

## UNIT 18: Star-Spangled Planner

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**The Mid-Atlantic**

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

Large cities dominate the Mid-Atlantic region. New York City is the biggest, busiest city in the United States. Washington, D.C., is the home of the federal government. Hundreds of other places in the Mid-Atlantic offer opportunities for fun vacations.

**Know Before You Go!**

If you like museums, you will love Washington, D.C. The 16 Smithsonian Institution museums hold major collections of art, science, and cultural artifacts. They are all free to the public.



Our government was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Here you can visit Independence Hall. The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were signed there.

According to legend, baseball began in the 1800s in Cooperstown, New York. Today, the small town is home to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

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How will you pronounce the following word: cit-ies or ci-ties? The short “i” in the first syllable tells you should divide the word after the consonant t.

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The Southeast  
Alabama, Arkansas,  
Florida, Georgia,  
Kentucky, Louisiana,  
Mississippi, North  
Carolina, South Carolina,  
Tennessee

Warm weather makes  
the Southeast a great  
winter destination for  
people from the north.  
The region is also filled  
with history. Visitors can  
trace important events  
from the Civil War to the  
civil rights movement.  
For instance, Memphis,  
Tennessee, is home to  
the National Civil Rights  
Museum.

Know Before You Go!  
In North Carolina,  
visitors spend time in  
the Outer Banks region,  
on the coast of North  
Carolina. Here you can  
visit Kitty Hawk, where  
the Wright brothers  
took their first flight in  
1903.

The mighty Mississippi  
River flows along the  
western edge of the  
Southeastern states.  
Riverboat rides are a  
relaxing way to tour  
the South.  
Florida is another  
popular destination.  
Some travelers visit  
the amusement parks  
of Orlando. Others  
seek out alligators in  
the Everglades. Many  
come to the Sunshine  
State just for its warm  
weather.

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If you were visiting the Southeast, what places would you like to see?

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Try writing a short note for each one.

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**The Midwest**

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

In the Midwest, great waterways enrich vast farmlands. With so many farms, the region is called America’s Breadbasket. Tourists can enjoy farm-related festivals in every state. The National Cherry Festival in Michigan and the Great Wisconsin Cheese Festival are just two examples.

**Know Before You Go!**

The dramatic skyline of Chicago, Illinois, interrupts the flat Midwest landscape. Chicago’s Sears Tower is the tallest building in North America.



Minnesota is nicknamed The Land of 10,000 Lakes. Vacationers make full use of those lakes for fishing, camping, and hiking.

While enjoying the great outdoors, be sure to listen for the distinctive call of the loon, the Minnesota state bird.



Do you know whose faces are carved into Mount Rushmore? If you travel to South Dakota, you can see this sculpture in person.

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Try taking notes to remember places you’d like to visit and things you’d like to see in the Midwest.

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**The Southwest**

Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah  
The Southwest is a region of magnificent scenery, from the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the red rocks of the Sonoran Desert along the Mexican-American border. The region also includes Texas, the second largest state in the nation.

**Know Before You Go!**

San Antonio, Texas, was the site of an important 1836 battle in the Texas Revolution. Today you can visit a fort called the Alamo. This was the central location of the Texas Revolution.



Near Sedona, Arizona, dramatic red rock formations bring scenes from old Western movies to life. That's because many of those movies were filmed right there.

Las Vegas is a city carved out of the Nevada desert. The city's blinking lights and luxury hotels have drawn tourists in for decades.

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Where would you look up the meaning of the word “magnificent” — in a dictionary or a glossary? The word doesn’t seem to be related to a specific subject or topic.

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Do you know which is the largest state in the United States of America? It’s Alaska!

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What is the main idea of this paragraph? Which details support this idea?

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# DESTINATION READING COURSE 3

## UNIT 18: Star-Spangled Planner

### The Pacific West

Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming  
No other region offers such diverse natural wonders as the Pacific West. From the jungles of Hawaii to the glaciers of Alaska, the region provides amazing opposites of climate and landscape.



### Know Before You Go!

Visitors flock to "Old Faithful," a geyser in Yellowstone National Park. The famous waterspout shoots into the air every 45 minutes.

San Francisco, California, draws millions of visitors every year. People love to ride on its network of cable cars. Riders can hop on or off anywhere along the route.



The 605-foot Space Needle in Seattle, Washington, is the tallest structure in the West. You can dine at the top in a restaurant that revolves in a circle. Meanwhile, you can watch beautiful views of the Puget Sound.

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Is the first syllable in the word climate closed or open? How will you pronounce the word: cli-mate or clim-ate?

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Geyser looks like a word related to geography. Should you look it up in a dictionary or in a glossary?

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What detail in this paragraph supports the main idea about the name of the geyser, "Old Faithful"?

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Which of these places would you like to visit on your next vacation, and why?

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