Purpose: This exercise applies concept of place to a number of North American cities with Minor League Baseball teams in 2011. As a result of completing this exercise, students will be more familiar with the three elements of place (physical, environmental, and human) and the role they play in the selection of Minor League Baseball team names.

Supplies: To complete this exercise, students will need a pen or pencil and access to a computer that is connected to the internet.

Data: Primary data for this exercise was obtained from Minor League Baseball Online, Baseball Reference Online, and the websites of individual Minor League Baseball franchises. Data analysis required to design this exercise was completed by the author.

**Place-based Identity**

Humans define themselves as individuals in a variety of ways – how they dress, speak, vote, what they drive, and what music they listen to. They also define themselves by where they were born, grew up, went to high school, and currently live. These meaningful, place-based variables extend to neighborhoods, small towns, and cities, where collective social, economic, and cultural histories are often a source of pride. Local sports team names may reflect these histories; indeed, many exist in Minor League Baseball. This exercise examines place – the sum of all physical, environmental, and human characteristics in a defined area – in selected cities that host Minor League Baseball franchises. Use the web sites listed below to begin your research. The use of web sites beyond this list is acceptable, but they must be properly cited in an attached references section (see link below).

Minor League Baseball | Geography
http://web.minorleaguebaseball.com/milb/info/geographical.jsp

Baseball Reference Online | Minor League Affiliates by Year
http://www.baseball-reference.com/minors/affiliate.cgi

Northeast Regional Climate Center | U.S. Comparative Climate Data
http://www.nrcc.cornell.edu/page_ccd.html

U.S. Geologic Survey | Locate Your Watershed
http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/map_index.html

U.S. Geologic Survey | Physiographic Regions

U.S. Census Bureau | Metropolitan Statistical Areas--Population by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2009
http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2011/tables/11s0023.xls

U.S. Census Bureau | Jamestown-Dunkirk-Fredonia, NY Micropolitan Area Population: 2010
http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_DP_DPDP1&prodType=table

Bedford and St. Martin’s Press | Chicago Documentation Style
http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/RES5e_ch10_s1-0001.html
Team: Stockton Ports

Location (city, state): ________________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: __________________________________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): _______________________________________________________

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Characterize the climate: ________________________________________________________________________

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Name of watershed: ____________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ________________________________________________________


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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Team: Lowell Spinners

Location (city, state): ____________________________

Major League affiliate: __________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ____________________________

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Characterize the climate: ____________________________________________________________

Name of watershed: ________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: __________________________________________


Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
Team: San Antonio Missions

Location (city, state): ____________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _________________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ________________________________________

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Name of watershed: ________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: __________________________________________


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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Team: Myrtle Beach Pelicans

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ____________________________

Charleston climate data

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Characterize the climate: _______________________________________________________

Name of watershed: ____________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _________________________________


Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
Team: Nashville Sounds

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ___________________________

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Nashville climate data

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Characterize the climate: _____________________________________________________________________

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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _______________________________________________________


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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Team: Midland Rock Hounds

Location (city, state): ____________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _________________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): _____________________________________

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Midland-Odessa climate data

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Characterize the climate: ____________________________________________________________

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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _______________________________________________


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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Team: Inland Empire 66ers

Location (city, state): __________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ____________________________________________

Los Angeles climate data

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Average High Temp (F)

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Characterize the climate: _________________________________________________________

Name of watershed: ____________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ____________________________


Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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Team: Albuquerque Isotopes

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________ 

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ______________________________________________
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Albuquerque climate data

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Characterize the climate: _____________________________________________________________________
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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ______________________________________________________

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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)
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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
Team: Jamestown Jammers

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ______________________________
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Erie climate data

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Characterize the climate: __________________________________________________________
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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _____________________________________________

Team history (tenure of the team in the host city, duration of Major League affiliation, current Minor League classification (Triple-A, Double-A, Single-A Advanced, Single-A, Single-A Short Season, Rookie). _________________________________________________________________________________________
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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)         _________________________________________________________________________________________
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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above) _________________________________________________________________________________________
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Team: Chattanooga Lookouts

Location (city, state): _______________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _____________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): _________________________

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Chattanooga climate data

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Characterize the climate: ____________________________________________________

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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _________________________________


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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_________________________________________________________________________
Team: Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________ 

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ____________________________ 

Allentown climate data

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Characterize the climate: _____________________________________________________ 

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Name of watershed: ____________________________________________________________ 

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ________________________________________ 


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

__________________________________________________________________________________________
Team: Altoona Curve

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): ____________________________________
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Pittsburgh climate data

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Characterize the climate: _____________________________________________________________________
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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ______________________________________________________

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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)
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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
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Team: Northwest Arkansas Naturals

Location (city, state): _______________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): __________________________
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Fort Smith climate data

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Characterize the climate: _____________________________________________________
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Name of watershed: ___________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _________________________________

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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)
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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
___________________________________________________________________________
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___________________________________________________________________________
Team: Brooklyn Cyclones

Location (city, state): ____________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: __________________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): __________________________________________

New York LaGuardia climate data

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Characterize the climate: ___________________________________________________________________
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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: _____________________________________________________

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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)
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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
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__________________________________________________________________________________________
Team: Cedar Rapids Kernels

Location (city, state): _________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: _______________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): __________________________

Waterloo climate data

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Characterize the climate: _____________________________________________________________________

Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ______________________________________________________


Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)
Team: Tacoma Rainiers

Location (city, state): _____________________________________________________________

Major League affiliate: ___________________________________________________________

Relative location (location in state, nearby large city): __________________________________

Seattle SEA-TAC climate data

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Characterize the climate: ____________________________________________________________________

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Name of watershed: _________________________________________________________________________

Population of Metropolitan Statistical Area: ______________________________________________________


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Brief city history (year established, important economic sectors past and present)

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Explanation of team name (integrate place-based information accumulated above)

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