



Exercise: 1

Instructions: We depend heavily on agriculture for our food and for many other resources. Agriculture in the Western states depends heavily on the availability of water. The soil, weather and other characteristics of an area are very important when deciding what type of farming should be done. Use the information you have obtained in class and from the Digital Atlas to answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Be sure to click on the *Agriculture and Irrigation* Map and explore the major products of Idaho.

1. If you are going to be a farmer, what types of factors would you have to consider for the land and area on which you would like to farm?

2. Before farming, what was Idaho's leading economic activity?

3. How did the "captive market" help farmers in the late 1800s and early 1900s?

4. a) What is "dryland farming" and how did it help farming in the southern area of Idaho?

b) Why was it necessary?

5. Why was farming easier in northern Idaho compared to southern Idaho?

6. What did the Carey Act do for agriculture in southern Idaho?

7. What are the seven major agricultural products of Idaho?

8. For which of these agricultural products is Idaho the nation's #1 producer?

9. What variety is Idaho's "famous potato"?

10. Why are some areas of Idaho ideal for aquaculture?