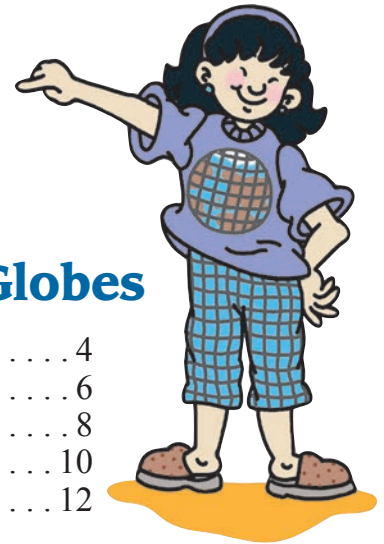


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How do you decode a map or globe?

Maps use colors, names, lines, and shapes as symbols. Different maps use different symbols.

- ◆ The **legend** tells a map's story by helping you decode its symbols.
- ◆ Some people call the legend a **key** because it helps unlock the map's meaning.
- ◆ Always check the map title first, and then read the rest of the legend.
- ◆ Look for other clues right on the map or globe.



Title

The title is your first clue to what the map or globe is about.

Symbols

Different lettering styles mean different things.

Boundary lines show where one place ends and another begins.

City symbols show where cities are located.

Continents and Oceans

PACIFIC OCEAN	Ocean
NORTH AMERICA	Continent
CANADA	Country
—	International boundary
● Bogota	City

Scale

0 250 500 750 1000 miles

1 inch stands for 880 miles

On this globe, what do the land colors show?

Scale

The scale allows us to estimate real distances on the earth.

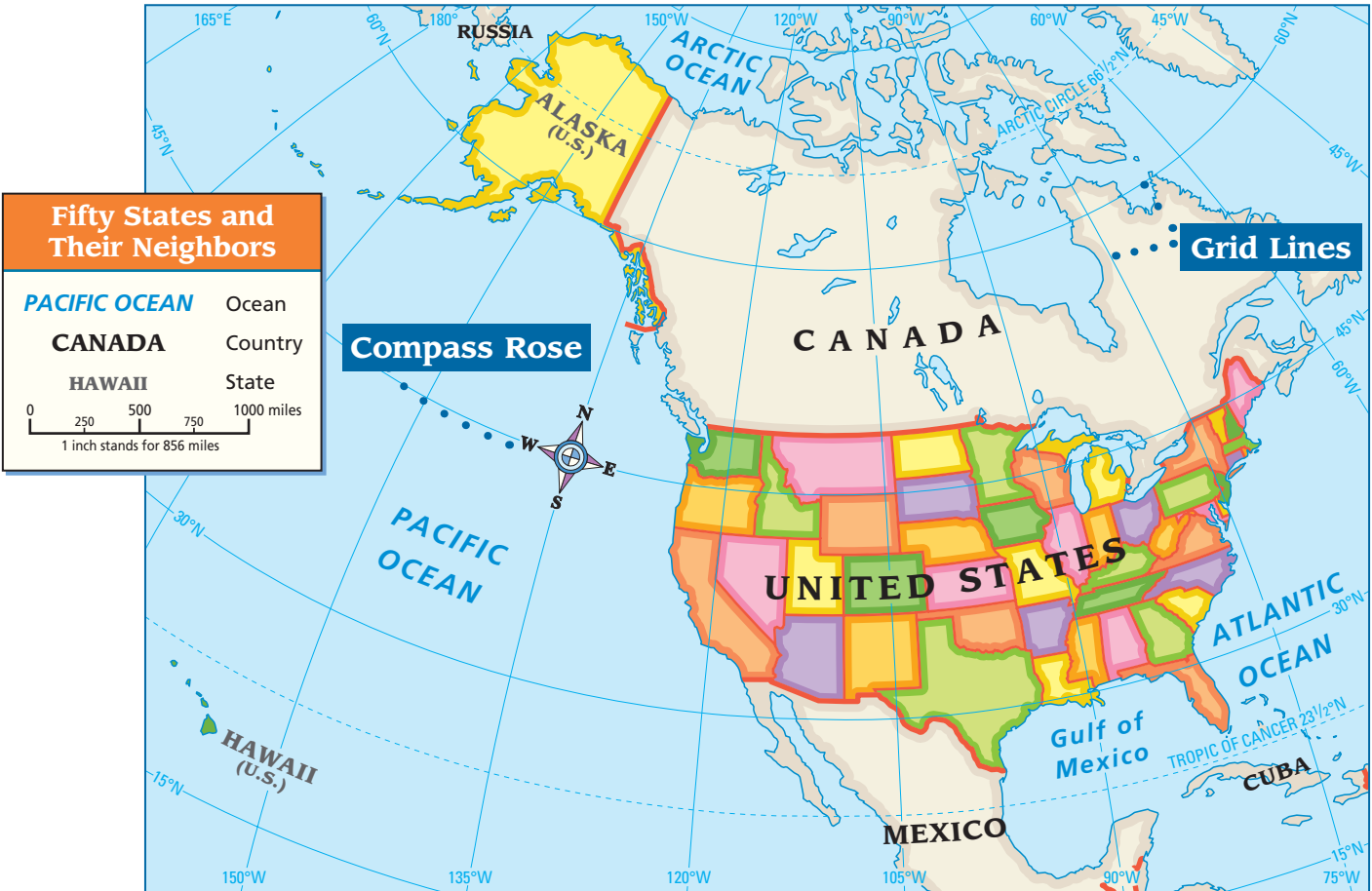
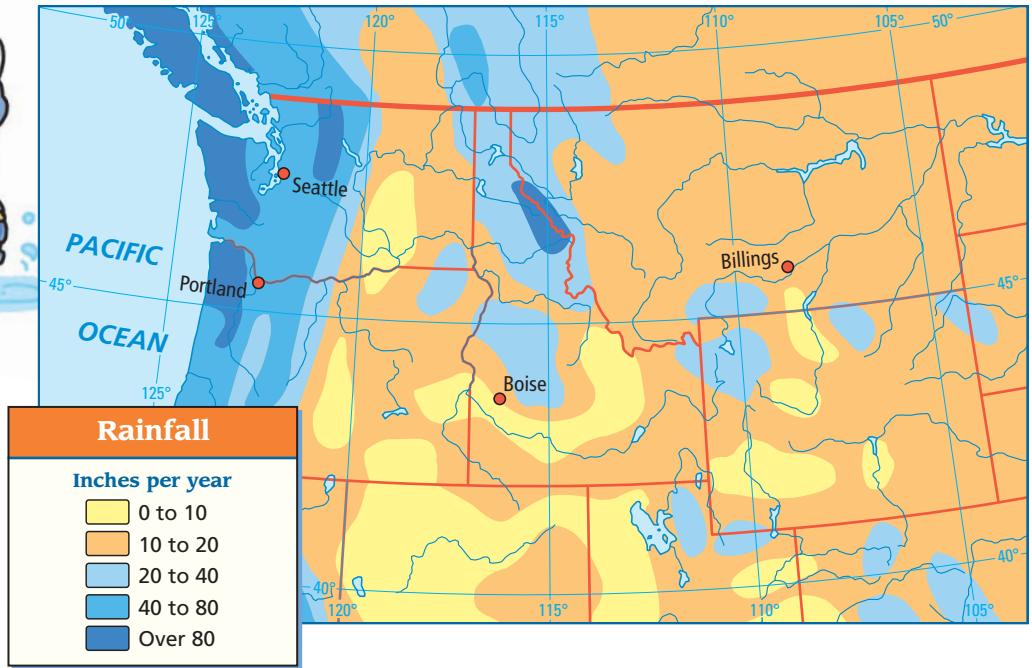


What do the land colors show on this map?





Judging from the title, what do the colors on this map stand for?



A **compass rose** is the name for a set of pointers that show directions. The lines that crisscross maps or globes form a pattern called a **grid**. Later you will learn how to use these map clues for directions and locations.

South Central Region

Major Landforms

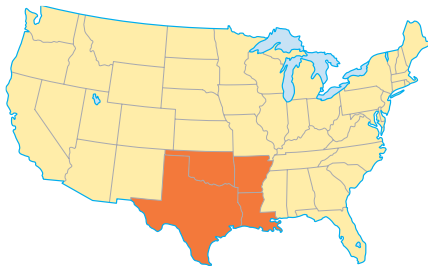
- Gulf Coastal Plain
- Ozark Plateau
- Great Plains
- Llano Estacado

Major Bodies of Water

- Gulf of Mexico
- Mississippi River
- Rio Grande
- Red River

Interesting Regional Fact

Texas is the largest of the 48 contiguous states.



Big Bend National Park, in Texas along the Rio Grande, is in the dry western part of the region. Other parts are rainy.





Oil and natural gas are important resources in the economy of the South Central Region.



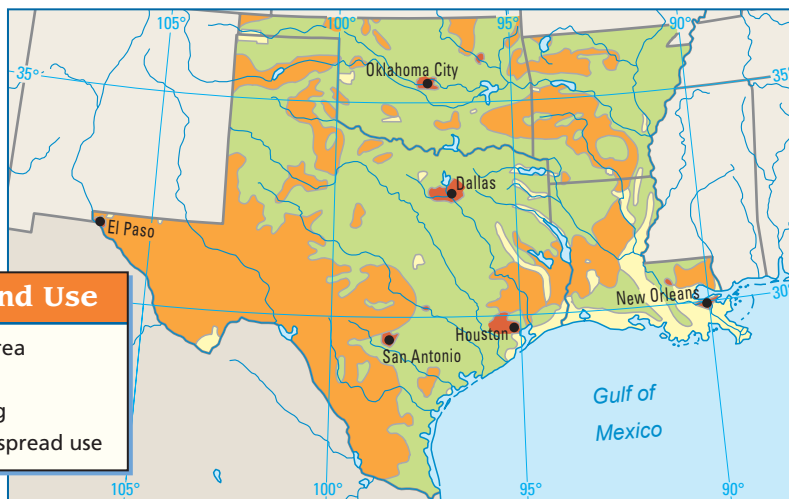
The wetlands of the Delta of the Mississippi River extend from the Gulf Coastal Plain into the Gulf of Mexico.



Mardi Gras is a yearly festival in New Orleans.



Major Landforms



Major Land Use

- Urban area
- Farming
- Ranching
- No widespread use