

# Journey Around the World

Activities to Develop Geography  
and Social Studies Skills

Charlotte S. Jaffe  
Anne Young



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Map Skills

# All about Our World

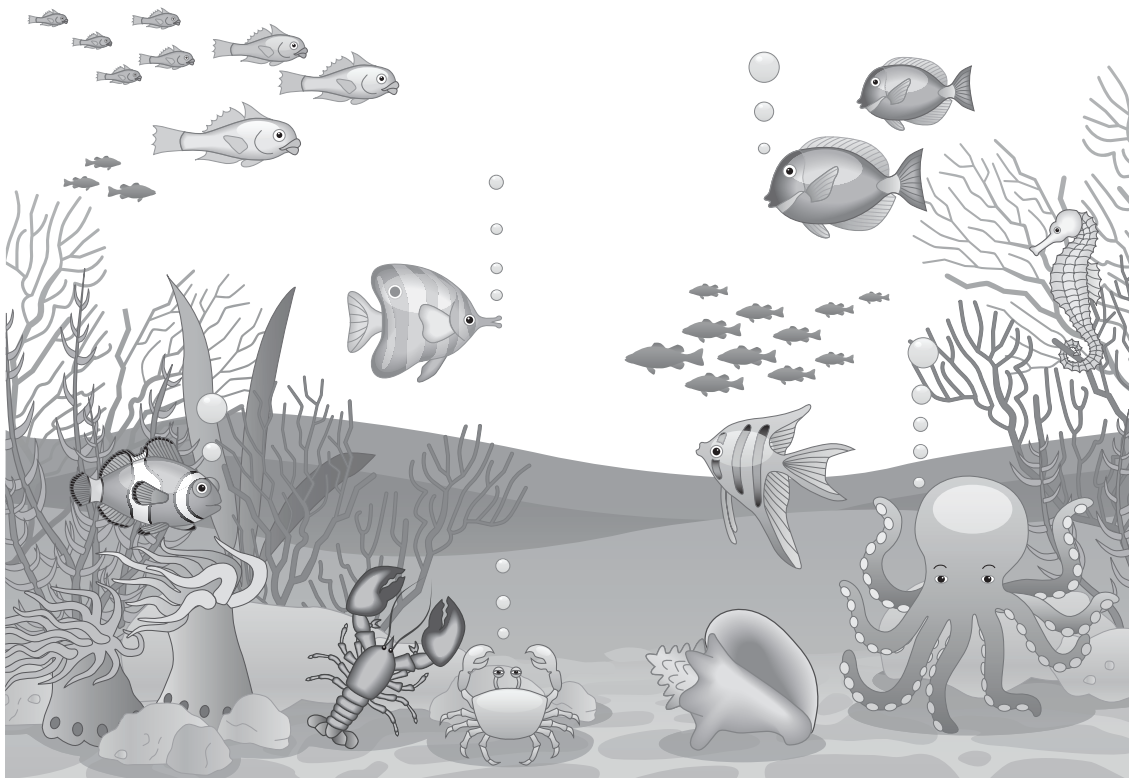
The world in which we live is so very interesting! It consists of large land areas called continents and large water areas called oceans.

There are seven continents: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America.

Using a world map or a globe, locate each of the seven continents. On which continent do you live? \_\_\_\_\_

There are five large oceans on our earth: the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Southern Ocean, and the Arctic Ocean.

Using a world map or a globe, locate each of the five oceans. Which ocean is the closest to where you live? \_\_\_\_\_



## Map Skills

# Be a Map Detective

As a map detective you will be searching for clues on a globe or a map. A globe is about the same shape as the earth. It is easy to see how the continents and the oceans are shaped. You can see from the globe that no part of the earth is really flat!

**Clue #1: Look for the equator.**

Look for a line that is halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole. It circles the globe. The **equator** is called the **zero parallel**. It is the starting place for numbering the parallel lines that go around the globe. Each of the other lines has a number of degrees from 1 to 90. The symbol for degrees is a small circle ( $^{\circ}$ ). The lines also have a letter, N or S, to show whether it is north or south of the equator. The equator line runs in an east–west direction.

**Clue #2: Look for the prime meridian.**

Look for lines that run in a north–south direction. They are called **meridians**. They are numbered from  $0^{\circ}$  to  $180^{\circ}$ , and each has a letter, E or W. The **prime meridian** is located at  $0^{\circ}$ .

**Clue #3: Look for the oceans of the world.**

Find the five large bodies of water called **oceans**. They are the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Southern Ocean, and the Arctic Ocean.

**Clue #4: Look for the continents of the world.**

Use a flat map to help you answer these questions about the seven continents.

1. What are the names of the continents? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which continents does the equator cross? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which continent is the smallest? \_\_\_\_\_ Largest? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which continents are crossed by the prime meridian? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Which continent is located at  $30^{\circ}$  S and  $130^{\circ}$  W? \_\_\_\_\_

Map Skills

# Take a Mystery Trip

First study the mystery trip described below and tell where you would go if you followed that itinerary. Then plan a mystery trip for your classmates by giving directions based on the lines on a world map.

- Start at 30°S, 60°W.
- Travel to 0°, 0°.
- Travel to 30° E, 30°N.
- Travel to 90°W, 30°N.

If you take this trip, where will you go? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

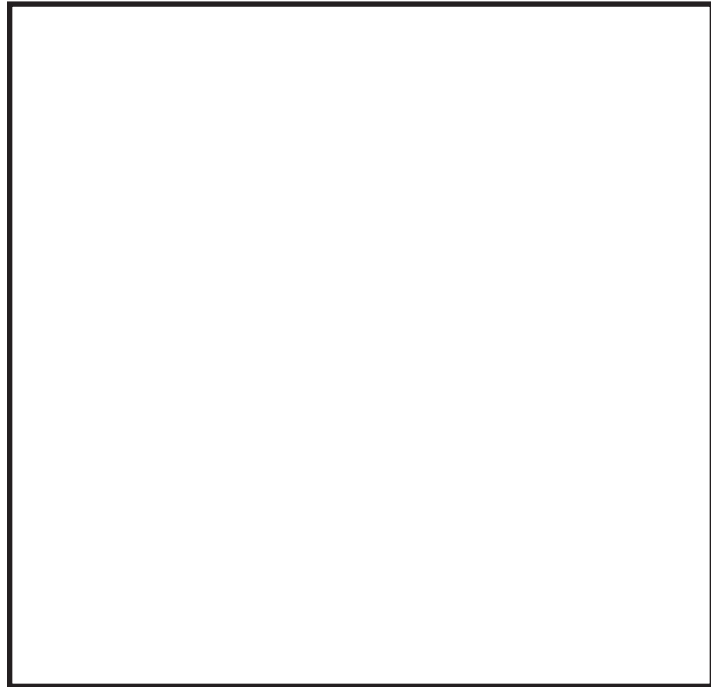
Use a map or globe to help you plan your mystery trip and to solve the ones created by your classmates.



Research Skills

# Make a Flag

A national flag is a great source of pride to the people of the country it represents. In many countries, popular stories explain how the flag originated. Americans tell the story of Betsy Ross and the first flag of the United States. In this activity, you are asked to make a sketch of your research country's flag. Try to learn the meaning of the colors and symbols on the flag.



**The Flag of** \_\_\_\_\_

**History of the Flag**

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Creative Thinking

# Make a Word Picture

Artists can create beautiful pictures with paint and a paintbrush! Writers can create beautiful pictures with words! Use your imagination and research information to create original word pictures of the country that you are studying.



*Examples:*

1. High, snow-capped mountains and clear blue lakes
2. A green island of low mountains, wide valleys, and rich farmlands

Which country does each of the above word pictures describe?

In the space below create two word pictures for your research country. Then create four more for other countries of your choice. See if your classmates can guess which countries you are describing.

## Word Pictures

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_