

Watermelon Vines Spread Across the U.S.

U.S. Regions

Student Worksheet for Middle School Geography

Objective:

Distinguish between the different regions in the U.S.

Materials:

- Political outline maps of United States
- Colored pencils

Introduction:

Watermelons are grown in 44 states, and the U.S. now ranks 9th in worldwide production of watermelon.



Locate these regions and shade each one in with a different color on your map.

Pacific

Washington
Oregon
California
Alaska
Hawaii

South Central

Oklahoma
Texas
Arkansas
Louisiana

Mountain

Arizona
Colorado
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Utah
Wyoming

Southeastern

Kentucky
West Virginia
Maryland
Virginia
Tennessee
North Carolina
South Carolina
Mississippi
Alabama
Georgia
Florida

1. In which state do you **think** most watermelons are grown? (There are no incorrect answers.) Write your answer below.

Two - three hundred varieties of watermelons are grown in the U.S. and Mexico. Fifty popular varieties are grown regionally, with only a few produced on a national scale.

2. *These are the top five watermelon-producing states.*

Locate the states in the table on your map. Outline them and write how many pounds of watermelon are produced in each one on each state on the map.

2019 (thousand pounds)	
Florida	906,500
Georgia	822,900
Texas	667,000
California	510,000
Arizona	252,500

3. **A region is an area with common features that set it apart from other surrounding areas.** The top five watermelon-producing states are located in four different regions.

4. Describe what you **think** these four regions are like. (For example, mountainous or flat, etc.) Write your answers below.

California, or the golden state, is a Pacific State. The Pacific States is a mountainous region, with beaches and coastlines, thick green forests and hot, dry deserts.

Texas, a South Central State, is often called the lone star state. The South Central States have large areas of flat land. They are known for rich deposits of oil, found beneath the surface of land and ocean floor.

The Grand Canyon state, or Arizona, is a Mountain State. Mountain States include some of the highest mountain peaks in the U.S. as well as desert lands and plains.

Florida is the sunshine state, and Georgia is called the empire state of the south. Both are Southeastern States with long jagged coastlines, valleys, rivers and deep pine forests.

Extension: Research remaining U.S. regions.