The Midwest Region

Before you begin reading each section, write *True* or *False* in the "Before" column. After you read, write *True* or *False* in the "After" column. Then answer the questions.

Land and Water of the Midwest

	Before	After
1. The Midwest region is next to the Pacific Ocean.		
2. Most of the land in the Midwest region is flat, grassy plains.		
3. The Great Lakes are connected to the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico by rivers and canals.		
4. The Mississippi River is the shortest river in the United States.		

1. How are the Great Plains different from the Central Plains? How are they the same?

2. What are badlands?

Climate

	Before	After
1. Part of the Midwest is called Tornado Alley because it gets so many tornados.		
2. The Midwest usually has very gentle weather.		

1. How does the winter weather in the Midwest affect the people who live there?

2. How does the spring weather in the Midwest affect the people who live there?

Products and Natural Resources

	Before	After
1. The Great Plains are covered with some of		
the best soil on Earth.		
2. The Midwest region is known as "America's Cereal Bowl."		
3. Much of the steel used to produce cars and trucks comes from the Midwest region.		

1. Why is soil the most important resource in the Midwest?

2. Why is Detroit nicknamed "Motown"?

3. What are the three "belts" in the Midwest?

Landmarks

	Before	After
1. Chicago, Illinois is an important city because of its location near waterways.		
2. The Mall of America has more than 520 stores, 50 restaurants, 14 movie theaters, and an amusement park.		
3. Crazy Horse Memorial is a statue that honors a famous racing horse.		

1. The faces of which presidents are carved into Mount Rushmore?

2. What is a transportation hub?

3. What landmark would you like to visit in the Midwest? Why?

Culture

	Before	After
1. Ice fishing is a popular sport in the Midwest.		
2. Most food from the Midwest is made with		
lots of spices.		
3. Rock and roll music and Motown music		
were invented in the Midwest region.		

1. What is an ice shanty?

2. What are some popular foods that come from the Midwest?

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~Jill



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