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Blue Pages Copymasters with Answers

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Introduction

Atlas Activity Program

The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities is the activity program for use with *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World*. It includes 47 two-page copymaster lessons on white paper and full-size teacher's copies on blue paper showing answers in place. The copymasters provide the teacher with a variety of activities that ensure maximum use of the atlas by students.

Program Organization

The first five lessons in *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities* familiarize students with the atlas and review geography skills.

- Three lessons introduce students to the parts of *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World* and provide reading strategies for using the atlas.
- Two lessons review basic map-reading skills and relative and absolute location.

The remaining activity sheets follow the order of the major sections of the atlas. The lessons for the world, continent, regional, and country sections are organized around the Six Essential Elements of Geography:

- The World in Spatial Terms
- Places and Regions
- Physical Systems
- Human Systems
- Environment and Society
- The Uses of Geography

One or more activities are provided for these six elements. At least one activity in each lesson requires students to use a critical thinking skill. Critical thinking activities or items are indicated with a star ★.

In general, the activity sheets correspond to a group of atlas pages focusing on the world or on a specific continent, country, or world region. While the activity sheets follow the same general order as the atlas, they can be used in any order that matches the curriculum.

Program Objective

When used on a regular basis during the school year, *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities* will give students many opportunities to achieve the following objectives:

- Become familiar with the essential elements of geography.

- Apply these geographic elements to the study of the world, its countries, regions, and people.
- Learn to use an atlas effectively.
- Interpret a wide variety of maps.
- Interpret and gain information from graphs, photographs, diagrams, charts, and tables.
- Choose appropriate information to answer questions.
- Compare maps and other visual materials.
- Draw conclusions from atlas resources.
- Use critical thinking skills.

Using the Activities

The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities is based on the assumption that students can use cardinal and intermediate directions, have an understanding of latitude and longitude, and can interpret such map symbolism as elevation colours. The fourth and fifth lessons of *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities* review basic map skills.

The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities introduces essential elements of geography and helps students apply them in a variety of contexts as they study the world, its countries, and its regions. The program involves students with every illustrated page of *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities* is flexible enough to allow a variety of uses.

- The 47 two-page lessons can be the basis of a year-long atlas education program, with a new lesson or two being used each week of the school year.
- A one-lesson-per-week program can be designed with the elimination of a few lessons.
- Most activity sheets are designed to take 5–10 minutes to complete. Thus the program can fit into even the tightest of schedules.
- One or more activity sheets can be used as a daily class starter. For example, students can routinely complete a page or two while the teacher takes attendance.
- Some teachers may choose to distribute copies of the activity sheets to the class and to guide the entire lesson, providing additional examples and elaboration as needed.
- Other teachers may choose to assign the activity sheets for independent work in the classroom, in the media center, or at home.

- For those teachers who choose to have the activities done independently, a class record sheet is provided to facilitate tracking individual student progress.
- Where appropriate, answer blanks are long enough for students to respond in complete sentences, if that is the teacher's preference.

About the Atlas

Much more than just a book of reference maps, *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World* is a rich visual resource that also includes numerous thematic maps, graphs, tables, diagrams, and photographs, as well as introductions to geographic topics and contemporary issues. This colourful atlas is designed for today's visually oriented student. All of the maps, graphs, tables, and photos in this 176-page, 21.6 cm by 28 cm atlas are up-to-date. The main features of the atlas are described below.

Political Relief Maps

On the political maps, colour is used to separate political entities and to make it easier to discern their sizes, shapes, and relative locations. Many more cities are named on the political maps than the physical maps. Non-subject areas on the political maps are shown in a neutral beige.

Regional political relief maps are also included for Canada, Central America and the Caribbean Sea, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Australia and Oceania. These regional maps are found at the end of a continent or regional section and show an area at a closer scale and in greater detail.

Physical Maps

For each political reference map there is a corresponding land cover map with the same projection and similar scale, thus allowing for accurate comparisons between the two maps. Land cover maps and elevation maps of the world, the continents, and specific countries or regions are provided in the atlas. Colour indicates either dominant land cover or land elevations. These maps focus on physical features, many of which are named. Boundaries are clearly marked and countries, provinces, states, and important cities are labeled.

Elevation maps are accompanied by cross sections of the map area. The cross sections show a slice of the earth in three dimensions, making landscapes easier to comprehend. The height and depth of the features are exaggerated to make them easier to see.

Thematic Maps

Thematic maps complement the reference maps by focusing on single subjects or themes. The following thematic maps appear throughout the atlas.

- Precipitation
- Climate
- Land Use
- Energy Resources and Metals
- Population
- Major Highways and Airports

Many thematic map topics are introduced in the World Matters section.

Graphs, Charts, and Tables

Graphs, charts, and tables present additional information about map topics in a variety of formats.

The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World includes numerous graphs, charts, and tables to summarize data and show relationships in a visual way. Some topics presented in these graphic aids include:

- Balance of Trade
- Natural Population Growth
- Ethnic Composition
- Climographs

Many graph topics are explained in the World Matters section.

Photographs and Diagrams

The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World presents numerous photographs and diagrams. These striking images help bring to life information about the world and its regions. Photographs are particularly useful for depicting physical and cultural characteristics, reminding students of the reality of the places shown abstractly on the maps. Diagrams depict processes in an easy-to-understand format.

Other Features

The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World has several other useful features, including:

- **World Matters**, the introductory section that provides a basis for understanding concepts found throughout the atlas.
- **Sparks**, short pieces of geographic information, identified by an asterisk and spread throughout the atlas to provide greater understanding about a topic on the page.
- **Map Projections**, explains, with illustrated examples, the advantages and limitations of several of the map projections used in the atlas.

- **Country Tables**, handy tables of comparative data about the countries of the world.
- **Glossary** of geographic terms.
- An **index** that references thousands of natural features, regions, and other places by atlas page, country or continent, and latitude-longitude coordinates. The index also includes easy-to-understand phonetic pronunciations of difficult names.

Six Essential Elements of Geography

Most activity sheets in *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities* are organized by essential elements of geography.

Since 1994 the National Geographic Society and several other organizations have actively promoted the use of six essential elements in the teaching of geography. The following summaries explain the elements used in *The Nystrom Atlas of Canada and the World Student Activities*.

The World in Spatial Terms

The first geographic question is always “Where?” and so the most fundamental geographic skill is the ability to describe where things are located. Location can be described in both relative and absolute terms.

- **Relative location** describes where a place is in relation to other places. What landforms and bodies of water are nearby? What places are to the north, south, east, and west? What places are at the same latitude or longitude?
- **Absolute location** directs us to a precise position on Earth’s surface. A street address defines the absolute location of a specific home. To describe absolute location on a map or globe, we use latitude-longitude coordinates.
- **Reasons for location** are also part of the theme, and they can be practical, historical, geographic, or cultural.

Places and Regions

The concepts of place and region apply a “geographic eye” to the world. These two concepts are the basic units of geography—units that are seen differently by different people.

- **Place** has been called “space endowed with physical and human meaning.” This concept asks the question “What is it like there?” Every place has distinctive characteristics. These include natural characteristics such as shape, landforms, bodies of water, climate, and elevation. The characteristics of a place also include cultural characteristics. These range from structures such as airports and highways to less tangible characteristics such as religion and political systems.

- **Regions** are the divisions geographers use to divide the world into understandable units according to some common set of characteristics. Regions may be based on natural or cultural characteristics. For example, a land cover map divides an area into regions by dominant vegetation, while a map of religions or languages is based on a particular set of cultural characteristics.

Physical Systems

Landscapes reflect the physical systems of a place or region. Important questions inherent in the idea of landscapes include “What does the surface of the earth look like?,” “How have its features been formed?,” “What is the nature of these features, and how do they interact?,” and “How and why are these features changing?” Glaciers and volcanoes are two examples of elements that affect Earth’s ever-changing landscape.

Human Systems

The fundamental question of this theme is “How do people live on Earth?” People shape Earth’s surface by building settlements and structures and by competing for space and resources. In studying human systems, geographers are concerned with the sweep of human activities—population trends, movement, settlement, culture, economics, conflict, and cooperation.

Environment and Society

People are central to the study of geography. This theme treats a basic question about humans and their ways of living on Earth: “How do people interact with the physical environment?” In other words, how do people influence the physical environment, and how does the physical environment affect human life? Geographers study the ways in which human actions change the environment. They also study the ways in which physical systems affect human systems. Crucial to both topics are the changes in the use, distribution, and significance of essential resources.

The Uses of Geography

This theme treats another basic geographic question: “How does knowing geography help us understand the links between people, places, and environments over time and around the world?” The theme encourages students to apply geographic knowledge in order to:

- interpret the past.
- understand the present.
- plan for the future.

Name _____

Date _____



World

Weather and Climate

Physical Systems

1. Turn to page 18 in your atlas. Read the introduction. Then write **T** in front of the sentence if it is true and **F** if it is false.
 - a. _____ Precipitation is the measure of how hot or cold the air is near the earth's surface.
 - b. _____ Humidity has an effect on cloud formation.
 - c. _____ Weather is the amount of water vapor in the air.
 - d. _____ Seasonal winds move warm, cold, moist, or dry air to a region.
2. Look at the Temperature and Precipitation maps on page 18. Then answer the questions. (Use the map on pages 6-7 for help locating continents and countries.)
 - a. What is the average temperature in January for most of South America?

 - b. What is the average temperature in January for most of Mexico?

 - c. About how many inches of precipitation does most of Indonesia receive from November through April? _____

The World in Spatial Terms

3. Read the photo captions and look at the "Sun and Seasons" diagram on pages 18-19. Then explain why Salzburg, Austria, located in the Northern Hemisphere, is cold in the winter but warm in the summer.

The Uses of Geography

- ★4. Your family is planning a summer vacation in July. They want to visit someplace warm and relatively dry. Use the Temperature and Precipitation maps on page 19 to circle the region below that best suits your family's expectations.

Central America

southern Africa

southern Australia



Name _____

Date _____

Human Geography

Places and Regions

- 1.** Look at the Political Relief Map on pages 44-45. Write the name of the capital for each of the following Canadian provinces or territories.

Province or Territory	Capital
a. Alberta	_____
b. Yukon	_____
c. British Columbia	_____
d. Manitoba	_____
e. New Brunswick	_____
f. Newfoundland and Labrador	_____

Environment and Society

- 2.** Use the Air Pollutants graph and photo caption on page 52 to determine if the following statements are true or false. Write **T** in front of the sentence if it is true and **F** if it is false.
- a. _____ Canada and the United States signed an agreement to reduce emissions that cause acid rain.
 - b. _____ Agriculture accounts for the majority of greenhouse gas emissions.
 - c. _____ Sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides only cause acid rain within 20 kilometres of where they originate.
 - d. _____ Gases trap heat in the atmosphere and cause the global climate to change.
- 3.** Use the Land Use map on page 54 to match the following places with their most widespread economic uses.

Place	Widespread Use
a. Northern Northwest Territories ▪	▪ Urban
b. Nunavut ▪	▪ Commercial farming
c. Calgary, Alberta ▪	▪ Nomadic herding
d. Southern British Columbia ▪	▪ Forestry
e. Southern Saskatchewan ▪	▪ No widespread use