**Unit Title: North Carolina Geography**

**Objectives from the Standard Course of Study**

**1.01** Assess the impact of geography on the settlement and developing economy of the Carolina colony.

**Unit Essential Questions**

By the end of this unit, students will **be able to answer** the following questions:

1. How does the state’s geographical diversity impact the lives of North Carolinians?

2. What geographical distinctions of North Carolina’s regions impacted the settlement of the Carolina colony?

**Unit Facts**

By the end of this unit, students **will know**:

1. The key facts about North Carolina’s four geographic regions as described below:

**Tidewater:**

(a) Islands: Barrier islands (Outer Banks), Roanoke Island

(b) Capes: Cape Fear, Cape Hatteras (Graveyard of the Atlantic)

(c) Major sounds: Albemarle, Pamlico.

(d) Climate and weather

**Coastal Plain:**

(a) Prime agricultural region – soil quality, flatness of land

(b) Sandhills

(c) Climate and weather

**Piedmont:**

(a) Red clay soil is iron rich

(b) Monadnocks (Uwharries)

(c) Climate and weather

**Mountains:**

(a) Mount Mitchell (highest peak above sea level east of the Mississippi River-6,684 ft)

(b) Ranges: Blue Ridge Mountains, Great Smoky Mountains, Appalachian Mountains

(c) Climate and weather

2. **Key terms**: topography, fall line, sectionalism, latitude, longitude, hurricanes, climate, weather, Gulf Stream

3. **Bodies of water**: Cape Fear River, Neuse River, Roanoke River, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean

4. **Cities:** Wilmington, Roanoke, Fayetteville, Raleigh, Charlotte, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Durham, Asheville

5. **Counties**: Franklin, Johnston, Harnett, Lee, Chatham, Durham, Granville, Orange, Nash, Wake

6**. States surrounding North Carolina**: South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee

**Unit Concepts**

By the end of this unit, students will **understand** that…

1. North Carolina has four geographical regions with distinct characteristics.

2. Each of the four regions have distinct geographical characteristics that have played a significant role in their settlement and economy.

**Unit Skills**

By the end of this unit, students will **be able to**…

1. Label a North Carolina map: regions, capes, islands, Sandhills, mountain ranges, Mt. Mitchell, cities, bodies of water, counties, surrounding states

2. Assess and explain how North Carolina’s distinct geographical characteristics have influenced the settlement and economy of each region.