

# Alberta's Geography

Big Picture: The students will create digital scrapbook displaying the major geographic, vegetative regions, bodies of water and landforms of Alberta. They will choose 2 regions to explore in depth. The students will then present their scrapbook to all the students of their class. You may want to model this like a science fair. They will also learn to cite digital references by numbering pictures and information from the net then listing with URLs on the last page of project. E.g.

1. Map of Alberta <http://www.cgkids.ca/cgkids/maps.asp>

SOCIAL STUDIES - General Outcome:

4.1 Alberta: A Sense of the Land – students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how elements of physical geography, climate, geology and paleontology are integral to the landscapes and environment of Alberta.

**Values and Attitudes - Specific Outcomes:**

4.1.1 The students will value Alberta's physical geography and natural environment

**Knowledge and Understanding - Specific Outcomes:**

4.1.2 The students will critically examine the physical geography of Alberta by exploring and reflecting.

4.1.3 The students will critically examine how geology and paleontology contribute to knowledge of Alberta's physical geography.

4.1.4 The students will analyze how Albertans interact with their environment.

Skills and Processes For Grade 4

**Dimensions of Thinking**

4.S.1 Students will develop skills of critical thinking and creative thinking

4.S.3 Students will develop skills of geographic thinking

**Research for Deliberative Inquiry**

4.S.7 The students will apply the research process

**Communication**

4.S.8 The students will demonstrate skills of oral, written and visual literacy

4.S.9 The students will develop skills of media literacy

ITC Outcomes: These are used in all aspects of the project.

**Category: Communicating, Inquiring, Decision Making and Problem Solving**

- C1.2.1 access and retrieve appropriate information from the Internet by using a specific search path or from given uniform resource locations
- C1.2.2 organize information gathered from the Internet, or an electronic source, by selecting and recording the data in logical files or categories; and by communicating effectively, through appropriate forms, such as speeches, reports and multimedia presentations, applying information technologies that serve particular audiences and purposes
- C6.2.2 use data gathered from a variety of electronic sources to address identified problems

**Category: Foundational Operations, Knowledge and Concepts**

- F3.2.2 work collaboratively to share limited resources
- F3.2.4 document sources obtained electronically, such as web site addresses

**Category: Processes for Productivity**

- P1.2.2 edit and format text to clarify and enhance meaning, using such word processing features as the thesaurus, find/change, text alignment, font size and font style
- P3.2.2 access available databases for images to support communication
- P4.2.2 vary font size and font style, and placement of text and graphics in order to create a certain visual effect

## Preparation of Digital Scrapbook

1. Students need to have these basic skills:
  - able to copy and past text and pictures
  - able to identify the audience and therefore use appropriate font style and size
  - able to open and save projects
  - able to basically use Publisher or PowerPoint
  - able to move pages around inside the project
  - able to find clipart offered by program used
  - able to access and use a hotlist
2. Review with the students the necessity of citing all sources of pictures and information and set the page up first so as they research they can easily cite the sources.
3. Discuss with students the background they are able to choose. Is a busy background each to read? Do the font colour and background work well together?
4. Use of voice-over is encouraged if available at your school. Consider a Podcast.

## A. Prior Knowledge Discussion:

- Where is Alberta located in relation to the other provinces and territories of Canada?
- What are the major geographical and natural vegetation regions, landforms and bodies of water in Alberta? (e.g., prairie region, forests, rivers, hoodoos, Rocky Mountains, oil sands?)
- What are the significant natural resources in Alberta and where are they located (e.g., mineral deposits, coal, natural gas and oil, forests)?
- What geological features make Alberta unique (e.g., hoodoos, rocky Mountains, foothills, oil sands)?
- How are Alberta's Provincial Parks, protected areas and the National Parks in Alberta important to the sustainability of Alberta's natural environment?

B. Discuss how students are going to make a digital scrap book showing the diverse regions within Alberta. They can look at this site to see a digital scrapbook: <http://www.khiba.com/PSP/Fall04/>

C. First Page: Where is Alberta located in relation to the other provinces and territories of Canada?  
<http://www.cgkids.ca/cgkids/cgkids.asp>

D. Second Page: What are the major geographical and natural vegetation regions, landforms and bodies of water in Alberta? Find a map of Alberta showing different regions.  
<http://www.cgkids.ca/cgkids/cgkids.asp>

E. Third Page and Fourth Page: Choose one region and explore and find information for your scrapbook. E.g. Prairie, Parkland, Hoodoos, Oil Sands etc.. What are the major geographical, natural vegetation regions, landforms and bodies of water in the region? What are the significant natural resources within the region? What geological features make region unique? This is where you will research information and save pictures for your scrapbook. Don't forget to look in your text book for information and pictures to scan.  
<http://www.raysweb.net/specialplaces/pages/places.html>  
<http://www.albertasource.ca/aoe/ui/index.aspx>

F. Fourth Page and Fifth Page: Choose another region and explore and find information for your scrapbook. E.g. Prairie, Parkland, Hoodoos, Oil Sands. What are the major geographical, natural vegetation regions, landforms and bodies of water in region? What are the significant natural resources within the region? What geological features make the region unique? This is where you will research information and save pictures for your scrapbook. Don't forget to look in your text book for information and pictures to scan.  
<http://www.2learn.ca/Alberta/>  
<http://www.albertasource.ca/aoe/ui/index.aspx>

G. Sixth Page: How are Alberta's Provincial Parks, protected areas and the National Parks in Alberta important to the sustainability of Alberta's natural environment? List reasons for your answer to the question based on the research you have completed.

H. Seventh Page: A list of numbers and URLs used in the production of this journal typed in script, double spaced and aged. Also site any pages from your textbook the same way.

	Three	Two	One	Insufficient
Construction of the Digital Scrapbook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- layout makes information very easy to read</li> <li>- outstanding set up (background, font)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- layout makes information easy to read</li> <li>- satisfactory set up (background, font)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- with support layout makes information readable</li> <li>- with support set up appropriate (background, font)</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate
Page One: Alberta In Relation To Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- map chosen very clearly shows Alberta's location in relation to the provinces in Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- map chosen clearly shows Alberta's location in relation to the provinces in Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- with support map chosen shows Alberta's location in relation to the provinces in Canada</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate
Page Two: Major Geographical Regions of Alberta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- map chosen very clearly shows major geographical regions in Alberta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- map chosen clearly shows major geographical regions in Alberta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- with support map chosen shows major geographical regions in Alberta</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate
Page Three and Four: In-depth Study Of One Region <b>X2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- list of natural resources very clearly identified in the chosen region</li> <li>- natural vegetation region is very clearly identified</li> <li>- landforms of the region are very clearly identified'</li> <li>- bodies of water of the region are very clearly identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- list of natural resources clearly identified in the chosen region</li> <li>- natural vegetation region is clearly identified</li> <li>- landforms of the region are clearly identified'</li> <li>- bodies of water of the region are clearly identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- with support list of natural resources clearly identified in the chosen region</li> <li>- with support natural vegetation region is clearly identified</li> <li>- with support landforms of the region are clearly identified'</li> <li>- with support bodies of water of the region are clearly identified</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate
Page Five and Six: In-depth Study Of One Region <b>X2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- list of natural resources very clearly identified in the chosen region</li> <li>- natural vegetation region is very clearly identified</li> <li>- landforms of the region are very clearly identified'</li> <li>- bodies of water of the region are very clearly identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- list of natural resources clearly identified in the chosen region</li> <li>- natural vegetation region is clearly identified</li> <li>- landforms of the region are clearly identified'</li> <li>- bodies of water of the region are clearly identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- with support list of natural resources clearly identified in the chosen region</li> <li>- with support natural vegetation region is clearly identified</li> <li>- with support landforms of the region are clearly identified'</li> <li>- with support bodies of water of the region are clearly identified</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate
Page Six: Provincial Parks, Protected Area and Alberta's National Parks <b>X2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- several reasons are very clearly identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- few reasons are clearly identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- with support a couple of reasons are identified</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate
Citations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- every picture or information search from Internet or books is cited</li> <li>- numbers clearly displayed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- most pictures or information searches from Internet or books are cited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- few pictures or information searches from Internet or books are cited</li> </ul>	Too little information to evaluate

You may access all the above links by:

Going to: <http://www.2learn.ca>

Then: Kids Love 2Learn.ca

Then type in: N3896

You will then be taken to a hotlist and descriptions of the sites.

Or

Going to: <http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/fil/>

In Search Filamentality type: Alberta Geography and choose the site named Alberta Geography

Or

Go to: <http://www.kn.att.com/wired/fil/pages/listalbertadb.html>