

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Great Pencil Factory

The Story:

Your great uncle George an eccentric inventor recently died. In his will he left you his valuable estate and a new and valuable technology, which will allow you to produce pencils at a significantly lower cost. His final request was for you to open “The Great Pencil Factory” in the United States to produce pencils for the millions of school children around the country. It is clearly specified in his will that you cannot receive your inheritance until you choose a site in the United States and begin building the pencil factory. It appears that you are going to become an entrepreneur!

Based on the paragraph above let’s begin our quest to open The Great Pencil Factor by answering the three basic economic questions for the factory:

- What will you produce?

\_\_\_\_\_

- How will you produce it?

\_\_\_\_\_

- For whom will you produce it?

\_\_\_\_\_

In a small group:

- Begin your search for the ideal plant location by identifying the location of the natural resources necessary to produce pencils, and marking them on an outline map of the United States.
- On the same map, identify population centers – which will be your source of human resources (labor) – and study transportation systems and land formations. Access to transportation systems is important for transporting resources to the factory and finished products to market.
- Once you have gathered this information, mark the spot where you would locate your factory and write a paragraph describing your reasons for locating the plant at this site.