

Activity One: California – Everything You Need, Right in Your Own Backyard

Did You Know?

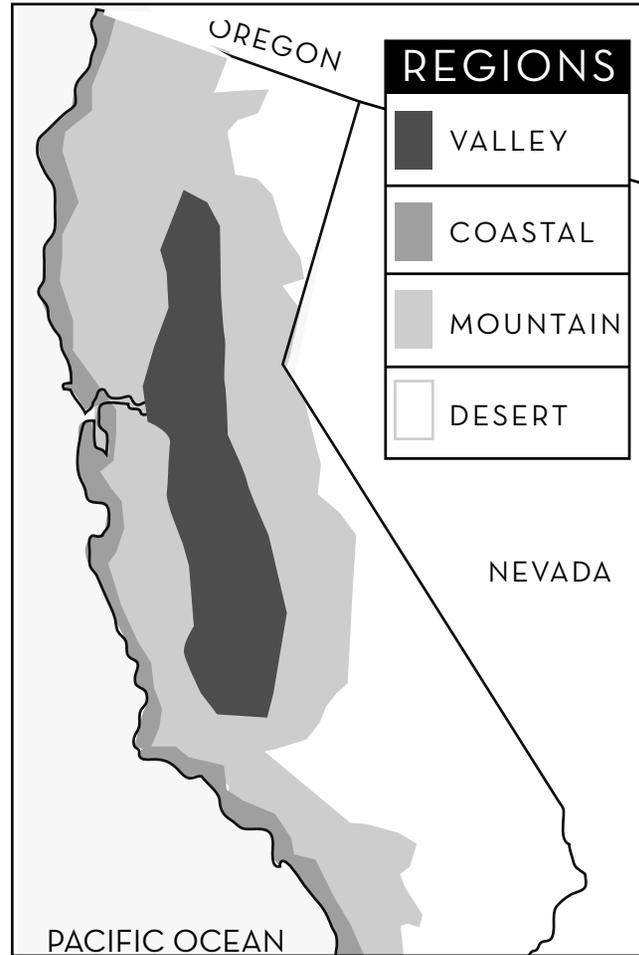
When people think of California, they probably think of sunshine, beaches, palm trees, and maybe even movie stars. But California has much more to offer. Things that the rest of the country and the world use every day are grown right here in our own state. In fact, you can have many – if not all—of your daily needs met using only California products.

Fruits, vegetables, meat, seafood, flowers and lumber are among California’s many homegrown products. Make a list of how we use these products. Your teacher will keep track of your answers.

California has many different climates. The northern coastal area near the ocean is cool and wet; the southern area near the ocean is warm; the mountain areas give water to farms from the melting snow; and the desert area is hot and dry. These different climates and areas allow us to grow different things.

Related Websites:

- www.50states.com
- www.californiagrown.org
- www.cfaitc.org
- www.visitcalifornia.com



VALLEY - Asparagus, Cherries, Citrus, Figs, Garlic, Kiwifruit, Nectarines, Peaches, Plums, Olives, Pears, Poultry, Raisins, and Table Grapes

COASTAL - Avocados, Fish/Aquaculture, Cut Flowers, Citrus, Salmon and Strawberries

MOUNTAIN - Forest and Pears

DESERT - Asparagus, Garlic and Table Grapes

Let's Get Ready

You are going to do an activity where you will make an entire meal using only California grown products. You can make any meal or snack but the food you use must be California grown. You will work alone and use the information above to do this activity.

Get Busy

Use the plate below to create your meal.

What did you make? What kind of food did you use? Were you able to make something with just California grown products? When you are finished, share what you made with the students at your table.

Keep Going

Tonight when you are eating dinner, look at your plate; how many items are from California?

When you are making your lunch or after school snack, try to make it from California grown products.

Think about your favorite meal, snack, or product. Where in California would you have to visit to see where it is grown?

