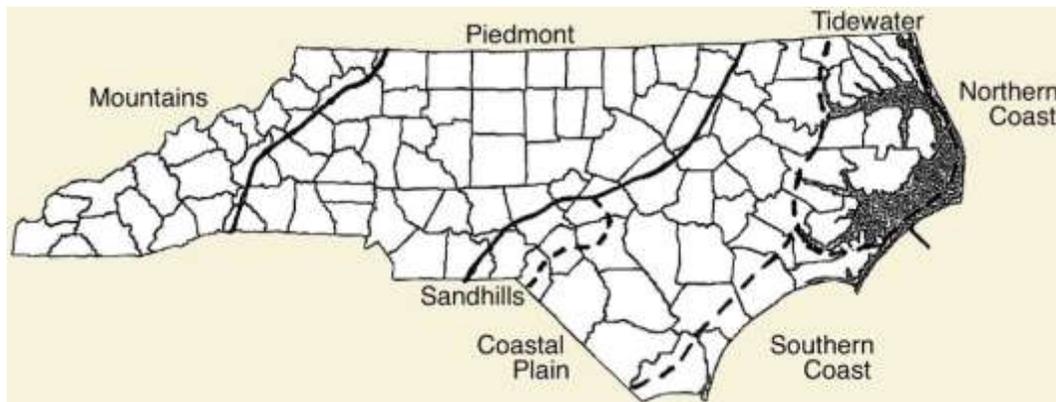


MOUNTAINS AND SEAS IN NC

STEM TO-GO

DRIVING QUESTION: WHICH PHYSIOGRAPHIC PROVINCE DO WE LIVE IN?



https://projects.ncsu.edu/cals/plantbiology/ncsc/EE/images/nc_map.jpg

Hill Race

This game simulates the processes that form mountains, hills, and basins. Go outside and find a hill.

- As you run up the hill, say, “Uplift, uplift, uplift!”
- When you reach the top, put your hands in the air and say, “Ridge.”
- Wiggle your fingers to make them look like rain falling down and say, “Weathering, Weathering.”
- Put your hands down and run down the hill, while saying, “Erosion, Erosion, Erosion.”
- When you reach the bottom where it is flat, take a deep breath and stop running. Say, “Deposition.”

Landform Hike



North Carolina has three major physiographic provinces, the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Piedmont, and the Coastal Plain. Without looking at your location on a map, can you use this **dichotomous key** to figure out which province you live in?

1. Hill Check: Is the land around you very flat, with no hills? If you ride a bike or skateboard or walk, do you go for a long time without going up or down a hill? If the answer is Yes, then go to Step 2. If the answer is No or Not Sure, then go to Step 3.
2. Soil Color Check: If your soil is sandy, grey, or light brown, then you live in the **Coastal Plain. (Stop)**
3. Do you have many hills that you can see around you? Is it too steep or difficult to ride a bike or skateboard? If the answer is Yes, then go to Step 4. If the answer is No or Not Sure, then go to Step 6.
4. Are most of your roads narrow and steep-sided? Do you see large cliffs of rock with chunks of rock laying on the edges of roads? If the answer is Yes, then go to Step 5. If the answer is No, or Not Sure, then go to Step 6.
5. If you see many large rocks in your soil, then you live in the **Mountains. (Stop)**
6. Do you have hills, but do you also have a lot of mud that is either from red clay or brown clay? If the answer is Yes, then you live in the **Piedmont. (Stop)**.
Check the map. Did your observations and answers correctly identify your physiographic province?