

Asia, Oceania (Australia) and Antarctica

North Chevy Chase Elementary School

2025 GEOGRAPHY BEE Study Packet



**Enjoy your
travels!**

Full Name _____

Grade _____

Homeroom Teacher _____

The NCC Geography Bee

Welcome Aboard! The Geography Bee has been an NCC tradition for many years. We study different regions of the world in a three-year rotation. By the time students leave NCC, they will have studied the entire world! This year the Geography Bee will take students on an exploration of much of Asia, Oceania (Australia) and Antarctica. Students will explore fascinating countries, tropical islands, the highest mountains on Earth, the home of ancient civilizations, wild rivers, dense jungles and much more.



Listen at school for Geography Bee updates.

- The Geo Bee packet can be found on the school website.
 - Students may print a few pages at a time to complete.

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/nchevychasees/>

- After a few weeks of study, students will take a short Geo Bee quiz based on facts from the packet.
- The top five scorers in each homeroom will become that homeroom's Geography Bee team.
- Teams are invited to a friendly competition on Geography Bee Day.
- Each grade will participate in a separate Bee.
- Dates will be announced -- stay posted.
- This activity is optional.
- Updates can be found on the school website.

All NCC students are encouraged to complete this Geography Bee packet! However, this is an optional activity.

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Prepare for Your Journey

In each section of the packet, you will find maps and information that will help you learn more about the featured country. Population and other figures are current as of 2022 or the latest and best information available. Study the maps carefully and complete all the questions – work with your friends if you like. Everything you need to answer the questions is provided. Visit the media center or your public library to learn more about these countries. See how much of this packet you can complete. Do your best! Bring it to school each day so you can work on it in Media and in class. Have fun and enjoy your trip!

Introduction to Asia

Asia, the largest continent on Earth, includes 48 countries and 23 territories. Significant features of the continent include the world's tallest mountain, Mt. Everest in Nepal (and China), rising to 29,035 ft (8,850m). It also includes the world's lowest point, found in the Dead Sea Israel/Jordan, at 1,443 ft (392m) below sea level.

In addition, the continent includes the world's most populated countries, China and India; the world's longest coastline; the world's deepest lake; and some of the most important rivers on Earth.



Asia contains 17.2 million square miles of land, which accounts for 30% of Earth's land area. With approximately 4.7 billion people, Asia is home to nearly 60% of the world's population.

Asian countries are generally categorized into five regions: East Asia. South Asia. Two countries, Russia and Turkey, are transcontinental because they are officially part of both Asia and Europe



Map of Asia

A Tour of Ten Asian Countries

Iran (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Iran is the second-largest country in the Middle East region of Asia and has 5,000 years of fascinating history. Known as Persia until 1935, Iran became an Islamic Republic in 1979 after the ruling Shah was forced into political exile. The country is rich in natural gas and petroleum as well as natural beauty and cultural resources such as ancient ruins, mosques and museums that support tourism.

Iran's population is 90 million and its largest and capital city is Tehran (9.1 million). The major languages are Persian and Turkic. Iran is an Islamic nation, and the main religions are Shi'a Muslim and Sunni Muslim. The country is bordered by the Caspian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Gulf of Oman, and by the countries of Iraq, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. Its coastline is 1,516 miles along the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman. The country also borders the Caspian Sea in the North.



Iran is a very rugged country of plateaus and mountains, dominated by the Elburz Mountains in the north, and the Zagros Mountains along its western borders. The Dasht-e Kavir is a sandstone and salty desert plateau that is one of the hottest places on Earth in the summer. The most significant river is the Karun, in the southwestern corner of the country. Lake Urmia (in the far northwest) is the country's largest body of water. The country's highest point is Mt. Damavand at 18,405 feet, while the lowest point is the Caspian Sea at 90 feet below sea level.

1. Iran was previously known by this name. _____.
2. Name three bodies of water bordering Iran. _____
3. Iran is located on the continent of Asia. What Asian region is Iran part of? _____
4. Find a picture of a mosque. Sketch it in the box.

U.A.E. (United Arab Emirates)

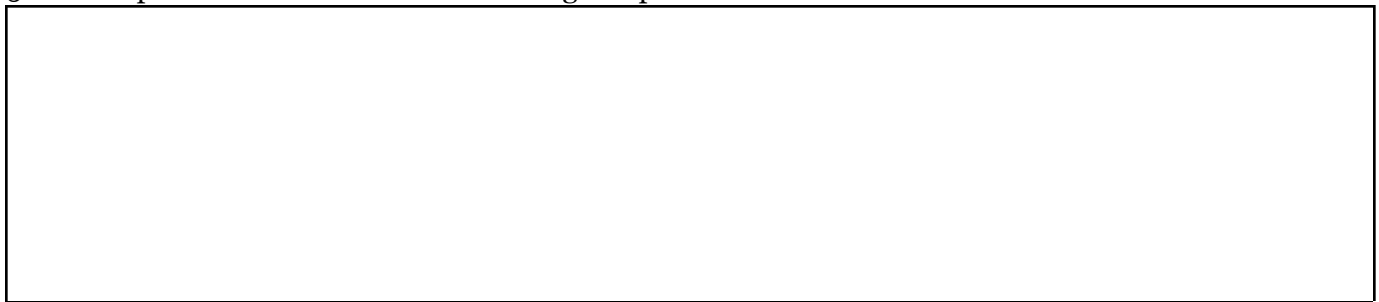
Formerly known as the Trucial States,
The United Arab Emirates is a federation of seven individual states, all ruled by emirs.

The economy is based primarily on oil, and the U.A.E. plays an important role in the leadership of the Middle East. Abu Dhabi, the country's capital, and Dubai (the largest city), are the largest and most modern cities, famed for their high-rise buildings and stylish hotels. The country's population is about 10.48 million. The U.A.E. has a coastline of 819 miles along the Persian Gulf. Most of the federation is a desert wasteland, with large, rolling sand dunes, as the outer reaches of the Rub'Al Khali Desert stretch into the country. The coastal areas fronting the Persian Gulf are flat. The Hajar Mountains dominate the landscape in the northeast, and the country's highest point is located there. Interestingly, there are no significant rivers or lakes. The country also includes numerous small islands situated offshore in the Persian Gulf. The highest point is Jebel Jasi at 6,207 feet and the lowest point is the Persian Gulf at sea level.



The U.A.E. is located on the Tropic of Cancer and bordered by Saudi Arabia, Oman and the Persian Gulf. The desert weather of the United Arab Emirates is hot and dry throughout the year, with very little rainfall. The brief winter months (December - February) do bring some mild cooling, especially in the hills and mountains of the northeast. Summer high temperatures (July - August) reach the low 100s, while winter low temperatures seldom drop below 40 degrees F.

1. Name the capital city and the largest city in the UAE. _____
2. The UAE is a federation of seven individual states each ruled by an _____
3. UAE was formerly known as the _____ States.
4. The economy of the UAE is based primarily on what natural resource? _____
5. Draw a picture to show the lowest and highest points of the UAE.



Pakistan (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)

The city of Islamabad became the capital city when it was officially moved from Karachi (the largest city) in 1959. Then, in 1971, East Pakistan demanded independence, and is now the country of Bangladesh.

Today, West Pakistan is simply known as Pakistan. As one of the most populous but poor countries in the world, with a population of 247 million, Pakistan faces enormous economic and social problems. Fortunately, it possesses a growing, diverse economy and immense natural resources. Pakistanis speak many languages, including Punjabi, Sindhi, Siraiki, Pashtu, Urdu, and English. Founded as an Islamic nation, the prominent religions are Sunni Muslim and Shia Muslim.



Pakistan is considered to be both part of the Indian subcontinent and positioned in the Middle East. The country is bordered by Iran, Afghanistan, China, India, and the Arabian Sea with a coastline of 650 miles. At the heart of Pakistan is the Punjab Plain, which is bisected by the Indus River and fronts its border with India. The southwest part of the country is the arid and dry Baluchistan Plateau that extends to the border with Iran.

Pakistan's most dramatic landscape is located in the North, at the western edges of the Himalayas, including the Hindu Kush, home to some of the tallest mountain peaks in the world. The highest point in Pakistan is K2, or (Mount Godwin-Austen), and is the second-tallest mountain on Earth at 28,250 feet. The mountainous areas of west-central Pakistan along the border with Afghanistan include the Ras Koh, Safed Koh and Toba Kakar ranges. The Indus River, one of the world's most significant waterways, and its numerous tributaries drain the entire country.

Pakistan has four provinces, including Balochistan, North-West Frontier Province, Punjab and Sindh, plus the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and the Islamabad Capital Territory. From the Arabian Sea, to the high mountains of the north, Pakistan's climate varies widely. Generally, south and east of the mountains, the country is hot and dry in the summer months with

very little rain. Along the southern coastal areas, the humidity is very high. In the northern and western mountains, summers are much cooler, and winter brings heavy snow. Throughout the Hindu Kush and the rugged peaks of the far north, Arctic-like conditions in winter are normal.

The heaviest rain (central and south), falls from July through September, while winters do bring some light rain. In the central Punjab region, May - July are the hottest months, with daily high temperatures averaging near 90 degrees Fahrenheit. High temperatures above 100 degrees are common. Winter lows seldom fall below 40 degrees. The coastal areas enjoy milder, more consistent temperatures, with daily highs averaging near 85 degrees and winter lows near 55 degrees. Some of the agricultural products of Pakistan include cotton, wheat, rice, sugarcane, fruits, vegetables, milk, beef, mutton, and eggs.

1. Pakistan is officially part of what two regions of Asia?

_____ and _____.

2. Pakistan's climate is widely varied with humid subtropical zones in the southeast near the Arabian Sea and Arctic-like winters in the mountainous region to the North. What is the name of this mountainous region at the western edge of the Himalayas?

_____.

3. This important Asian river drains nearly all of Pakistan.

_____.

4. Pakistan was formed after 1947 when it became independent from which neighboring country?

_____.

5. What countries border Pakistan

6. Draw and label some of Pakistan's agricultural products.

Bangladesh

Ruled by Britain in the 19th and 20th centuries, and once part of India, Bangladesh (formerly called East Pakistan), was formed in 1971 when it officially separated from its union with West Pakistan (now called Pakistan).

As one of the most crowded countries on Earth, much of the lush, low-lying landscape is subject to yearly flooding, and the subsequent devastation of cyclones. Those natural hazards have adversely affected the nation's economy and its people, as they often cause great loss of life. Although not a major tourism destination, Bangladesh is known for its natural beauty, the friendly people, the capital city of Dhaka, and the easy-going beach resort of Cox's Bazar - home to the world's longest natural sandy beach, 75 miles long.

The population is 171.5 million. The capital city of Dhaka has about 25.9 million residents. Major languages are Bengali (official) and English. Major religions are Muslim and Hindu. Bangladesh is located on the Indian subcontinent in South Central Asia and is bordered by the Bay of Bengal, India and Burma (Myanmar). It has a coastline of 360 miles.

As a nation of rivers, Bangladesh is in essence a large delta comprised of three significant rivers; the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna. The Ganges is one of the most important rivers in the world. It begins in the Himalayas and drains much of northern India as well as Bangladesh, two of the most densely populated nations on Earth. Unfortunately, Bangladesh is one of the most flood-prone countries in the world, and when the spring snowmelt from the Himalayas runs south to the Indian Ocean, the rivers often overflow. Replete with coastal mangrove forests and tropical rain forests, the land is mostly flat, with a few hilly areas in the east and southeast. The highest point is Keokradong -- 3235 feet and the lowest point is the Indian Ocean at sea level.



Bangladesh, one of the wettest countries on the planet, is hot and rainy in the summer months. Most of the annual rainfall (often over 60 inches per year) comes during the monsoon season from June to September. In contrast, very little rain falls in the cooler months (November - February). March, April and May are the warmest months with high temps near 90 degrees; winter lows seldom fall below 55.

1. Like Pakistan, Bangladesh was once part of what neighboring country?

_____.

2. Due to immense rainfall during the summer monsoon season and low-lying river deltas, Bangladesh is one of the _____ places on Earth and subject to repeated flooding.

3. Three major rivers drain Bangladesh, but the most famous and important is the _____.

4. What resort area in southeast Bangladesh is home to the world's longest beach?

_____.

—.

Malaysia

Malaysia itself was formed in 1963 when Singapore and the states of Sabah and Sarawak joined the Peninsular Malaysia Federation; the island city-nation of Singapore, located at the very tip of the Malay Peninsula, subsequently became independent in 1965.

Located in Southeast Asia, just north of the Equator, the exotic, tropical islands and lands of Malaysia contain some of the most beautiful beaches on the planet and a collection of unrivaled rainforests and national parks. The country's population is over 34 million. The capital city of Kuala Lumpur has a population of over 2 million.

Malaysians speak many different languages including Malay (official), English, assorted Chinese dialects and other indigenous languages. Religions in Malaysia included Muslim, Buddhist, Daoist, Hindu and Christianity. Malaysia is immediately north of the Equator and located on both the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and on the northern edges of the island of Borneo.

With an extensive coastline of 2,905 miles, Malaysia borders the South China Sea, Strait of Malacca, assorted smaller seas, and the countries of Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Thailand, Indonesia and neighboring Singapore across the narrow Singapore Strait). Malaysia comprised of Peninsular Malaysia, which is part of mainland Southeast Asia, and East Malaysia. East Malaysia, encompasses the states of Sabah and Sarawak, which is on the island of Bornea.

The coastal plains in Malaysia (in some areas rather wide) rise gently into hills and mountains that are covered by dense rainforest. Off its coastlines, Malaysia includes hundreds of very small islands. Over two dozen rivers flow from the mountains, with the Pahang, Rajang and Sugut the most significant. Malaysia's highest point is Mt. Gunung Kinbalu -- 13,451 feet on the island of Borneo. The lowest point is sea level. Due to its location near the equator, Malaysia has a tropical climate with many sunny days.



Temperatures ranging from 70 to 90 degrees are consistent throughout most of the year. Two monsoon seasons (April to October) and (October to February) bring consistent, yet moderate rainfall. Relative humidity is very high year-round.

The natural beauty of Malaysia is a major tourism draw, as few places on Earth are as pristine and unspoiled. The country offers an incredible array of quiet beaches, rainforests and hundreds of tropical islands. Malaysia has a world-renowned park system, including Taman Negara National Park, with its gigantic trees, plants, and colorful wildlife; Sabah's state parks and stunning Mount Kinabalu; the world's largest orangutan sanctuary near the town of Sandakan, and Sarawak's collection of national parks, some of the most unique anywhere.

1. Malaysia is located on two different land masses in Asia, the Malay Peninsula and what island?

_____.

2. Malaysia is famous for its natural beauty and parks, including the world's largest sanctuary for what animals?

_____.

3. Why is Malaysia a great place for tourists to visit? Name some things that tourists might see there?

4. Much of Malaysia has a tropical climate due to its location just north of the _____.

5. Draw an orangutan in the space below. Find out what they like to eat and include that in your drawing.

Indonesia (Republic of Indonesia)

Indonesia is comprised of over 17,500 counted islands and is by far the largest and most varied archipelago (island chain) on Earth. It spans more than 735,000 square miles between Asia and Australia and is positioned on the equator across a region of immense volcanic activity. Many of the smaller islands here are still uninhabited with the larger islands of Java, Borneo, New Guinea, Sumatra and Sulawesi home to most of the country's 281 million people.



The capital and largest city of Jakarta (10.5 million) is on the island of Java. This tropical country and its many islands are one of the most stunning destinations on our planet; tourism is a cornerstone of the Indonesian economy. Because Indonesia spans so many islands and cultures many languages are spoken across the country.

Although Indonesia is not officially an Islamic nation, the majority religion is Muslim (88 percent), along with Protestant, Catholic and others.

The larger islands of Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Sulawesi, and New Guinea are quite mountainous, with some peaks reaching 12,000 feet. The highest elevations (over 16,000 feet) are found on New Guinea in the east with the highest point at Mt. Puncak Jaya at 16,502 feet. Located along the “Ring of Fire” (a circle of active volcanoes circling the Pacific Ocean), Indonesia has some 400 volcanoes within its borders, of which at least 120 are still active in some way.

Significant rivers include the Barito, Digul, Hari, Kampar, Kapuas, Kayan and Musi. Due to its location at the equator, Indonesia is generally hot and humid throughout the year, with moderate cooling in the higher elevations.

1. Indonesia is the largest and most varied _____ on Earth.
2. With over 400 _____, Indonesia earns its place on the “Ring of Fire.”
3. Indonesia is comprised of over _____ islands, many of which are uninhabited.

Philippines (Republic of the Philippines)

Located on the western edge of the Pacific Ocean and along the Ring of Fire, the Philippines is the second-largest archipelago on Earth after Indonesia, with over 7,100 individual islands counted within its borders. The country has suffered from a number of natural disasters and struggles economically with a largely poor population of nearly 114 million.

The capital and largest city of Manila (1.8 million) is located on Luzon. The Philippines has two official languages- Filipino and English.

The Philippines is positioned off the southeastern coast of Asia, directly east of Vietnam and northeast of Malaysia. This island nation is literally surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and many smaller bodies of water including the Philippine Sea, Celebes Sea, Sula Sea, and the South China Sea. Like Indonesia, the Philippines has a vast coastline of 22,549 miles. Much of the Philippine culture has been influenced by the past rule of the country of Spain.

The Philippines are subject to frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The Mayon Volcano is the most active in the Philippines and is a popular tourist spot because of its symmetrical cone shape. However, it does not stand alone.

Spanning about 1,100 miles (north to south), the Philippines' many volcanic islands are mostly mountainous, with narrow coastal plains. Many islands are covered by tropical rainforest.

The longest river is the Cagayan (Río Grande de Cagayán) on the largest island of the Philippines, Luzon, which is 217 miles long. Other significant rivers (on Luzon) include the Abra, Bicol, Chico, and Pampanga. On Mindanao, the second largest island in the Philippines, important rivers include the Mindanao River and the Agusan. Laguna de Bay, just southeast of Manila, is the largest lake of the Philippines. Lake Taal, also south of Manila, occupies a huge volcanic crater and contains an island that is itself a volcano. Lake Lanao is the largest lake of Mindanao and the source of the Agusan River. The highest point in the country is Mt. Apo at 9,692 feet and the lowest point is sea level.

The Philippines are tropical, very warm and humid and subject to seasonal monsoon rains (May - October and November - February). Annual rainfall is heavy but varies widely. The greatest amounts fall along the mountainous east



coasts of Luzon, Samar, and the northern tip of Mindanao.

The Philippines (especially the eastern coasts of Luzon and Samar) is also subject to frequent typhoons. A typhoon is a hurricane in the West Pacific Ocean and is common from July to October. On average, five may cause significant destruction each year. Between March and May, hot, dry weather prevails across the islands, accompanied by high humidity levels. Temperatures in Manila range from 70 to 90 degrees, with an average annual temperature of 80 degrees.

1. Much of Philippine culture, including language, place names and food are influenced by the past colonial rule by what European country? _____.

2. What is a monsoon? Use a dictionary if necessary.

3. The Philippines are surrounded by the Pacific Ocean. Name three of the small seas that border the Philippines.

_____,
_____, and
_____.

4. The Philippine archipelago is comprised of more than _____ islands.

5. What is meant by the term "Ring of Fire"?

_____.

6. What is a tropical rainforest? Draw one below. What animals might you see there?

Japan

Steeped in centuries of culture and history, Japan, an archipelago of four major islands (Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu) and over 14,000 smaller islands, is a mostly mountainous country with only 15% of its land arable (suitable for growing crops). As a result, its largest cities ring the coastline 18,486 miles long. The mammoth capital city of Tokyo (metro population of 14 million) and the other huge cities along the Pacific Ocean are home to most of Japan's 125.6 million people.

Despite its relatively small land area and moderate sized population, Japan is third largest industrialized economy in the world, behind China and the US.

Japan is a world leader in technology, electronics and automobiles. Japan's cities have a fast-paced culture and excitement, especially Tokyo and Osaka. However, rural coastal villages and wilderness areas, the winter wonderland of Sapporo, and remote islands exist as well.

The official language is Japanese and main religions include Buddhist and Shinto (85%). A long ridge of rugged mountains runs through the heart of Japan, punctuated by steep tree-lined slopes, and deep valleys on the Pacific Ocean side, and lower hills and mountains along the Sea of Japan side. The main interior mountain ranges include the Akaishi, Hido and Kiso, where elevations exceed 9,800 feet. The country's highest point, Mt. Fuji, southwest of Tokyo, is a dormant volcano with a height of 12,388 feet. The lowest point in Japan is Lake Hachirogata at 13 feet below sea level.

Like many other island nations of eastern Asia, the islands of Japan are located on the Ring of Fire and as a result, suffer from frequent, violent earthquakes and some serious volcanic activity. The largest river in Japan is the Shinano.



The weather in Japan varies dramatically north to south, and many travelers feel the ideal months to visit are March through May.

1. What is the capital of Japan? _____.

2. Because major mountain chains cover most of Japan, only _____% of the land is arable.

(arable means used or suitable for growing crops)

3. Japan has the third largest _____
in the world; only the United States and China is larger.

4. Name the four seas surrounding the islands of Japan.

_____,
_____,
_____ and
_____.

5. What is the largest river in Japan?

6. Draw a scene from any Japanese location (urban, suburban, rural) and label.

The Korean Peninsula (North and South Korea)

In a land-grab, Japan annexed the entire peninsula in 1905, but at the end of World War II in 1945, Korea was split into North and South, with the 38th parallel the general demarcation line. In many cases, families were literally split in two by this action. Archaeologists think that humans lived in Korea around 700,000 years ago.

Today, North and South Korea are as different as black and white when economies, living conditions and personal freedoms are compared. But on the Korean Peninsula, today there are millions of people still hoping for the eventual reunification of their common culture and extended families.

North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

- ~ Population approx. 25.7 million
- ~ Capital City Pyongyang (3.2 million)
- ~ Language: Korean
- ~ Religions: Buddhist, Confucianism, some Christian
- ~ Coastline: 1,550 miles

North Korea occupies the northern half of the Korean Peninsula, which extends southward from the Asian continent and China. North Korea is bordered by China, Russia and South Korea, and by the Korean Bay, Yellow Sea and East Sea (Sea of Japan). North Korea is an economically and socially isolated nation which is closed to foreigners. Its totalitarian government does not allow travel to and from the country and little is known about life for average North Koreans. North Korea is composed of a series of medium-sized mountain ranges and large hills, most separated by deep, narrow valleys. The highest peak is located on its northern border with China at Paektu-san at 9,002 feet.



Along the west coast there are wide coastal plains, while along the Sea of Japan coastline narrow plains rise into mountains. Similar to South Korea, dozens of small islands dot the western coastline. North Korea's longest river is the Yalu (Yalu). Other large rivers include the Tumen, Taedang and Imjin. The lowest point is sea level. North Korea experiences long, cold, and somewhat dry winters. Summers are brief; often hot (central and south) and quite humid. Winter temperatures (November - February) seldom rise above 32 degrees, and temperatures below -10 degrees are not uncommon. Summers (June - August) feature high temperatures in the 80s. Approximately 65 percent of North Korea's annual rainfall occurs between June and September.

South Korea (Republic of Korea)

- ~ Population 51.7 million
- ~ Capital City Seoul (9.8 million) metro (20.5 million)
- ~ Languages: Korean, English
- ~ Religions: No affiliation (46%), Buddhist (26%)
Christian (26%) ~ Coastline: 1,499 miles

Unlike North Korea, South Korea has a democratic government with elected leaders and an open society. Despite its short history, South Korea has made great strides in becoming an important, leading industrialized nation. Following years of on-going political rancor and much-needed social policy changes, the modern country of South Korea and its dramatically expanded economy have garnered the world's attention in a big way by successfully staging the Summer Olympics of 1988 and the 2002 soccer World Cup. South Korea is a growing and prosperous industrial economy focused on technology, consumer products, heavy machinery and automobiles. Tourism is also now growing rapidly, especially in the Australian and Asian markets.

South Korea occupies the southern half of the Korean Peninsula, which extends southward from the Asian continent. South Korea is bordered by North Korea and by the Yellow Sea, East Sea (Sea of Japan) and the Korea Strait. South Korea shares much of the same geography and climate as North Korea. South Korea is very hilly and mountainous in the east, where the Taebaek Mountains dominate the landscape. The hilly land (central) slopes toward the West and becomes undulating coastal plains where most of the people live and arable land is found. The country's highest point is Mt. Halla-san, an extinct volcano located on Cheju Island at 6,398 feet. The lowest point is sea level.

The western and southern coastlines are covered by thousands of islands and narrow channels. Significant rivers include the Kum, Han and Nakdong. The weather in South Korea is of the four-seasons variety: Spring is chilly with frequent drizzle; summers are hot and often rainy, with the heaviest rainfall during the monsoon season (June - July). The fall months are pleasant as dry cooler winds blow in from the North. Winters bring much colder conditions with snow or rain. Milder winter temperatures are the norm along the southern coastal islands. Winter high temperatures (November - February) seldom rise above 45° F, and in the higher elevations and low temperatures below -10° F are common. Summers (June - August) feature high temperatures in the 80s, and in the far south, conditions border on tropical.



1. Archeological evidence indicates that humans lived on the Korean Peninsula over _____ years ago.

2. In 1945, following decades of occupation by Japan, Korea was split into two countries at what parallel (latitude) line?

_____.

3. South Korea's highest point is an extinct volcano Mt. Halla-san is located on _____ island.

4. The capital city of North Korea is

_____.

5. Draw and label a scene from North Korea. In the second box, draw and label a scene from South Korea. How are their governments different from each other?

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Quick Asia Quiz

1. Both the highest point and lowest point on the surface of the Earth are located in Asia. What is the highest point? _____. What is the lowest point? _____.
2. Asia is generally separated into four regions. Name all four: _____.
3. Two Asian countries are “trans-continental” because they span both Asia and Europe. One such country is Russia. Name the other: _____.
4. The two highest mountains on Earth are found in what Asian range? Name them.
5. What is the name of the north-to-south mountain range that separates European Russia from Asian Russia? _____.
6. Which Asian country has the largest population of any nation on Earth: China or India? _____.
7. The deepest lake on Earth is _____, located _____.
8. The largest island chain or archipelago is also this Asian country? _____.
9. Many Asian countries including Japan, the Philippines and Indonesia have active volcanoes. What is the name of the chain of volcanoes that connect all of these mountains along the Pacific Ocean? _____.
10. Can you name the three countries that share the large island of Borneo? _____, _____, and _____.
11. The second highest mountain on Earth, K2, is located in what country? _____.
12. Many Southeast Asian countries are affected by heavy late summer rains (June – September) called _____.
13. The _____ is one of Earth’s most important rivers because it drains two of the most populous areas on the planet: northern India and Bangladesh
14. Name the three countries of Indochina:
15. What separates North Korea from South Korea?

List of Asian Countries and Capitals

Afghanistan-Kabul	Kazakhstan- Astana	Philippines- Manila
	Kuwait- Kuwait City	Qatar -Doha
Armenia-Yerevan	Kyrgyzstan -Bishkek	Saudi Arabia -Riyadh
Azerbaijan-Baku	Laos -Vientiane	Singapore- Singapore
Bahrain-Manama	Lebanon -Beirut	South Korea -Seoul
Bangladesh-Dhaka	Macau -Beijing	Sri Lanka -Colombo
Bhutan-Thimphu	Malaysia -Kuala Lumpur	Syria- Damascus
Brunei-Bandar Seri Begawan	Maldives -Malé	Taiwan -Taipei
Cambodia-Phnom Penh	Mongolia -Ulan Bator	Tajikistan -Dushanbe
China-Beijing	Myanmar -Naypyidaw	Thailand -Bangkok
Georgia-Tbilisi	Nepal -Kathmandu	Timor-Leste Dili
India -NewDelhi	North Korea Pyongyang	Turkey- Ankara
Indonesia-Jakarta		Turkmenistan - Ashgabat
Iran -Tehran	Oman -Muscat	United Arab Emirates -Abu Dhabi
Iraq- Baghdad	Pakistan -Islamabad	Uzbekistan- Tashkent
Israel-Jerusalem	Palestine -Ramallah	Vietnam- Hanoi
Japan -Tokyo		Yemen-Sana
Jordan- Amman		

Label the Asia map.



Oceania

Oceania is a geographic region that includes Australia and New Zealand, Melanesia (New Guinea and neighboring islands), Micronesia and Polynesia (thousands of small Pacific islands located across the western, central and southern Pacific Ocean). Spanning the eastern and western hemispheres, Oceania has a land area of more than three million square miles and a population of 46.6 million. The term Oceania was coined in 1812 from the Latin oceanus because, unlike continental groupings, the ocean links the region together. In the 1950s, Indonesia and the Philippines were removed from Oceania and added to Asia as a "great division" of the world being replaced by the concept of the continent of Australia. Some countries (such as Brazil) still regard Oceania as a continent.



Australia

Capital Canberra

Size 2,941,299 square miles

Borders Indonesia and
Papua New Guinea (north);
New

Zealand (east);
Indian Ocean
(south and west)

Population 25.6 million



States and Territories (capital cities in parentheses):

Western Australia (Perth)

Northern Territory (Darwin)

South Australia (Adelaide)

Queensland (Brisbane)

New South Wales (Sydney)

Victoria (Melbourne)

Tasmania (Hobart)

Australian Capital Territory (Canberra)

Major Landforms

Note: Australia is extremely dry, with about 35% of the country receiving very little rain (if any). Almost 20% of available land is some form of desert. Some of the most striking landforms found in Australia include the following:

Outback

Deserts cover a large portion of the land in Australia. Most of the deserts lie in the central and northwestern part of the country. Deserts make up 38% of the continent, occupying more than 529,000 sq. miles (1,371,000 km²). The Outback includes the Great Victoria, the Great Sandy, the Tanami, the Simpson and other deserts. The area receives very little rain and summer heat can be brutal with high temperatures exceeding 120° F.

Lake Eyre Basin

Lake Eyre itself is more than 50 feet below sea level and is located in the driest part of Australia. Usually, it holds little water, and due to recent severe drought conditions in the country, it has none. Lake Eyre Basin is considered the world's largest internal drainage system, covering about one-sixth of the country. Rivers here flow based on rainfall, and because of that rare commodity, isolated water holes are vital for local communities and wildlife.

Great Barrier Reef

This spectacular coral reef, situated in the Coral Sea off the coast of Queensland and about 1,250 miles in length, contains the world's largest deposit of coral. It is not one continuous reef, but rather an irregular jigsaw puzzle of more than 2,800 individual coral reefs and assorted coral cays. Famed worldwide for its beauty and wildlife, it became Australia's first World Heritage Area in 1981.

Darling/Murray River System

The Darling River, 1,160 miles long, flows southwest from the edges of the Great Dividing Range into the Murray River. The Murray rises in the Australian Alps and flows 1,200 miles to the Spencer Gulf, directly west of Adelaide. It is the longest river in Australia and is a vital source of irrigation for the country's major agricultural industries.

Australia Questions

1. Australia is both a country and a continent. Name the two oceans bordering Australia. _____ and _____.
2. The capital of Australia is located in the country's southeast. Australia's capital was established to be the capital and is located between the cities of Melbourne and Sydney. Name the capital. _____.
3. The largest coral reef in the world is located off the northeast coast of Australia. Name the reef, _____, and the sea in which it is located. _____.
4. Australia's largest city, and capital of New South Wales, is famous for its Opera House, which looks like the sails of a ship. Name the city, which is located north of the capital on the southeast coast. _____.
5. This capital and largest city of Western Australia is often referred to as the most isolated city on Earth because it is so far from any other large city. Name it. _____.
6. This island south of Melbourne is the home of many unusual plants and animals including the Tasmanian devil. If you travel due south, the next land you see is Antarctica. Name the island. _____.
7. In the Northern Territory, there is a famous red sandstone monolith that measures 5.8 miles around and 115 feet high. It is often called Ayers Rock. What is its native name? _____.
8. Since Australia is in the Southern Hemisphere, its seasons are opposite to ours. What season is it in the United States when Australians enjoy their summer? _____.
9. Name the Asian country located northwest of Australia. _____.



Label the Australia Map

New Zealand

Capital Wellington

Size 103,483 square miles

Highest Point Aoraki, also known as Mt. Cook, 12,316 feet

Population 5 million

Major Landforms

Comprised of two large islands, North and South Islands, and separated by Cook Strait, as well as Stewart Island, hundreds of coastal islands, and many regional islands, New Zealand is a snowcapped land of contrasts, from mountains to scenic landscapes.

Positioned along the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Southern Alps extend down the backbone of South Island. The country's highest point, Mount Cook (Aoraki) is located there, as well as more than 350 glaciers and many national parks.

Throughout the Southern Alps an additional 19 mountains rise above 10,000 ft. (3,000 m). Along the western side of these massive peaks, there is a narrow strip of coastline. Along their eastern flank, the mountains slope into a region of rolling hills and plains, drained by glacier-fed rivers.

In the far south, within the confines of Fiordland National Park, a jagged coastline of fjords, inlets, and bays meet the Tasman Sea. Milford Sound, located within the park, is surrounded by sheer rock faces that rise 1,200 meters or more on either side. It is sometimes considered New Zealand's top travel destination.



The mountains found on the North Island are volcanic in nature, and several remain active. In the Southwest, Mount Taranaki (Maori name), also known by its British name, Mt. Egmont rises to 8,261 feet.

Other volcanic peaks of note stretch across a wide central plateau, including Mount Ruapehu at 9,177 ft. (2,797 m), Mount Ngauruhoe 7,515 ft. (2,291 m), and Mount Tongariro 6,458 ft. (1,968 m). This thermal belt area has boiling mud pools, geysers, hot springs and steam vents.

Broad coastal plains cover much of the North Island, and along its central western coastline, limestone caves, caverns and underground rivers are common. Along the northeastern coastline, the Bay of Islands is famous for its 125 scenic islands and secluded coves.

Large areas of temperate rain forests are found along the western shore of the South Island, where the annual rainfall is almost 800 inches.

Occupying an extinct volcanic crater, the country's largest lake is Lake Taupo in the center of the North Island. The country's longest river, the Waikato, flows north from Lake Taupo through Hamilton, and on into the Tasman Sea.

If the two main islands of New Zealand were laid on the West Coast of the United States, they would stretch from Seattle, Washington to Santa Barbara, California.

1. What two bodies of water surround New Zealand? _____ on the east and _____ on the west.
2. Which direction would you sail to get from New Zealand to Australia? _____
3. New Zealand consists of two main islands and many small ones. Name the two main islands. _____ and _____
4. What is New Zealand's tallest mountain at 12,316 ft. _____

5. There is a third island that is smaller than the main islands but larger than the remaining islands. It is considered the 3rd main island and lies south of South Island. Name the island.

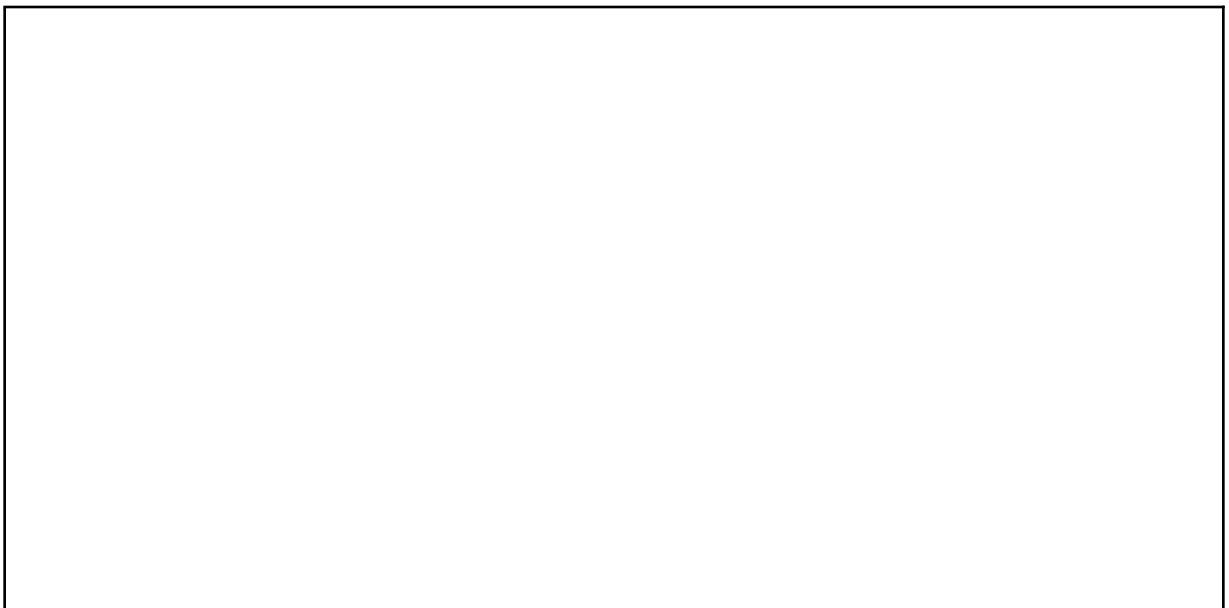
6. Name the strait that separates the two main islands. _____

7. New Zealand's capital city is located on the southern coast of North Island. Name the capital.

8. The North Island still has volcanic activity. In fact, the large lake in the north was likely formed by volcanic activity. Its formation is believed to be the result of one of the most violent volcanic eruptions of the past 5,000 years. Name the lake.

_____.

Draw a volcano in the box below.



Antarctica

At a Glance

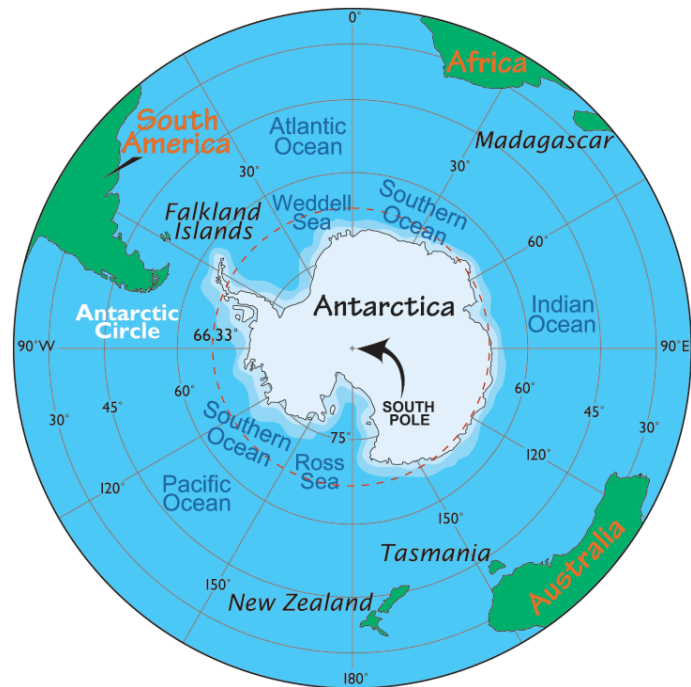
Size: About 5.4 mil square miles, its size varies due to changing ice shelves.

Borders: Surrounded by the Southern Ocean.

High Point: Vinson Massif, 16,066 feet.

The Cold, Hard Facts

- Antarctica is the southernmost continent and encompasses the geographic South Pole.
- Antarctica is not a country and has no government. It has no cities or towns.
- Antarctica's ice holds roughly 70% of the earth's fresh water.
 - The existence of Antarctica was confirmed in the 1820s. It was not until 1840, however, that Antarctica was established as a continent.
- Antarctica's winters last from June through September with 24-hour darkness.
- Antarctica is covered by permafrost. Ninety-eight percent of its land is covered with a continental ice sheet, which averages one inch in thickness. The remaining 2% is barren rock.



- Antarctica is the coldest, windiest and driest place on Earth. The lowest observed temperature on Earth was recorded in Antarctica at 128.6 degrees Fahrenheit below zero. As the world's coldest desert, less than two inches of snow falls each year. The mean winter temperatures in Antarctica range from -40° to -94°F . Winds are commonly measured at up to 200 miles per hour.
- Antarctica is one and a half times larger than the United States.
- The Antarctic Treaty was signed in 1959 by twelve countries. Since then, 46 countries have signed the treaty, which prohibits military activities and mineral mining, supports scientific research, and protects the continent's ecozone. American scientists and station personnel have worked at McMurdo Station on Ross Island since 1956.
 - Only cold-adapted plants and animals survive in Antarctica, including penguins (such as Adelie and Macaroni penguins), seals, nematodes (roundworms), mites, algae and other microorganisms, and tundra vegetation such as lichen.
- Due to the harsh conditions, scientists at McMurdo Station grow their vegetables in a hydroponic greenhouse. This method of growing plants uses only mineral nutrient solutions and does not use soil.
 - On December 14, 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his team of six men and 16 dogs arrived at the South Pole ($90^{\circ}00'\text{S}$).

Antarctica Questions

1. Antarctica holds roughly 70% of the world's fresh water, and is surrounded by the _____ Ocean, at the convergence of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans, recognized in 2000 by the International Hydrographic Organization as the world's fifth ocean.
2. Which is the highest point in Antarctica: Vinson Massif, Mt. Kirkpatrick or Thickest Ice?
_____.
3. Antarctica is the coldest, windiest and driest place on Earth. It is dark 24 hours a day during the winter months (June through September) because the land over the _____ Pole is farthest from the sun.
4. There are more than 50 research stations on Antarctica. McMurdo Research Station is manned by American scientists and is located on _____ Island in the western part of the continent.
5. What is the Antarctica Treaty? Why is it an important document?
6. How much larger is Antarctica than the United States of America?

Label the Antarctica Map

