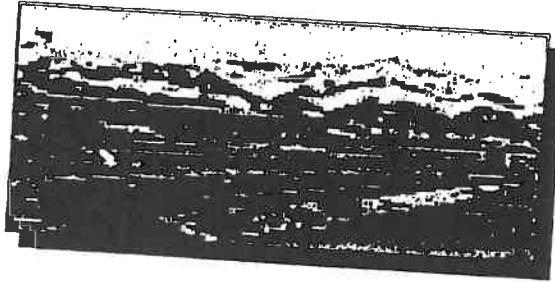


Information and Exercises about



The Rockies

The Prairies

Alberta
Saskatchewan
Manitoba



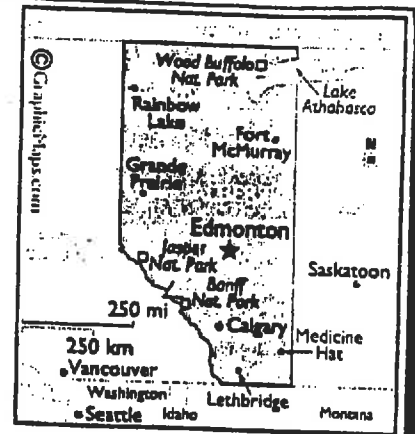
The Prairies

ALBERTA

Key Words: parallels- lines of latitude
muskeg- bog or swamp

LOCATION/POPULATION

Alberta is the most western of Canada's three prairie provinces. It lies between the 49th and 60th parallels. Its neighbours are B.C., Saskatchewan, N.W.T. and the U.S. The total population of Alberta is 2,913, 350. The capital city of Alberta is Edmonton with 863,000 people. Calgary is close behind with a population of 860,749.



LANDFORMS/CLIMATE

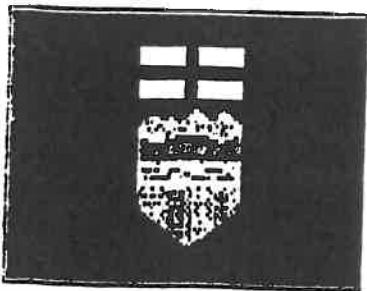
Mountains and foothills cover more than half of the southwestern part of the province. These landforms are a reminder of the glaciers that were evident in this area millions of years ago. Peaks of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta range from 2,130 to 3,747 m in elevation. These rugged and spectacular mountains attract many visitors to Alberta each year.

The foothills which join the mountains and the prairie consist of grasslands and forested areas. These foothills contain rich deposits of gas and coal. The remainder of the province forms part of the interior plain of North America. These plains include huge stretches of northern muskeg that cover Alberta's oil and gas deposits and oil sands.

The Red Deer River Valley in northern Alberta has desert-like conditions. Water and wind have created strange shapes in the sandstone called "hoodoos". In the southwest of the province in winter, a mild, warm wind called the "chinook" blows through the mountains from the Pacific Ocean. Alberta has an unusually high number of sunny days.

RESOURCES

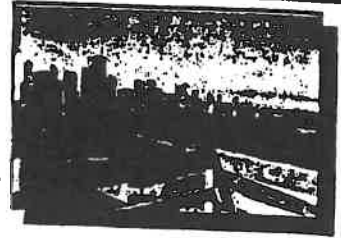
Agriculture, (wheat, barley, cattle, hogs, timber) mining, (crude petroleum and natural gas, sulfur and coal) and manufacturing (wood industries, chemicals, metal fabricating and petroleum refining) are Alberta's main resources.



AN INTERESTING FACT

The fossils of over 35 species of dinosaurs have been found in the badlands of Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta.

Exercises



1. Match the first part of the sentence to the last part.
- a. Alberta is the most western of Canada's ___ tourist attraction
 - b. The capital city of Alberta is ___ Calgary
 - c. Another large city in Alberta is ___ Edmonton
 - d. Alberta's neighbours are ___ prairie provinces
 - e. Alberta's Rocky Mountains are a great ___ U.S.; N.W.T.; B.C.; Sask.

2. Check (✓) the kinds of landforms that make up Alberta's landscape:

foothills desert mountains prairie

3. Choose the words from the box below to complete the sentences.

- a. The foothills which join the mountains and the prairie are made up of _____ and _____.
- b. These foothills contain rich deposits of _____ and _____.
- c. The interior plains have huge stretches of _____.
- d. The muskeg covers Alberta's _____ and _____ deposits.

gas/coal muskeg grasslands/forests oil/gas

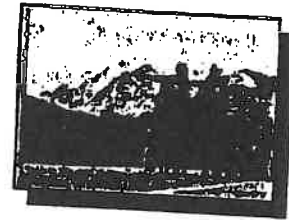
4. Alberta is known for many tourist sites and climate changes.
Match these five important things to their picture with a line:



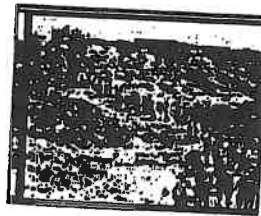
a. Tourists at The Badlands



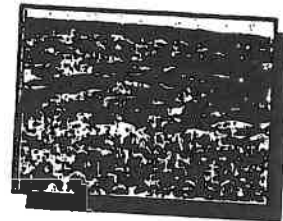
b. The Hoodoos



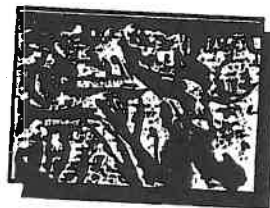
c. Chinook winds over Calgary



d. Dinosaur Provincial Park



e. Rocky Mountains

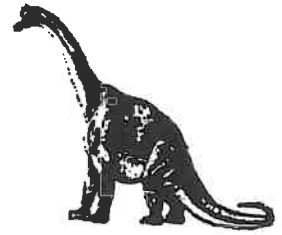
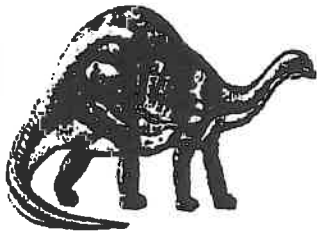


5. Name four of Alberta's main resources:

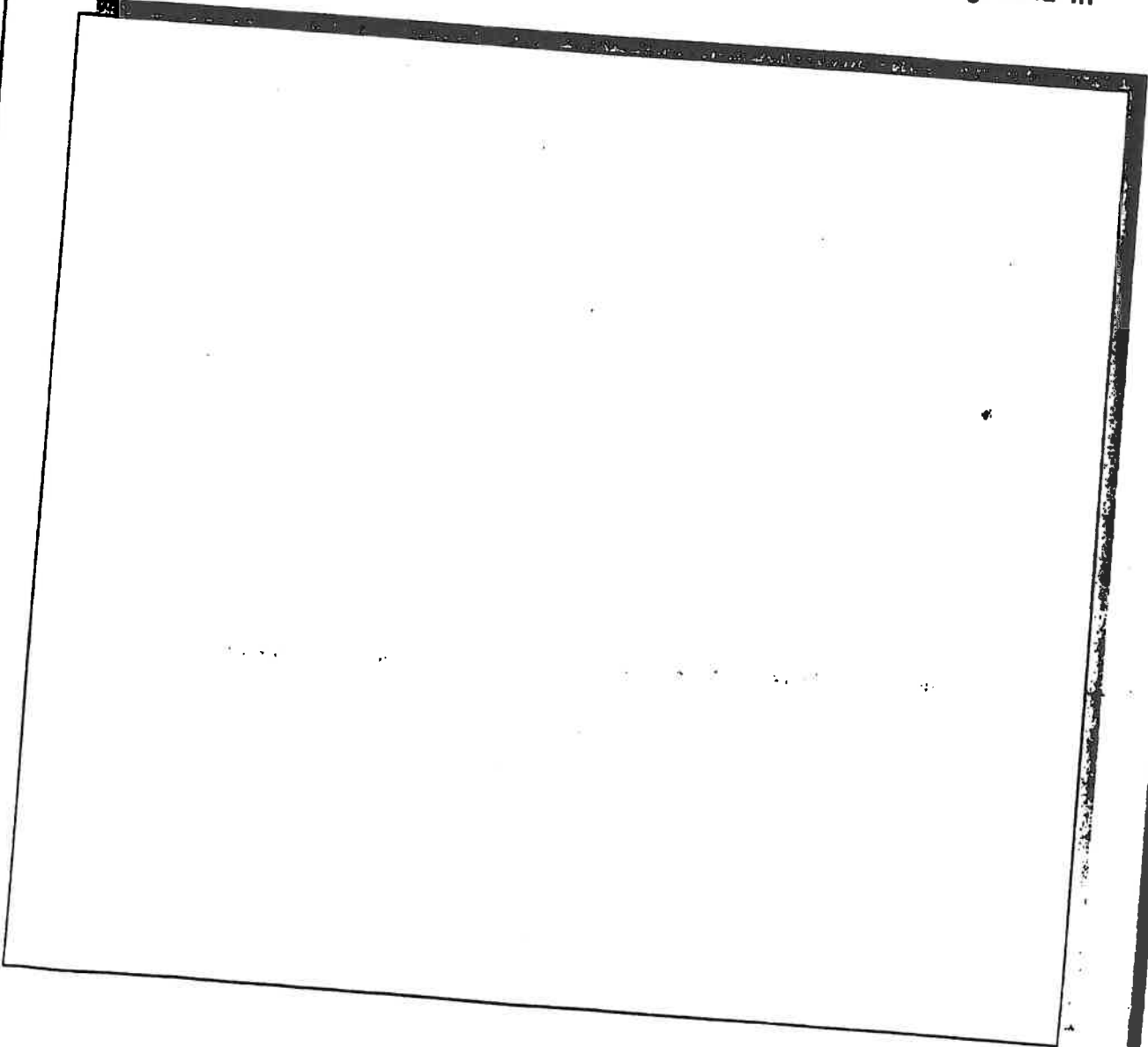
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

6. Alberta is a leading producer of natural _____ and
crude _____.

Art Box



These are some of the many species of dinosaurs that have been found in Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta.
Draw one or more of these interesting animals. Put a background in your picture as well.

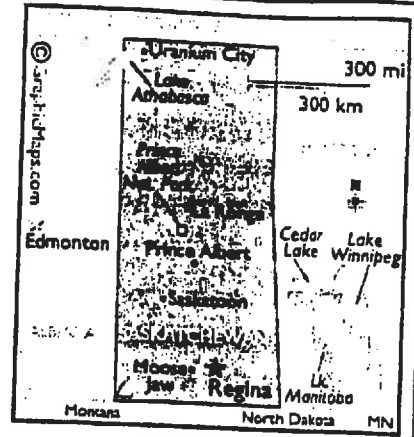


SASKATCHEWAN

Key Words: erosion- the wearing down of land from glaciers, rain, wind

LOCATION/POPULATION

Saskatchewan is located in the western part of Canada. It has an area of 652,330 sq km and is bordered by Manitoba, Alberta, the Northwest Territories and the United States. Over 1,015,800 people live in this province with the highest population of 196,362 in the capital city of Regina.



LANDFORMS/CLIMATE

One-third of the province is used for farming while the rest is forest and water. There are over 100,000 lakes in Saskatchewan!

The southern part of the province is quite flat with some valleys made by erosion from the time of the glaciers. This area is where most people live. The great wheat farms are located on these flat lands that seem to go on forever. Saskatchewan is known as "Canada's Breadbasket" for all the grain produced.

Nowhere else in the world are sand dunes found this far north. Dunes 30m high are in Athabasca Provincial Park.

The people in the province enjoy a hot, dry summer but winters can be very cold.

The four main rivers in Saskatchewan are the Assiniboine, the Churchill, and the South and North Saskatchewan.

RESOURCES

Saskatchewan's main resources are agriculture, mining and manufacturing. Wheat, oats, barley, rapeseed, flaxseed and rye are the main grains grown. Petroleum, natural gas, coal, copper, zinc, potash and salt are mined in the province. Some areas of manufacturing are petroleum refining, meat packing, and food processing.

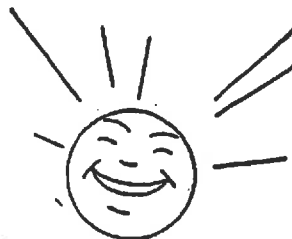
AN INTERESTING FACT

The city of Estevan is called the "sunshine capital" of Canada with 2,540 hours of sun per year.



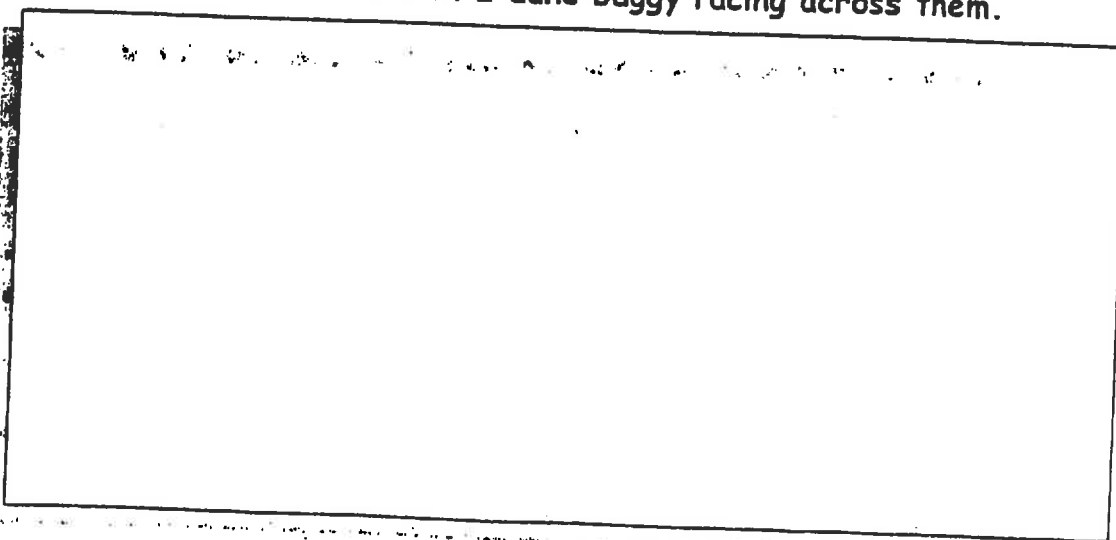
Exercises

1. Saskatchewan is bordered by _____ to the west,
_____ to the east, _____
to the south and _____ to the north.
2. The highest number of people live in the city of _____.
3. The four main rivers in Saskatchewan are the Assiniboine, the Churchill
and the _____ and _____ Saskatchewan Rivers.
4. Summers in this province can be very _____ while winters can be
very _____.



5. Art Box

Sand dunes are found in Athabasca Provincial Park.
Draw some sand dunes with a dune buggy racing across them.



6. True or False



Circle T for True or F for False

- a. The capital of Saskatchewan is Regina. T F
- b. One-third of the province is used for farming. T F
- c. Saskatchewan is known as "Canada's Muffin basket". T F
- d. There are only 1,000 lakes in Saskatchewan. T F
- e. Summers can be very hot while winters can be cold. T F
- f. The city of Estevan is called the "sunshine capital" of Canada. T F
- g. Athabasca Provincial Park has sand dunes 30m high. T F

7. Name three products for each of the following resources:

A. Agriculture: _____

B. Mining: _____

8. Name two things that are manufactured in Saskatchewan:

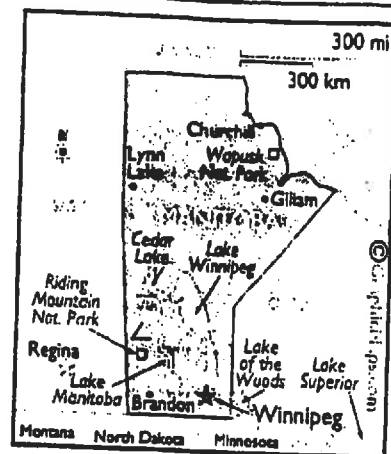
A. Manufacturing: _____

MANITOBA

Key Word: retreated- to melt away (glaciers); to go back

LOCATION/POPULATION

Manitoba is located in the centre of Canada. Its neighbours are Ontario, Nunavut, Saskatchewan, Hudson Bay and the United States. It has an area of 650,000 sq. km. The population of Manitoba is 1,150,000 with the highest number of people living in the capital city of Winnipeg.



LANDFORMS/CLIMATE

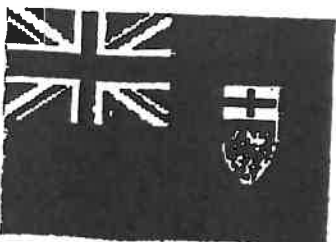
The land rises gradually to the south and west from sea level at Hudson Bay. Most of the province lies between 150 and 300 metres above sea level. In Duck Mountain Provincial Park, Baldy Mountain rises 831 metres. The northern part of the province shows evidence of glaciers and is covered in forests. Lake Agassiz, a huge lake covered much of Manitoba when the glaciers retreated. There are over 100,000 lakes in Manitoba. All waters in Manitoba flow to Hudson Bay. Before settlement, a large area of southern Manitoba was flood plain or swamp. Three of the most common types of trees that grow in this region are the pine, hemlock and birch.

Manitoba has a continental climate with notable temperature changes. Temperatures range from -20degrees C in January to 19degrees C in July. This province has been called one of the sunniest places in Canada.

RESOURCES

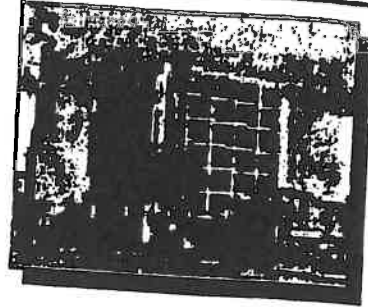
Manitoba produces wheat, barley, rapeseed and hay. Other agricultural products are cattle, pigs and dairy goods. This province manufactures such things as machinery, clothing, pulp and paper and refined petroleum. Manitoba mines nickel, zinc and copper.

AN INTERESTING FACT



Since the major rivers of western Canada flow into the lowland region of Manitoba, the province has 90% of the hydro-electric power of the prairie region.

Exercises



1. Choose the answer from the box below:

- a. Manitoba's neighbours are Saskatchewan, Nunavut, the United States, Ontario and one body of water, _____
- b. The greatest number of people live in the city of _____
- c. Manitoba's land rises gradually from Hudson Bay which is at _____
- d. The highest mountain in Manitoba is _____
Mountain at 831 metres.
- e. After the end of the Ice Age when the glaciers retreated, the province was covered in a huge _____
- f. Before people settled in southern Manitoba, they had to drain the ground because the land was a flood plain or _____

* sea level * Winnipeg * Baldy
* lake * swamp * Hudson Bay

2. Choose the correct answer with a check (✓).

A. Manitoba's temperatures can range from:

- * -100 degrees C in winter to 40 degrees C in summer
- * -20 degrees C in winter to 19 degrees C in summer

B. This province has been called one of the:

- * "sunniest places in Canada"
- * "hottest places in Canada"

C. The major rivers of western Canada flow into Manitoba, so:

- * the province floods every year
- * the province has 90% of hydro-electric power of the prairie region

3. Circle the kind of product Manitoba produces in agriculture.



4. Name three items in manufacturing Manitoba produces:

a.----- b.----- c.-----

5. Circle the three minerals produced in Manitoba:

- A. nickel, zinc and copper
- B. gold, silver and bronze

ART BOX

Draw a picture of one interesting thing you have learned about the prairie provinces. Write a title for your drawing on the line.

