

NAME:

DATE:

EXPLORING PHYSICAL REGIONS:

The Canadian Shield Region

The Canadian Shield is the largest of the eight physical regions in Canada. The Canadian Shield includes Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Quebec, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Labrador.

The Canadian Shield is made up of rock that was once part of a mountain millions of years ago. In the Canadian Shield you can find rivers, lakes and valleys.



CLIMATE

The climate of the Canadian Shield region varies. In the North (Nunavut, Northwest Territories) the temperatures are very cold during the winter and even during the summer. In the Southern parts of the Canadian Shield, temperatures are slightly cool during the winter and warm during the summer. The Canadian Shield on average gets 200 - 300mm of rain in the summer and approximately 120cm of snow each winter.

VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE

Trees such as the fir, pine and spruce love it in the Canadian Shield. Deep-rooted plants cannot survive here because the soil is so shallow. The climate and the rocky terrain of this region also makes it difficult to farm and grow crops.

The wildlife found in this region includes moose, black bears, grizzly bears, wolves and foxes. These animals make their home in the Canadian Shield because they can get lots of water, food and shelter here. Some animals will migrate through the Canadian Shield during the wintertime to find places that are warmer and to ensure a steady food supply.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Some of the natural resources found in the Canadian Shield include furs from fur bearing animals, minerals such as nickel, gold, silver and copper. Throughout the Canadian Shield there are mining towns that are responsible for extracting these valuable minerals. Another natural resource is forestry.

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INDUSTRIES & JOBS

The largest industry found in the Canadian Shield region is the forestry industry. Mining is also an important industry as many cities in the Canadian Shield extract minerals from deposits. Minerals such as gold, silver, nickel, and copper can be found in the Canadian Shield region.

RECREATION

There are many things to do in the Canadian Shield. Among these activities include hiking, camping, hunting, swimming, canoeing, horseback riding and cycling. The beautiful trees, lakes, rivers and rapids all attract tourists to this physical region of Canada.

