

FOURTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES  
United States Regions Project

# PACK YOUR BAGS, YOU'RE GOING ON VACATION!

**OVERVIEW:**

We have been learning that our country is divided into 5 main regions: West, Southwest, Middle West, Northeast, and Southeast. You have been assigned one region of the United States. Your assignment is to research and share information about your region in the form of virtual "suitcase."

**RESOURCES:**

To complete your assignment, you need FACTS about your region. You can use the charts we created together in class and the handouts you received. You may also conduct research on your own, from library books or from the Internet.

**FORMAT:** *We will discuss this in depth in class.*

1. You will receive a "suitcase" (manila folder.)
2. On the front of your folder, you should write:  
"My Trip to the [Name of Your Topic] Region of the United States!"  
It should be large letters, colorful, and neat.
3. Inside Left -- You should write a letter to your teacher ("Dear Mrs. McCarthy") about your trip to your region, and tape or glue it to the folder. Include any interesting details about things you would see or do during a visit to this part of the country. Think about special places you might visit, and include some interesting facts you have learned about the region during your research.
4. Inside Right- You should complete the foldable page that was given to you in class. On this page, you should label the states on the outline map, and fill in the spots for natural resources, topography (landforms, such as lakes, rivers, mountains, etc.) and climate.
5. You can fill the folder with any other items that someone might bring home as souvenirs from a trip. Be creative! You could include "photographs" (illustrations) of yourself in special places in the region. You could design some "bumper stickers" to advertise places you have visited. Use your imagination.
6. Your grade will be based on the level of effort demonstrated in your final project, as well as on the progress shown in class each day. I encourage you to have fun with this assignment, do your best work and remember neatness and accuracy.

## HAVE A GREAT TRIP!

Your virtual suitcase is due on: \_\_\_\_\_.

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**EXTRA CREDIT Project**  
Guidelines

Your region virtual suitcase is a required assignment. The extra credit project is an **optional** assignment. Whether or not you choose to extend your experience with the material is up to you.

EXTRA CREDIT:

**How can you teach the class about  
your region in an interesting way?**

The format of the assignment is up to you. Some options include:

- Share with us a food unique to this region.
- Make a Powerpoint presentation.
- Interview someone who lives in this region.
- Teach us about a special tradition or landmark unique to this area.
- Bring in something that originated in this region, and explain its significance to the class.
- Write a full-length report about the region.
- SURPRISE US – come up with your own idea!

This project is intended to be fun, but it is also meant to be a learning experience. Understand your topic. Be prepared to share with the class, and help us learn more about the region of the U.S. you have been assigned.

Your extra credit project is due on: \_\_\_\_\_.