

Teacher's Guide for FACES® *The U.S. South*

April 2007
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A number of Southern states display “something natural” – plant, animal, or landscape – on their license plates. Design a license plate for the state of your choice. Create a slogan. Develop a short sales pitch to convince the state’s office of motor vehicles to accept your design.

Look at the detailed map of the South in this issue. States that have the same natural resources and industries can choose to compete or cooperate.

List the natural resources and industries located in each state.

Which states have a unique industry or natural resource?

How do they capitalize on their uniqueness?

The South is diverse in its geography, cuisine, accents, and music – for starters. Some have written that the South is less a geographic place and more a “state of mind.” Yet, stereotypes persist.

What stereotypes – positive and negative – do you associate with Southern culture?

Where do you think they came from?

Why do you think they continue to exist?

For some people, the Confederate flag represents racism and oppression. For some, it represents pride in their ancestors who opposed the oppression of the central government. It is displayed by white supremacist groups. The flag is currently flown in front of South Carolina’s state capitol.

Do you think the flag should be flown in that location? Why or why not?

Do you think a boycott is an effective way of making a protest? Why or why not?

What are some alternatives?

Southern cooking has become popular nationally and internationally. Make a list of foods associated with the region. How did these dishes become popular outside the South?

Two popular sports – horse racing and NASCAR racing – are more alike than you might think.

Make and list and describe briefly what these sports have in common.

In 2-3 ages describe a day at the race – as either a spectator or as a participant.

Pick a state. Describe how its geography influenced its economic and cultural development.

What have you learned about the South that surprised you?