New York’s Location

Understanding Geography
Geography is the study of places on Earth and the people who live there. Every place has its own environment, which includes the surrounding land, water, and air. When geographers study a place, they examine how people live in and use the environment. People can change environments by doing things such as cutting down trees to build houses. Environments in the same region are often similar. New York is in the northeastern region of the United States.

Describing Location
There are many ways to describe location. New York State is located on the continent of North America, in the Northern and Western hemispheres. Maps give helpful information about locations. A map of the northeastern United States shows that New York borders Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Canada.

NEW YORK IN THE UNITED STATES

Before You Read
Find and underline a form of each vocabulary word.

**environment** noun, the water, land, and air that surround us

**region** noun, an area that has one or more features in common

**continent** noun, a very large landmass

**hemisphere** noun, one half of Earth’s surface

After You Read
What features make up an environment? Highlight the sentence that tells the answer.

How are maps helpful? Circle the sentence that tells the answer.

SKILL Reading Maps
Find your home state on a map. Draw a circle around New York State. Draw a square around the compass rose.