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Geography Essentials

Places and Regions

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Geography Standards: Essential Element Two

PLACES AND REGIONS

STANDARD 4: The physical and human characteristics of places.

STANDARD 5: That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity.

STANDARD 6: How culture and experience influence people's perception of places and regions.

**From the National Council for Geographic Education:
Eighteen National Geography Standards**
(<http://www.ncge.org/publications/tutorial/standards/>)



Places and Regions

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In this presentation, we'll take a look at the specific physical and human properties that make places the way they are. We'll learn about and discuss how and why the Earth is divided into regions and how regions change over time. We'll also consider why people of different backgrounds have different impressions and attitudes about places.



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(Geography Standard 4)

Physical characteristics of places include topography (mountains, valleys, plains, and other features of the landscape), vegetation, climate, animals, water, and soil.

What physical features do you notice in this and the next three slides? Compare and contrast the physical characteristics that you see in these slides.



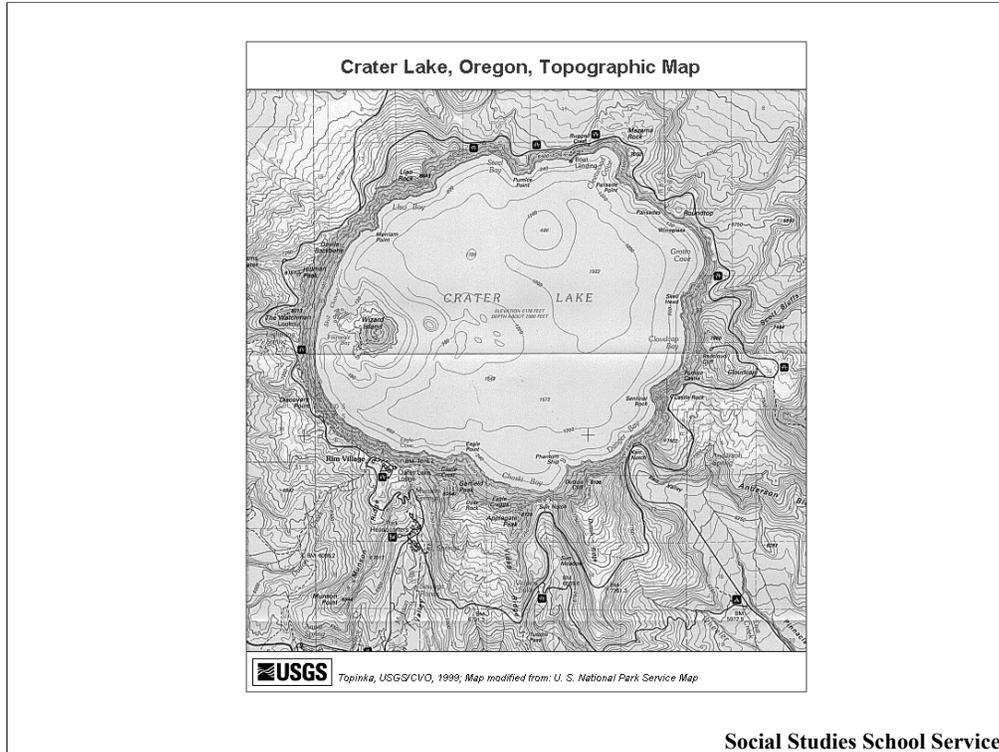
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The physical characteristics of places can be shown on topographical maps, such as this one of Oregon’s Crater Lake. Topographical (“topo”) maps show detailed features of land and water areas, including differences in elevation.

Look at this map, and then look at the photograph of Crater Lake on the next slide. Can you see the island on both slides? These are two examples of how the physical characteristics of a place can be represented.