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| **Grade Level:**  Elementary / 3 |

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| **Essential Question:**  How do Colorado’s geographic regions influence the development of rural, urban, and suburban areas?  **Supporting Questions:**   1. What are geographic characteristics of a region? 2. What physical features make a region unique? 3. How do the characteristics of a region influence how we live? |

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| **Source 1**  Albert Bierstadt, *Wind River, Wyoming,* c.1870  An image of Albert Bierstadt's painting entitled "Wind River, Wyoming"  circa, 1870  Source: [American Museum of Western Art – The Anschutz Collection.](https://anschutzcollection.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/BierstadtA_WindRiverWyoming_H_web-1030x649.jpg) | **Source 2**  First home of Mrs. Margaret Schneider, Seibert, CO, c. between 1889-1900  A photograph of the first home of Mrs. Margaret Schneider, located in Seibert Colorado.  Source: [History of Colorado Digital Collections](https://5008.sydneyplus.com/HistoryColorado_ArgusNet_Final/Portal.aspx?lang=en-US&g_AACA=HistoryColorado_ArgusNet_Final+%7CObject+%7CSimpleSrch+%3D+%27home+of+Mrs.+Margaret+Schneider%2C+Seibert%2C%27&d=d) |

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| **Background Knowledge / Contextual Paragraph for Teachers:**  Colorado is typically divided into five regions: The Great Plains, The Southern Rocky Mountains, The Colorado Plateau, the Wyoming Basin, and the Middle Rocky Mountains. The characteristics of the various regions influence the way people live: what materials they used to build their homes; what industries developed in the region; and what cultural traditions emerged, etc. |

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| **Building Background Knowledge for the Student**   * An image of a landform mapKWL chart - what do you want to know about the geography of Colorado? * Handout a [landform map](http://tmjackson.pbworks.com/f/Scan_Pic0006.jpg) * Have students circle the geographic features found in Colorado * Students can then brainstorm definitions for the terms: region, characteristic. Ask how Colorado’s geographic features form different regions. |

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| **Strategy Instruction: Modified Jigsaw**   1. Divide students into 5 groups. Each group should receive a primary source. 2. Ask students to complete a primary source analysis sheet for their source. 3. One student from each of the 5 groups then moves into a group that contains each of the 5 sources. 4. Students share their discoveries from each source. 5. Ask students to discuss how their source reflects a particular region of Colorado.    1. What are the characteristics of that region based on their source?    2. What evidence in the source illustrates that region’s characteristics (e.g., a sod house in the plains) |

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| **Strategy Instruction Differentiation:**  N/A |

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| **Discussion:**   1. How does the geography of where we live influence how we live? 2. How do physical features provide opportunities and challenges to regions? 3. What are the characteristics of the region surrounding our community? 4. What are the similarities and differences among the regions of Colorado? 5. How has the region changed and yet remained the same over time? |

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| **Assessment: Compare/Contrast**  Students complete a [compare/contrast graphic organizer](http://timvandevall.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Compare-and-Contrast-Graphic-Organizer-1.jpg) comparing the characteristics of their community’s region to that of another community. |

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| **Colorado Academic Standards for Social Studies:**   * *History:* 3.1.2.c - Give examples of people, events, and developments that brought important changes to a community or region. * *Geography:* 3.2.2.d - Characterize regions using different types of features such as physical, political, cultural, urban, and rural attributes. |

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| **Reading and Writing Standards:**   * *Research and Reasoning:* 3.4.4.b - Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories. |

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| **Sample Activities:**  Create a caption - Students could create a caption for either “dust storm” or “Colorado, our wonderful mineral production…” |

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| **Extra Source 1**  Birds eye view of Colorado Springs, Colorado, c. 1888  A bird's eye map view ofColorado Springs, Colorado.  circa 1888  Source: [The Library of Congress](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4314c.pm000590) | **Extra Source 2**  Dust storm, c. 1934  A photograph of a dust storm above a town.  circa 1934  Source: [Denver Public Library Digital Collections](https://digital.denverlibrary.org/nodes/view/1022644?keywords=dust+storm&type=all&highlights=WyJkdXN0Iiwic3Rvcm0iXQ%3D%3D&lsk=3fb00b9975d2dc1deef7946a0004e149) |
| **Extra Source 3**  Colorado, our wonderful mineral productions a view of the new city of Leadville, 10,500 feet above the level of the sea -from a sketch by E. Jump, c. ~ 1875-1880.  A sketch of settlers rushing into the town of Leadville.  circa 1875  Source: [Denver Public Library Digital Collections](https://digital.denverlibrary.org/nodes/view/1022927?keywords=Leadville+1875&type=all&highlights=WyJMZWFkdmlsbGUiLCIxODc1Il0%3D&lsk=73895b77de0d8adbe1cceb274d04fe83) |  |