



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

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Učební materiál

Sada: Kultura a realie anglických mluvících zemí

Téma: Geographical Regions of USA-the Midwest

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Předmět: Anglický jazyk

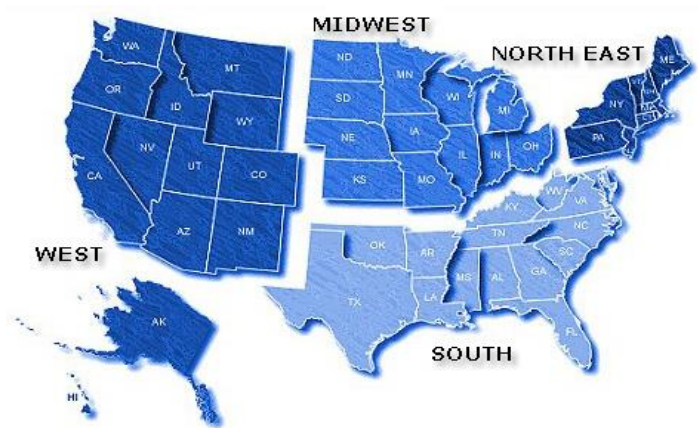
Ročník: 4. ročník - VG

Využití: Učební materiál pro výuku anglického jazyka

Anotace: The worksheets can be used when learning about the geography of the United States. The material focuses on the distinctions and differences between individual regions of the US. Cross-curricular relations correspond with social studies and geography. The worksheet revises information required in the English Department curriculum. The tasks concentrate on listening comprehension, speaking skills, and formulating personal opinions.

**Gymnázium Vincence Makovského se sportovními třídami
Nové Město na Moravě**

Geography of the United States of America – the Midwest



I. Based on information provided in lectures, decide if the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE** about the **MIDWEST** region of the United States.

1. Most of America's heavy industry is traditionally found in this region.
2. This region is known as the breadbasket of the USA.
3. The region tends to be heavily forested with lots of swamps, rivers, and lakes.
4. The automotive industry and the "Motor City" are important to this region.
5. The wide open grasslands known as the Great Plains is located in this region.
6. The technological center known as Silicon Valley is located in this region.
7. Hurricanes often land here causing much damage and devastation to the area.
8. The famous Mt. Rushmore, the mountain with the faces of four Presidents carved into the side, is a leading tourist attraction for this region.
9. The region is often referred to as Tornado Alley because of the frequency of storms with tornadoes here.
10. Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit, and Cleveland are a few of the most important cities of the region.

II. Using information from classroom discussions, answer the following questions.

1. Why do you think so many Czech immigrants were drawn to this region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries?
2. Why is this region called the „rust belt“ and is there any hope for a renewal or revival of this region of the US?
3. Why was so much of industry based around the Great Lakes area?
4. Describe what you know about some of the famous cities from this region.
5. What do you think you would enjoy or dislike about living in this region? Can you imagine living in a flat, relatively isolated area?
6. What is the new boom going on in this region?

Key words and phrases: breadbasket, prairie, plains, rust belt, tornado alley, Great Lakes, gateway, fracking

It is necessary to emphasize the following points during the lecture about the Midwest of the USA.

- -can be divided into two parts, the Great Lakes industrial area and the “breadbasket” area of the Great Plains
- -the Great Lakes area is the historical industrial area. Heavy industry was located here because of the proximity to the coal of Appalachia, the natural resources of the West and Upper Midwest, and water transportation to the East and Europe
- home to US automobile industry and agricultural equipment industry, e.g. Ford Motors, General Motors, Chrysler, John Deere, etc
- nowadays often called the “Rust Belt” because jobs and factories have left for other parts of the US or other countries (China, Mexico, Vietnam, Indonesia, etc.)
- the Great Plains area is a huge prairie or grassland that is the heart of American agriculture; corn, wheat, barley, oats, soybeans, etc are grown here as well as livestock such as cows and pigs are raised here.
- Tornadoes are definite threat to this area, especially the part called “tornado alley.” The flatness of the area contributes to this because there are no landscape features to breakup frontal systems.
- Mt. Rushmore in South Dakota and the Gateway Arch in St. Louis are often used as symbols of the region
- Major cities in the region include Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, Cleveland, Indianapolis, etc



- “Fracking” is a new process of extracting oil and natural gas from underground rock formations. This has led to a new “boom” in the region, particularly in the Dakotas.

Image source: http://www.stats.indiana.edu/maptools/maps/boundary/census_regions_main.gif