

Name: _____

Date: _____

Southwest Region Study Guide

- Refer to pages 46-71 in your Regions textbook to help you study.
- Know the states, and their capitals, of the Southwest region.
- Practice your knowledge of the southwest environment at the Regions textbook web site: <http://www.mhschool.com/socialstudies/2003-5/student/level1.php?isbn=0021492654>

Vocabulary words	Definition
Adaptation	Changes made over a period of time by plants or animals allowing it to survive in an environment.
Aquifer	A layer of rock or gravel that traps water underground.
Canyon	A deep, narrow valley with steep sides.
Colorado Plateau	A combination of wide valleys and plains, deep canyons, cliffs and mesas (flat top hills). Covers the 4 corners of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado.
Desert	A dry area that gets less than 10 inches of precipitation per year.
Dry farming	Methods of growing crops in arid areas using only rain water.
Dust Bowl	An area of the Great Plains that experienced droughts and dust storms in the 1930s.
Erosion	The action of water, wind or ice in wearing away soil and rock.
Great Plains	High, fairly dry plains that reach into Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico.
Petroleum	A fuel commonly called oil that formed underground from dead plants.
Sonoran Desert	A desert located partly in southern Arizona. Home of the Saguaro cactus.