5 Themes of Geography Vocabulary:

**Geography** - the science of the Earth

**Location, Location, Location! - (The Theme of Location)**

**relative location** - the location of a place compared to another place (my house is near Wal-Mart, New Hampshire is 45 minutes from Boston, Concord is north of Nashua.

**absolute location** - describes the exact location of a place on the Earth. (I live at 123 Wendy Lane, Nashua, NH 03064, Nashua is (41N, 73W).

**coordinates** - the points of longitude and latitude that identify a location (41N, 73W)

**latitude lines** - east-west lines that surround the globe and measure distances north and south of the equator. They are also called parallels.

**parallels** - another term for latitude lines. Parallel lines never intersect or "cross" each other.

**Equator** - zero degrees latitude. The Equator separates the Earth into the northern and southern hemispheres.

**hemisphere** - half of the globe. (northern, southern, eastern and western hemispheres)

**longitude lines** - north-south lines that measure distances east and west of the Prime Meridian. They are also called meridians.

**meridians** - another term for longitude lines

**Prime Meridian** - zero degrees longitude; passes through Greenwich, England

**International Dateline** - 180 degrees longitude; this line designates where each new day begins.

**Mapmaker, Mapmaker, Make Me a Map! (Location cont.)**

**migration** - the movement of people from one region to settle in another

**cartographer** - a person who makes maps

**globe** - a spherical model of the Earth.

**map** - a representation of the Earth or part of the Earth on a flat surface

**distortion** - a misrepresentation of the true size and or shape of an object.
map projection - a method of putting a map of the Earth onto a flat piece of paper.

political map - show how people have divided the world's land and water areas.

physical map - shows landforms on the Earth's surface such as lakes, rivers, mountains, deserts, valleys, etc.

special purpose map - maps used to show a specific feature of the Earth (population, language, climate, etc.)

Wish You Were Here! - (The Theme of Place)

climat e - the average weather of a place over a period of time.

torrid zone - the extremely hot area of the Earth, closest to the Equator

temperate zones - the climate in the temperate zones are mild and vary during the year with distinct seasons.

frigid zones - extremely cold areas of the Earth closest to the poles.

altitude - measures the distance above sea level

landforms - physical features of the Earth like mountains, valleys, deserts, bays, rivers, plateaus, etc.

population - describes the number of people who live in a particular area

demographics - the study of population

population density - the measure of the average number of people living in a given area

urban - describes areas of large populations like the city.

suburban - describes areas around the cities and are usually made up of homes, neighborhoods and businesses.

rural - describes less populated areas such as in the country; farmland, woodlands

culture - describes the way people live (language, religion, traditions, holidays, food, etc.)

The Reason for Regions! (The Theme of Region)

region - used to describe or group areas together with common characteristics (i.e. New England, the Middle East, The Rocky Mountains, the corn belt, etc,)
time zone - a division of the Earth for the purpose of keeping time. There are 24 time zones on the Earth.

biome - natural regions in the world that share common characteristics (i.e. tundra, desert, grasslands, rainforest, etc.

Movin' and Groovin'! (The Theme of Movement)

movement - how people, products and ideas get from place to place.

interdependence - when people or countries rely on each other for the things that they need.

export - any product that is sent out of or exits a place.

import - any product that is brought into or enters a place.

migration - moving to settle in another place

emigration - when a person moves away from their native country

immigration - when a person moves into a new country.

This is a secret sentence. The password is "flying squirrel". Whisper this to Ms. Walsh and she'll give you $20.00 in your checkbook. She'll know you've been using the website!!! :) You can email her also. Tell nobody!

Pollution is Not the Solution! (The Theme of Human/Environment Interaction)

natural resources - the materials made by nature that people can use

renewable resources - those resources we get from the Earth that can be replaced (i.e. trees, animals, crops)

non-renewable resources - those resources that we get from the Earth that cannot be replaced (i.e. oil, aluminum, gold)

deforestation - the widespread cutting down of trees without replacing them

water cycle - the movement of water from the Earth to the air and back to Earth again

evaporation - when the Earth is heated, some of the water is changed into a gas

condensation - when water vapor forms and collects on clouds

precipitation - all the forms of water; ice, snow, rain and sleet that fall from the atmosphere to the ground