

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Regions of Arizona



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/aa/Physiographic\\_regions\\_of\\_Arizona.svg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/aa/Physiographic_regions_of_Arizona.svg)

## Arizona is made up three different regions:

- Colorado Plateau: this is a mostly flat area located in northern and eastern Arizona. The region is semi-arid, meaning somewhat dry and mostly flat. The southern border of the region is marked by the Mogollon Rim, a large rock cliff that extends for almost 200 miles.
- The Transition Zone: this region is located in the middle between the Colorado Plateau and the Basin and Range regions. There are mountains and valleys throughout this region. This region receives the most rain.
- The Basin and Range Province: this region is located in the south and west of Arizona. It is the largest region too. Here you will find mountain ranges and deserts. There are also large copper deposits found here. Many of the state's larger cities are located here.

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# Regions of Arizona Sources

This is a physical map that shows the three regions of Arizona. A physical map is a map that shows the different features of a place like rivers, mountains, forests and lakes. The features are usually shown in different colors. For example, mountains and plateaus are shown in shades of brown.



<http://www.arizonaadventures.com/arizona/blog/reference-guide/arizona-physiographic-regions/>

This is a photograph of the Colorado River at Horseshoe Bend, Arizona. It is located in the Colorado Plateau region of Arizona. This region occupies the north and eastern part of the state. It covers over 140,000 square miles. The climate is slightly dry, meaning that it does not get a lot of rain. There are many different landforms here including deserts, canyons and plateaus.



[https://kids.kiddle.co/Image:Horseshoe\\_Bend\\_TC\\_27-09-2012\\_15-34-14.jpg](https://kids.kiddle.co/Image:Horseshoe_Bend_TC_27-09-2012_15-34-14.jpg)

This is a photograph of the Painted Desert in Arizona. This landform is located in the northwestern part of the state in the Colorado Plateau region. Deserts are one of three landforms found in Arizona. Desert areas are among the driest places on Earth. This is because very little rain falls here. Days can be very hot, while nights are cool. Many of the deserts in Arizona have no sand. Instead, the soil is rocky and filled with clay. The Painted Desert received its name from the Spanish conquistadors who thought the many brightly colored rocks and soil looked like a painting.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Painted\\_Desert\\_\(Arizona\)#/media/File:The\\_Painted\\_Desert.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Painted_Desert_(Arizona)#/media/File:The_Painted_Desert.JPG)

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# Regions of Arizona Sources

This is a photograph of the Grand Canyon, one of Arizona's most famous landmarks. The Grand Canyon is also located in the Colorado Plateau region. A canyon is a deep and narrow valley. Canyons are made from rivers that wear away the rock. Canyons are also very steep, or high. There are many canyons throughout Arizona. The Grand Canyon is the largest one of all.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand\\_Canyon#/media/File:Grand\\_Canyon\\_view\\_from\\_Pima\\_Point\\_2010.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Canyon#/media/File:Grand_Canyon_view_from_Pima_Point_2010.jpg)

This is a photograph of Humphreys Peak, located in the Coconino National Park in the Colorado Plateau region. Humphreys Peak is part of the San Francisco Peaks, a mountain range created from old volcanoes. Standing at 12,633 feet, the mountain marks the highest point in Arizona and is one of the highest mountain peaks outside of the Rocky Mountains.



[https://kids.kiddle.co/Image:Humphreys\\_Peak\\_western\\_side.jpg](https://kids.kiddle.co/Image:Humphreys_Peak_western_side.jpg)

This is a photograph of a forest of ponderosa pine trees in the Grand Canyon National Park area. The Colorado Plateau receives enough rain for trees and forests to live. One of the largest areas of Ponderosa pines is found in the Coconino National Forest, home to the largest stand or forest of Ponderosa Pine trees in the world.



<https://www.mygrandcanyonpark.com/things-to-do/giant-saguaros-and-more>

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# Regions of Arizona Sources

This is a photograph of the Mogollon Rim that forms the southernmost boundary between the Colorado Plateau region and the Transition Zone region. The Mogollon Rim stretches across the state of Arizona for almost 200 miles and ends near the border of New Mexico. This feature is known as an escarpment, or steep rock cliff of limestone and sandstone.



[https://kids.kiddle.co/Image:Mogollon\\_Rim\\_east\\_of\\_Pine.jpg](https://kids.kiddle.co/Image:Mogollon_Rim_east_of_Pine.jpg)

This is a photograph of the Superstition Mountains, located in the Transition Zone of Arizona. This region is found in the central part of the state. This area is called the Transition Zone because it links the the Colorado Plateau region with the Basin and Range Province. The Transition Zone shares physical features from both of these regions such as mountains like the one show above and deserts.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f4/SUPERSTITIONS\\_AZ15.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f4/SUPERSTITIONS_AZ15.jpg)

This is a photograph of one of the many escarpments that are found in the Transition Zone region. An escarpment is a steep rock cliff. Besides mountains and cliffs, the Transition Zone has many deep valleys. The climate here can vary from place to place. Compared to the other two regions, this area receives the most rainfall.



<https://arizonageologicalsoc.org/resources/Pictures/Field%20Trip%20Photos/Oatmanarea.jpg>

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# Regions of Arizona Sources

This is a photograph of the Sonoran Desert one of the largest deserts in the American Southwest. It is a part of the Basin and Range Province in Arizona, located in the south and western part of Arizona. This region consists of very high mountains and low-lying desert areas. The Sonoran Desert is one of the hottest deserts in the United States. Very little rain falls here. The days are very hot, though the nights can be cool. In the distance can be seen one of the many mountain ranges that are found here too.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/82/Sonoran\\_Desert\\_33.081359\\_n112.431507.JPG](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/82/Sonoran_Desert_33.081359_n112.431507.JPG)

This is a photograph of a Saguaro cactus that is found in the Sonoran Desert in Arizona. The cactus is native to the Sonoran Desert. This means that it originated in this area. The cactus can grow over 50 feet in some places and can measure up to 30 inches in diameter. They grow slowly; sometimes it can take 75 years for a single arm to grow out. The Saguaro can live for as long as 200 years! These cacti also bloom and their flower is the state flower of Arizona.



<https://www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery-item.htm?pg=1937068&id=D05980D4-155D-451F-67F44BB12868B36D&gid=D0377EAB-155D-451F-67573A9D0FD80A08>

This region includes a number of large mountain ranges such as the Rincon Mountains shown here. The Rincon Mountains are one of five mountain ranges that surround the Tucson valley. Some of the mountain peaks here are more than 6000 feet above sea level. Forests of ponderosa pine trees are found here growing high up in the mountains.



<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/d/dd/RinconFromMescalRd.jpg>

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# Steps to Create a Map

## Step 1: Learn about Regions in Arizona

Review the Handout: The Regions of Arizona and Handout: Regions of Arizona Sources. Study closely the different regions and their characteristics. This will help in planning your map.

## Step 2: Choose a Region in Arizona

You will now choose a region of Arizona where you would like to bury your treasure. You will need to create a map of your region that includes characteristics of that region. This will include landforms and water resources.

- Remember that a landform is a feature found on the surface. Examples of landforms include mountains, hills, plateaus, and plains. Other landforms include canyons, valleys, and basins. Water resources include rivers, streams, and lakes.

- **The region I choose to make a map of is:** \_\_\_\_\_

- **The characteristics of the region I chose include are:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Step 3: Decide Where to Bury your Treasure

Next, you need to decide where you will bury your treasure. You can bury your treasure anywhere within the region you chose. For example, "I will bury my treasure between the bend in the river and the mountain." Describe where you will bury your treasure below.

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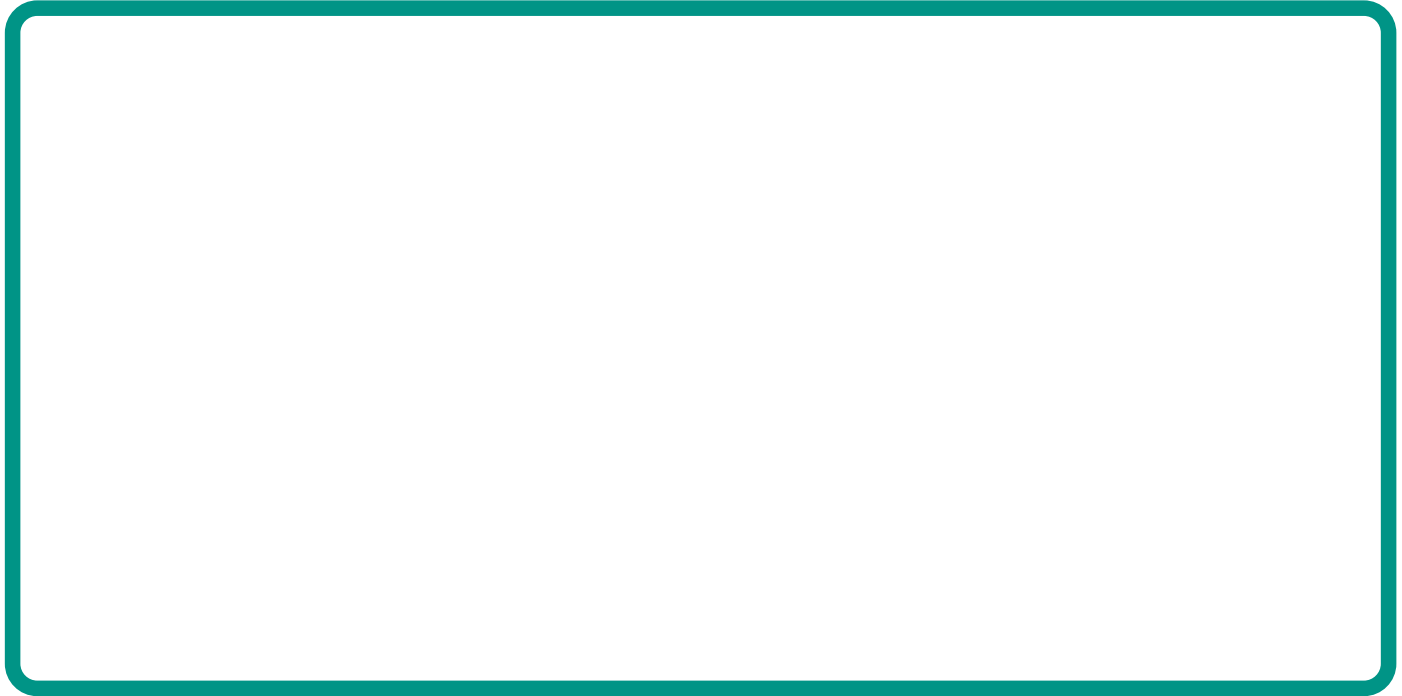
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#### **Step 4: Create a Map Key**

You will now create a key for your map. Your key needs to include the following:

- Minimum of 4 symbols (each symbol should be a drawing or sketch)
- An explanation about what each symbol means (e.g., a black triangle = a mountain)
- A compass drawing, showing which way is North on your map

Create your key in the box below:

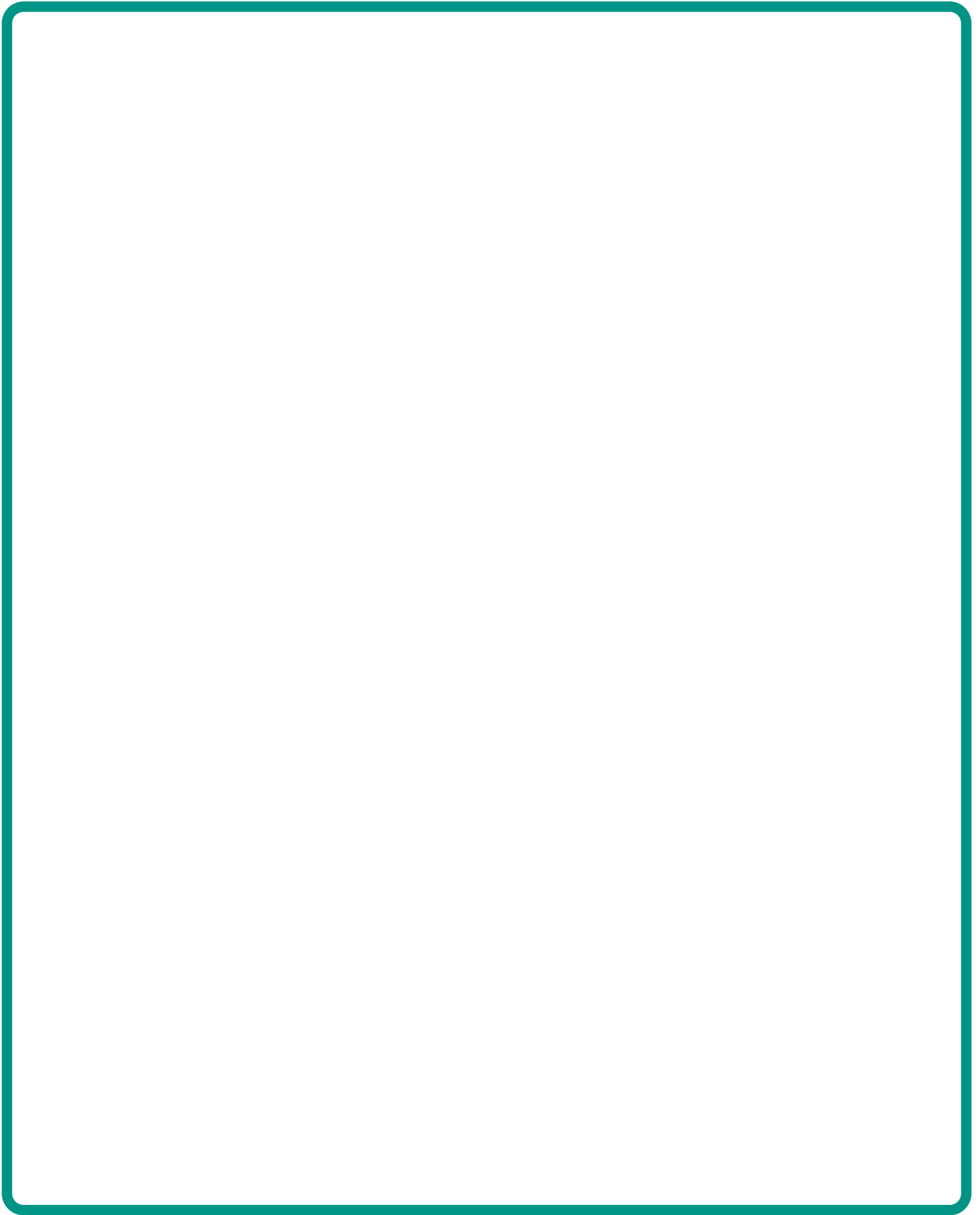


#### **Step 5: Draw Out Map**

Use the space on the next page or another piece to draw your map. Be sure to use the symbols from your key to show where landmarks are.

- Note: Do not label the names of your landmarks, that will give away what region you mapped out! It is ok to show where a mountain is, but not ok to label the mountain name. When you are done, cut out your key and glue it somewhere on your map or on the back.
- Note: Don't forget to leave a space for your compass drawing somewhere on your map.

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# Looking for Treasure

Switch maps, keys, and clues with your partner. Follow the steps to look for your partner's buried treasure!

## Step 1: Identify the Region

Look at the map and read through the clues. Decide which region of Arizona you are looking at. Write your guess below:

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Have your partner check your guess. If you were right, move on to step 2. If you were wrong, try again.

## Step 2: Find the Buried Treasure

Read through the clues again. Decide where you think the buried treasure is located. Write your guess below:

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Have your partner check your guess. If you were right, wait for the rest of the class to finish. If you were wrong, try again.

