

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

PRE-VISIT MATERIALS

SOUTH CAROLINA SYMBOLS (Grade 3)

TO THE TEACHER:

The pre-visit packet contains: lesson background, curriculum standards, and terms and definitions.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| GRADE: | 3 |
| LENGTH OF LESSON: | 60 minutes |
| CLASS SIZE: | 30 students max. |

During the lesson, docents will discuss changes in land use and animal diversity using Natural History and Cultural History exhibits. Activities are designed to:

- Highlight cultural and natural symbols commonly associated with our state.
- Explain differences in landforms in the Upcountry, Midlands, and Lowcountry.
- Examine plant and animal diversity in South Carolina.

South Carolina's warm climate is one reason why so many different types of plants and animals can live in our state. Cooler temperatures and rising sea levels caused more land surface to be exposed resulting in changes to the size and shape of South Carolina. The state can be divided into four distinct geographical regions: Blue Ridge Mountains and Piedmont in the Upcountry, Sandhills in the Midlands, and Coastal Plains in the Lowcountry. Fossil evidence tells us that extinct animals such as the Giant White Shark and Mastodon also once roamed the land and waters of South Carolina.

The history of South Carolina is comprised of numerous cultures including Native Americans, Africans, Europeans, and Spanish. Each group brought their own languages, customs, traditions, and religious practices. The experiences of these early Carolinians contributed many symbols that are now associated with our state.

**Social Studies Curriculum by Grade according
to South Carolina State Standards**

| |
|-----------------------------|
| 3rd grade |
|-----------------------------|

| |
|----------------------------|
| 3-1.1; 3-1.3; 3-1.4 |
|----------------------------|

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

1. **American Revolution** (1775-1783) - Battle fought by American Colonists resulting in the end of British control and the creation of the United States of America.
2. **Carolina Bays** – Large, egg-shaped shallow depressions in the ground typically found in coastal areas.
3. **climate** – Weather conditions (temperature, moisture, air movement, etc.) over a long period of time.
4. **colony** – A place where people settle far from their native country, but still remain connected to their homeland.
5. **culture** – The way of life of any group of people.
6. **customs** – Practices followed by people who commonly share the same way of doing things.
7. **endangered** – Animals and plants that have population numbers so low that they may become extinct.
8. **erosion** – Removal of material from the Earth’s surface.
9. **fall line** – A line marking a drop in land level by connecting waterfalls in parallel rivers.
10. **fossils** – The impressions or mineralized remains of ancient plants and animals.
11. **geography** – The study of land and its features (ex.: mountains, sand hills, coastal plain) and their interaction with humans, animals, and plants.
12. **habitat** – The place where certain plants and animals normally live.
13. **history** – The study of human activity through recorded time.
14. **Lord Proprietors** – Powerful English noblemen who once owned what is modern day Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.
15. **Lowcountry** – The region of South Carolina closest to the ocean.
16. **mastodon** – Large elephant-type animal that lived during the Last Ice Age (approximately 1.8 million to 10,000 years ago).
17. **Midlands** – Area of land located in the middle of the state between the Upcountry and the Lowcountry.

18. **Paleo-Indians** – Group of people who lived in South Carolina about 12,000 years ago.
19. **patriotism** – Loyalty to your country.
20. **Piedmont** – Region of the Upcountry located at the foot of a mountain range.
21. **Pleistocene Epoch** – The Last Ice Age believed to have occurred 1.8 million to 10,000 years ago.
22. **prehistoric** – Time before history was recorded.
23. **Sandhills** – Region of the Midlands that was once an ancient coastline. This narrow band marks the Fall Line, which divides the Piedmont from the coastal plain.
24. **symbols** – Something that represents something else.
25. **Upcountry** – The part of the state that contains mountains.