinal directions.

Hemispheres
The world is a sphere. A sphere is round. Half of a sphere is called a hemisphere. World maps have four hemispheres. They are the Northern Hemisphere, the Southern Hemisphere, the Eastern Hemisphere, and the Western Hemisphere.

The Northern and the Southern Hemisphere are separated by the equator. The equator is the parallel on a map at zero degrees (you write zero degrees like this: 0°). It runs east to west across the middle of a world map. Everything above the equator is in the Northern Hemisphere. Everything below the equator is in the Southern Hemisphere. The Eastern and Western Hemispheres are divided by the prime meridian. Everything from the right of the prime meridian is the Eastern Hemisphere. All the land and oceans to the left of the prime meridian are in the Western Hemisphere.
Louisiana is in the **Northern and Western Hemispheres**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>East</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>West</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Northeast</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Northwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Southeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hemispheres**

**Latitude and Longitude**

Maps also have imaginary lines. The lines that run from east to west are called **parallels**. The lines that run from north to south are called **meridians**. Parallels tell us a place's **latitude**. Meridians tell us a place's **longitude**. Each parallel and meridian has a number. These numbers are **degrees**. Once you know the latitude and longitude of a place, you can find it on a map.
Look at the pictures of the globes below. Find the equator and notice how the numbers of degrees get larger as latitude moves further north or south.

It is important to know latitude when searching for a place's location. Latitude tells you where a place is in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere.

As you've learned, the Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere are separated by the prime meridian. The prime meridian is the meridian on a map at zero degrees (0°). It runs from north to south on a map. It runs from the North Pole to the South Pole. Everything on a world map that is left of the prime meridian is in the Western Hemisphere. Everything right of the prime meridian is in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Look at the pictures of the globes to the right. Find the prime meridian in Figure A and the International Date Line in Figure B. Notice how the degrees of longitude increase as you move further away from the prime meridian and closer to the International Dateline.

Just as latitude tells you where a location is in the Southern or Northern Hemisphere, longitude tells you where a location is in the Western or Eastern Hemisphere. If you know a place's latitude and longitude, you can find it no matter where it is in the world.
Chapter 1 The Many Maps of the United States

Symbols for Latitude and Longitude

We use symbols to write latitude and longitude. First, we write the number of degrees of latitude. Then we write either N or S. N stands for north. We write N if the latitude is north of the equator. S stands for south. We write S if the latitude is south of the equator. We write a comma after N or S. Next, we write the number of degrees of longitude. Then we write either E or W. E stands for east. We write E if the longitude is east of the prime meridian. W stands for west. We write W if the longitude is west of the prime meridian.

The table shows some examples of how to write latitude and longitude.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOLS for LATITUDE and LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>° = degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S = Southern Hemisphere</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXAMPLES OF HOW TO WRITE LOCATIONS BASED ON LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Location Written Symbolically</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-three degrees north latitude, Twenty-seven degrees west longitude:</td>
<td>33° N, 27°W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty degrees south latitude, Thirty-five degrees east longitude:</td>
<td>50°S, 35°E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use the map above to answer questions 1–3.

1. How would you write the latitude and longitude for Chicago?

2. List the cities on the map that are north of 30°N.

3. Which of the following cities is in the Southern Hemisphere?
   A. New Orleans   B. Paris
   C. Baghdad       D. Buenos Aires

4. Look at all the maps and symbols one more time. Then look at the statements below. Which three statements best describe the relationship between the Equator and the Prime Meridian?
   A. The Prime Meridian forms the zero degree of latitude
   B. The Equator runs from east to west, completely circling the globe
   C. The Equator runs from north to south, going through the globe like a knife goes through an apple.
   D. The Prime Meridian runs right through the city of Chicago.
   E. The Equator runs right through the city of Washington DC
   F. The Prime Meridian runs through London.
   G. The Prime Meridian forms the zero degree of longitude.
Chapter 1 Key Term Activity

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>globe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>longitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>compass rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>symbols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>national</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>latitude</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maps help you explore the world. If you travel across America, a 1.________________________ map will help you know which state you are in. Knowing which 2.________________________ you are in can help, too. When you travel, a 3.________________________ can help you with directions. Knowing what 4.________________________ on the map mean is helpful as well. If you are studying a 5.________________________, it’s important to know 6.________________________ and 7.________________________. You measure both of these with 8.________________________. There are many parts of making and reading maps which are important.

Key terms are defined in the book’s glossary.
Answers to Key Term Activities and chapter reviews are found in the Teacher’s Guide
Week 1 Day 4
Chapter 2
Regions of the US

Unit One: America the Beautiful
Standards Covered: 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 4.6.1, 4.6.2
Key term activity at the end of the chapter

Places and Regions in the US
Regions of the US
A region is a distinct area of land. The US has 5 separate regions. They are different enough that you cannot mistake one for another. Look at the map of the regions of the US.

The **West** is distinct in size. When you see the Rocky Mountains, you cannot be mistaken. You are in the West. And when you cross the Golden Gate Bridge, there can be no mistake. You are in California. Another way to know you are in the West is through the types of work and labor. Gold mining was once very big in the West. Silver mining has been significant. So have the oil and natural gas industries. But the West is best-known for Silicon Valley, where computer engineers work tirelessly on the latest software.

The **Southwest** is very different from the West. The Southwest is known for its dry climate but also its stunning beauty. When you gaze into the Grand Canyon, you know you are in the Southwest. Even though the Southwest is dry, modern irrigation makes some agriculture possible. Many sheep and cattle ranchers...
live there. And Phoenix, Arizona, has become a capital in technology services.

The Midwest is the land of waterways. It is filled with rivers, lakes, and streams. The Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri Rivers run through the Midwest. The five Great Lakes form its northern part. Between them, Lakes Erie, Ontario, Huron, Michigan, and Superior have more freshwater than any other place on Earth.

The Midwest is known as the Rust Belt. This is because so many major industries thrived there. The automobile industry started in Michigan. Automobile parts stores are still supplied by Midwestern manufacturers. And the Great Lakes mean that the Midwest is filled with fishermen, lumbermen, and people who conduct commerce by water.

The Southeast is known for its forests. It’s a good thing the region has so many trees, because it is hot and humid in the summer. This means the region often has tornadoes, hurricanes, or both. The Southeast borders on the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The Southeast is well-known for its timber resources. But it is also a major source of hydroelectric power. In recent decades, many major companies and corporations have relocated from the Northeast and Midwest to the Southeast.

The Northeast is the most urban of the five sections. When you look at the Empire State Building or the Statue of Liberty, you know you are in the Northeast. It is known for the beauty of its four seasons, but also the bitter cold of its winters. Higher education is one of the major industries of the Northeast. Boston has almost 200 colleges and universities. The Northeast is also known as a center for banking and financial services.

What do the five sections have in common? They make up the United States, and, together with Canada and Mexico, they make up the continent of North America.

**Landforms of the United State**

The Rocky Mountains are well known. But the West also has the Cascade Mountains and the Sierra Nevada. The Southwest does not have many mountains, but large sections, especially in New Mexico and Arizona, are high above sea level. The Appalachian Mountains run through both the Southeast and the Northeast.

The Mississippi River is the best-known river in the nation. But the US also has the Colorado River, the Columbia River, the Missouri River, the Ohio River, and others. All of these rivers run to the oceans. They empty either into the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, or the Gulf of Mexico. What do
the rivers and mountains have in common? They add great beauty to the US. But they are different in one major aspect. Rivers tend to make life and commerce easier, because goods can be transported more rapidly. Mountains tend to make life and commerce harder, because goods have to be carried over them.

There are also some amazing sites and locations. No one wants to miss either the Grand Canyon in the Southwest or Niagara Falls in the Northeast. Some mountain peaks provide incredible views. Manmade wonders include Mount Rushmore, the Golden Gate Bridge, and the Hoover Dam.

Climate and Temperatures of the United States

The US is so big that it has very different weather and temperature. Together, these two make up the climate.

The Northeast has a temperate climate, meaning it is usually either mild or cold in temperature. The Midwest is mostly the same, but the Great Lakes are large enough to change the weather. The Southeast is known as the most humid part of the US, and it has short winters. The Southwest is hot and dry, meaning that water is often scarce. And the West has huge swings in temperature and weather. It can be 95 degrees in Los Angeles and 68 in San Francisco on the same afternoon. And it can be rainy and damp in Seattle and hot and dry in Bozeman, Montana.

States and their Regions

| The West has 8 states:          |                 |
| California | Colorado | Idaho | Montana | Nevada |
| Oregon     | Washington | Wyoming | Utah    |

| The Southwest has 4 states:    |                 |
| Arizona | New Mexico | Oklahoma | Texas |

| The Midwest has 12 states:     |                 |
| Illinois | Indiana | Iowa | Kansas | Nebraska |
| Michigan | Minnesota | Missouri | South Dakota | Wisconsin |
| North Dakota | Ohio | Oklahoma | |

| The Southeast has 12 states:   |                 |
| Alabama | Arkansas | Florida | Georgia |
| Kentucky | Louisiana | Mississippi | North Carolina |
| South Carolina | Tennessse | Virginia | West Virginia |

| The Northeast is composed of 10 states: |                 |
| Connecticut | Delaware | Maine | Maryland |
| Massachusetts | New Hampshire | New Jersey | New York |
| Pennsylvania | Rhode Island | Vermont | The District of Columbia |

And finally there are two other states, Alaska and Hawaii. They do not fit the pattern because they are not part of what we call the Lower 48 States.

Below is a list of major rivers in the United States.

| Mississippi River | The Mississippi runs from Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico. It is the most powerful river in the US |
| Missouri River    | The Missouri runs from Montana and empties into the Mississippi. It is the longest river in the US |
### Ohio River
The Ohio flows from western Pennsylvania and empties into the Mississippi. The word Ohio comes from a Native American language, and it means beautiful river.

### Colorado River
The Colorado runs from the state of Colorado down into northern Mexico. Some people call it the most exciting river in the US because it flows through the Grand Canyon.

### Rio Grande
The Rio Grande forms part of Texas' border with Mexico. It is where the Mexican-American War began in 1846.

### Hudson River
The Hudson flows from upstate New York to empty into the Atlantic Ocean at New York City. Many people call it the most scenic river in the US.

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**Natural Resources**

**Resources** are things you can use. You spend money to buy something. Money is itself a resource for buying what you want. **Natural resources** are resources supplied by nature. Rivers provide water. Iron ore provides metal. Coal is used for fuel. Trees provide lumber to build things. Rich soil allows farmers to grow good crops. Each of Louisiana's regions has many natural resources. So does the US. Look at the map below.

**How Resources Affect Economic Activity**

Different regions have different resources. A region's natural resources affect its economic activity. Places along oceans often rely on fishing and shipping. Places on the plains tend to rely on farming wheat and potatoes. And places in the high mountains sometimes rely on something else. They depend on tourism. People come from far away to ski and to hike in those high mountains.

Louisiana is a special case. The Pelican State borders on the Gulf of Mexico. Many of its people work in fishing. Louisiana produces more crawfish than any other place on Earth. But Louisiana also relies on farming. Cotton, sugarcane, and soybeans are important crops. Cattle, chickens, and dairy products are also important. And Louisiana also has lots of tourists. They come to visit New Orleans and to see the old-style plantations along the Mississippi River. Finally, there is the very unusual case of tabasco sauce. All over the world, people use tabasco sauce to make their food tastier. But only a few of them know that tabasco is produced in only one place. That is Avery Island, Louisiana, where the McIlhenny family has made tabasco for five generations.
Chapter 2  Regions of the U.S.

Practice 1: Places and Regions in the US

1. What is a region? List the five regions of the US.

2. Which three of the following statements are most true about the major rivers of the US?
   A. The Ohio gets its name from a Native American name.
   B. The Columbia is the longest river in the US.
   C. The Mississippi is the most powerful river in the US.
   D. The Hudson runs right past the beautiful city of New Orleans.
   E. The Missouri is the longest river in the US.
   F. The Colorado is very important to the economy of the Northeast.
   G. The Rio Grande forms part of the US boundary with Canada.

3. Look at the map below. The black lines are rivers. Beside each number, write the name of the river with the same number.
   1) 
   2) 
   3) 
   4)
4. Match the region to what it is best known for.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Known for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>A its urban setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>B the size of its natural setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>C the beauty of its natural setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>D its many waterways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>E its many forests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Land Changes**

There are many factors that can change the land around us. Sometimes, humans make changes to the Earth. However, sometimes natural events cause changes as well.

**Erosion**

Erosion happens when wind or water remove soil or rock. This can happen slowly, over many years. Over millions of years, the Colorado River eroded land, forming the Grand Canyon.

**Tectonic Rift**

Under the Earth's surface is the crust. The crust is made up of different pieces. These pieces are called tectonic plates. Tectonic rifts happen when these plates pull apart.

**Volcanic Activity**

Volcanoes are openings in the Earth's surface. They are often part of mountains. Many volcanoes erupt. When volcanoes erupt, they shoot out hot ash or lava. Lava is melted rock. It is a red-hot liquid. When lava cools, it becomes volcanic rock. In 1980, Mt. St. Helen's in Washington state had a severe eruption. The ash cloud was 12 to 16 miles high. The Hawaiian Islands formed from volcanic rock. The islands continue to get bigger because volcanic eruptions still happen in Hawaii.

**Climate Change**

Climate change affects the Earth's surface and atmosphere. Sometimes, the Earth's climate is colder. Millions of years ago, the Ice Age left most of the world frozen. Ice connected Asia and North America. When it melted, Asia and North American separated. Today, the Earth's climate is believed to be getting warmer. There are different ideas about what is causing this. Air pollution from burning coal and oil for energy collects in the atmosphere. Normally the Sun's rays hit the Earth and bounce back into space. With increasing pollution, the Sun's rays cannot escape into space. The pollution traps the heat and causes our planet to get hotter. This is called global warming.

Some scientists believe that global warming is causing the world's ice to melt. The glaciers in the North Pole are getting smaller. They also think it is causing storms and changes in weather. Summers are getting hotter, and there are more severe storms happening each year. Many people think that the way people live is causing global warming. They think things like air pollution from cars and factories cause the climate to get too warm.
Week 1 Day 5
Natural Disasters

A disaster is an event that happens suddenly and causes great losses. Forces of nature such as storms and earthquakes can cause natural disasters. Sometimes they are very dangerous. People can get hurt or even killed.

Types of Storms

Severe Thunderstorms

Serious storms are natural disasters. Severe thunderstorms can cause flooding and strong wind. Hail could happen during a severe thunderstorm. Hail is small bits of ice that fall during a storm. It can damage cars and buildings. It can also cause dangerous lightning strikes.

Tornadoes

Tornadoes often occur in the Midwest and South. Tornadoes happen when the wind begins to spin. A funnel cloud forms and touches the ground. Tornadoes move fast over the land. At the same time, they spin up to 300 miles per hour. The strongest tornado is called an F5. Tornadoes destroy homes and cities. They can kill or seriously hurt people. Tornadoes form quickly. They strike fast. People usually only have a few minutes of warning before a tornado hits. The Midwest is called Tornado Alley because many tornadoes strike here.

Hurricanes

Hurricanes threaten places near the coast. They are storms that form over the ocean. Their winds are stronger than seventy-five miles per hour. Most hurricanes that hit the United States strike the south Atlantic and Gulf Coast area. They also can hit the West Coast. Hurricanes destroy property and cause flooding. They can seriously hurt people, too. Thanks to weather reports, people usually know a hurricane is coming several days before it strikes. Hurricanes are named and placed into categories by how strong they are. The strongest is a Category 5.

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi. It caused horrible damage along the Gulf Coast. Much of New Orleans flooded. Many people died or were left homeless. Hurricane Katrina showed how powerful and dangerous hurricanes can be.

Earthquakes

Earthquakes happen when parts of the Earth’s crust move. Some earthquakes are small. People can barely feel them. Other earthquakes are big. People can feel the ground shaking. Some earthquakes even cause buildings and bridges to fall. Earthquakes can cause tsunamis to form in the ocean. The strength of an earthquake is measured in magnitude. In 1906, a 7.8 earthquake struck San Francisco. It nearly destroyed the entire city.
New techniques in hydraulic fracturing have been a good for the oil and natural gas industries. However, many believe they are having an impact on the increase of earthquakes in Oklahoma and in other areas of the country.

**Tsunamis**

Tsunamis are giant waves. They strike places along the ocean coast. Some tsunamis hit the West Coast. Alaska and Hawaii are places in the United States that sometimes get hit by tsunamis, but a tsunami could possibly reach California, Oregon, and Washington state.

Tsunamis can be caused by different things. Sometimes they are caused by earthquakes that happen under the ocean. Other times they are caused by pieces of land that break away and fall into the ocean.

Tsunamis are very dangerous. Most waves crash on a beach and then return to the ocean. Tsunamis are different. They have more force. They keep coming even after they reach the beach. Tsunamis bury everything in their path in water. Some reach several miles into shore before they stop. A large and destructive tsunami struck the coast of Japan's largest island in 2011.

**Floods and Wildfires**

Floods happen when water rises and covers areas that are normally dry. Heavy storms and hurricanes can cause flooding. People who live along rivers worry about floods. Lots of rain can cause rivers to rise. If rivers rise above their banks, areas around the river will flood. When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, the storm caused levees to break. When the levees broke, parts of New Orleans flooded.

Wildfires are fires that burn out of control. Sometimes, people start fires. Campfires, old cigarettes, and other things can start fires. Many fires start naturally. Lightning strikes can cause fires. When weather is dry and winds are strong, fires can spread fast. Sometimes people must leave their homes to escape wildfires.

### Practice 2: Land Changes

1. What is erosion? How does it help form the land?
2. Which natural disaster would most likely affect New Orleans?
   A. wildfire
   B. tornado
   C. earthquake
   D. Hurricane

3. People in Kansas and Ohio are probably most afraid of which natural disaster?
   A. tsunamis
   B. wildfires
   C. tornadoes
   D. earthquakes

4. Which three of the following statements are most accurate concerning severe weather?
   A. Most parts of the US receive some kind of severe weather during a typical year. These could include snow, rain, hail, severe heat, severe cold, hurricanes, earthquakes, or tornadoes.
   B. Almost no parts, or sections, of the US receive severe weather during a typical year.
   C. Of all sections, or parts, of the US, the South and Southeast receive the most severe threat from hurricanes and tornadoes combined.
   D. Of all sections, or parts, of the US, California and the West Coast experience the least threat from forest fires.
   E. Of all sections, or parts, of the US, the Midwest receives the least in terms of threat from severe weather.
   F. Of all sections, or parts, of the US, the Southwest experiences the most rainfall.
   G. Hurricane Katrina, which made landfall in 2005, was an extreme case of extreme weather, and the results were catastrophic for the city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana.

5. Describe two historical examples of humans impacting their region. Give one positive and one negative example.
Chapter 2 Key Term Activity

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>erosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>floods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hurricanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tornadoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>volcano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wildfires</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many events affect the Earth’s surface. Some processes are slow. 1. ________________ formed the Grand Canyon. It took millions of years. Some changes are faster.

A(n) 2. ________________ can change the land quickly because of lava. Weather can also change the land. A(n) 3. ________________ can destroy trees and buildings quickly. On the coasts, 4. ________________ damage beaches. Levees and rivers can change because of 5. ________________. Entire forests can disappear because of 6. ________________.

Key terms are defined in the book’s glossary.
Answers to Key Term Activities and chapter reviews are found in the Teacher’s Guide.