

TOPIC 3 – PLANTS and ANIMALS

Topic Overview

Topic 3 highlights plant and animal life in North Dakota millions of years ago. It includes images and information that will help you envision what North Dakota was like in prehistoric times.

Topic Objectives

- As a result of the study of Topic 3, you will be able to
 - Explore plant and animal life in prehistoric North Dakota.
 - Describe soil formation.
 - Explain the consequences of climate changes on prehistoric plants and animals.

ND Content Standards

- 8.1.2
- 8.5.1

Common Core Standards

- RH 2
- RH 7
- WHST 1
- WHST 2
- WHST9

Topic Activities

- Debate/Discussion
- Creative Interpretation



Debate/Discussion

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

From your reading of the sections covering “flora” and “fauna,” write down several reasons why climate changes had severe consequences on prehistoric plants and animals. Then, discuss these consequences with a partner or in a small group. Share with the entire class.

Flora (Plants)

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Fauna (Animals)

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Creative Interpretation

After reading about soil and studying the diagram entitled **Image 8, Soil Layers**, imagine yourself as an expert on soil formation in North Dakota. You have been asked to present this information to a group of foreign exchange students from another country. Write up a presentation, keeping these questions in mind:

- What would you tell them about how soil developed?
- What would be your explanation of what soil is?
- What would you tell them about soil being different in the forests compared to the grasslands?
- What would you tell them about the layers of the soil and what the function of each layer is?
- Other info?

Presentation

