Geography Terms

1. Archipelago A large group of islands
2. Basin An area that is lower than surrounding land areas; some basins

are filled with water

1. Bay A body of water that is partly surrounded by land and that is

connected to a larger body of water

1. Beach A rocky or sandy edge of land along a body of water
2. Butte A small, high, flat-topped landform with cliff-like sides
3. Cape A point of land that juts out into the water
4. Canyon A deep valley with steep sides
5. Cataract A large waterfall or steep rapids
6. Channel A body of water that connects two larger bodies of water
7. Continent One of the seven great land masses on Earth
8. Delta A fan-Shaped deposit of sand and mud at the mouth of a river
9. Desert A region of litter rainfall where few plants and animals live
10. Dune A hill of sand formed by blowing wind
11. Fjord A long narrow inlet of sea between cliffs or slopes
12. Flood plain A broad plain on either side of a river, formed where sediment

settles during floods

1. Glacier A large mass of ice that moves very slowly down a mountain

or through a valley

1. Geyser A spring that spouts hot water and steam from time to time
2. Gulf A large body of salt water that is partly enclosed by land
3. Hill A area that rises above surrounding land and has a round top;

lower and usually less steep than a mountain

1. Island A piece of land that is surrounded by water
2. Isthmus A narrow strip of land connects two larger land areas
3. Lake An inland body of fresh or salt water
4. Mesa A raised area with steep sides and a large, flat top
5. Mountain A high area of land with steep sides and a sharp peak
6. Mountain Pass A gap between mountains
7. Ocean The body of salt water that covers most of the Earth
8. Peninsula An area of land that is surrounded by water
9. Plain A large, low area of flat rolling land with few trees
10. Plateau A flat area of land that is higher than the land around it
11. River A long body of water that flows over land
12. River Mouth The point where a river enters a lake or sea
13. Sea A body of salt water that is partly enclosed by land
14. Strait A narrow body of water that connects two larger bodies of

Water

1. Tributary A river or stream that flows into a larger river
2. Tundra A cold, dry, treeless region where mosses, grasses, and lichens

grow

1. Valley A area of low land between mountains or hills
2. Volcano A hole in the earth’s through which lava, gasses and ash are

released