

This Land is Our Land

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you think this reading is about?

Definitions:

- Equal – the same for everyone
- Valley – a area of low land between hills or mountains
- Steeple – a high narrow tower on top of building, or roof of a church
- Relief – help such as food, shelter or medical care that is given to those in need



Reading

18 This well-known song is called “This Land is Your Land.” Many Americans learn it at an
35 early age. It was written by Woody Guthrie in 1940. He wrote many songs about freedom, peace,
and equal rights for all people.

40 This land is your land, this land is my land.
50 From California to the New York island;
57 From the Redwood Forest to the Gulf Stream water;
66 This land was made for you and me.
74 As I was walking that ribbon of highway,
82 I saw above me that endless skyway.
89 I saw below me that golden valley.
96 This land was made for you and me.
104 This land is your land, this land is my land.
114 From California to the New York island;
121 From the Redwood Forrest to the Gulf Stream water;
130 This land was made for you and me.
138 One bright sunny morning in the shadow of the steeple,
148 By the Relief Office I saw my people –
156 As they stood hungry, I stood there wondering if
165 This land was made for you and me.

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*Outdoor photo courtesy of Clearwater River Company

