**Unit 1 NC Geography Vocabulary**

\* = Not in book

\***Latitude** - Imaginary lines drawn on maps from east to west

\***Longitude** - Imaginary lines drawn on maps from north to south

\***Legend** - A small chart included on a map that gives descriptions of what symbols are used and what they stand for.

\***Compass** - A design on a map that shows directions

\***Prime Meridian** - A line of longitude that runs through the center of the Earth vertically, dividing the Eastern and Western hemispheres.

\***Equator** - A line of latitude that runs horizontally through the center of the Earth, dividing the Northern and Southern hemispheres.

\***Tropic of Cancer** – the tropic area north of the equator

\***Tropic of Capricorn** - the tropic area south of the equator

**Geographic Region** – Large area of land with a common set of features

**Piedmont** – hilly region between the Coastal Plain and Appalachian Mountains

**Coastal** **Plain** – broad, flat region in North Carolina that stretches 100 to 150 miles inland from the sea

\***Mountains** – the western part of NC that includes the Appalachians

\***Cape** - the point of a piece of land that extends into a body of water

**Loam** - a soil made up of a mixture of clay, sand, and decaying plants.

**Environment** – all the living and nonliving things that make up a region.

**Natural** **Resource** – any part of nature that people use in some way

**Outer** **Banks** - long chain of sandbars and barrier islands off the coast of North Carolina

**Fall** **Line** – the imaginary line formed by connecting all the points where rivers drop suddenly from highlands to lowlands, forming waterfalls or rapids.

**Primary** **Source** – a firsthand account or an artifact made in the period under study.