

Benchmark: Geography 2



Figure 1. Extent of the Atlantic Coastal Plain in Maryland and adjacent states.

Brief Constructed Response Prompt: Why was it necessary for early colonists on the Atlantic Coastal Plain to construct dams and mill ponds?

Desired Response(s):

The Atlantic Coastal Plain is flat, so mill ponds were needed to power mills to saw lumber, grind grain, or do other jobs. (On the Piedmont, the natural fall of water could be used to power mills.

Rubric

- 2 = This response gives a valid response with an accurate and relevant explanation.
- 1 = This response gives a valid response with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no explanation.
- 0 = inaccurate or no response