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The National Geography Standards

Standards

1-8

There are 18 National Geography Standards. All 18 standards are covered in this book. Each standard is covered in one unit. Each unit has a series of Activity exercises. The Activity exercises were designed to meet student expectations as listed by the National Geography Standards. Listed below and on page 7 are the standards taught and reinforced in this book.

The World in Spatial Terms

- Standard 1:** How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information
- Standard 2:** How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments
- Standard 3:** How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments

Places and Regions

- Standard 4:** The physical and human characteristics of a place
- Standard 5:** That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
- Standard 6:** How culture and experience influence people's perception of places and regions

Physical Systems

- Standard 7:** The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
- Standard 8:** The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems on Earth's surface



The National Geography Standards *(cont.)*

Standards

9-18

Human Systems

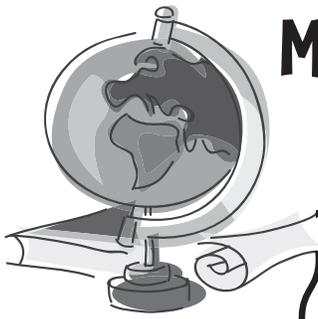
- Standard 9:** The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
- Standard 10:** The characteristics, distributions, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
- Standard 11:** The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
- Standard 12:** The process, patterns, and functions of human settlement
- Standard 13:** How forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface

Environment and Society

- Standard 14:** How human actions modify the physical environment
- Standard 15:** How physical systems affect human systems
- Standard 16:** The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources

The Uses of Geography

- Standard 17:** How to apply geography to interpret the past
- Standard 18:** To apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future



Maps, Globes, and Finding Our Way Around

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- title
- key
- legend
- compass
- cardinal direction
- equator
- Northern Hemisphere
- Southern Hemisphere
- latitude
- longitude
- prime meridian
- scale

What I Do

About Maps

How do we know where to go in an unfamiliar place or show someone where we went? We use tools such as maps. Maps help us get where we want to go, and make it so we can show others where we went.

Today, we can take pictures from space, and we can make maps from the pictures, adding many details. But what was it like for people before there were any maps? How did maps become like the ones we use today?

Complete the Activities. When you are done, you will know about maps made out of sticks and shells, you will know why some people say, "Never eat soggy worms," and you will use lines to find places on the globe.

These lines will be longitude lines and latitude lines.



Name _____ Date _____

Activity 10

Imagine a grumpy rhinoceros is chasing you and you want to find the nearest tree to get to safety. You look at your map and see trees are marked on it. You find the closest tree on the map and run for it. You climb the tree and are safe from the grumpy rhinoceros.

How did you know the tree on the map that looked the closest was the closest? Maps are not drawn life-size. If they were drawn life-size, they would be too big. Maps are scaled down, meaning everything is made smaller by the same amount. This way, the distance is the same. A map **scale** shows what a distance on the map means in actual size.

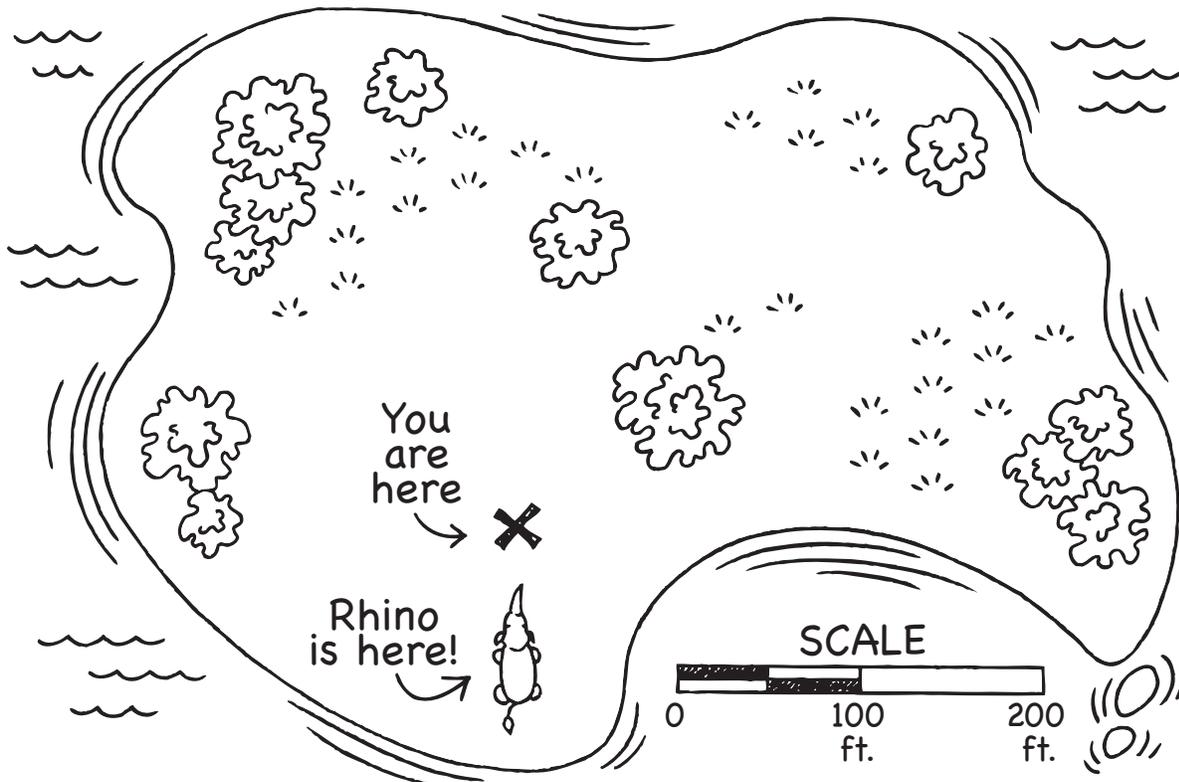


On some maps, everything is 10 times smaller. On some maps, everything is 100 or even 10,000 times smaller. Everything is scaled down the same.

What if you were scaled down by 10 (that is, 10 times smaller), but your shoe is not scaled down. Will your shoe be too big or too small? _____

Imagine the city roads on a map are scaled down 10,000 times (10,000 times smaller), but the street you live on is not scaled down.

Will your street look like it is the shortest or longest road in the city? _____

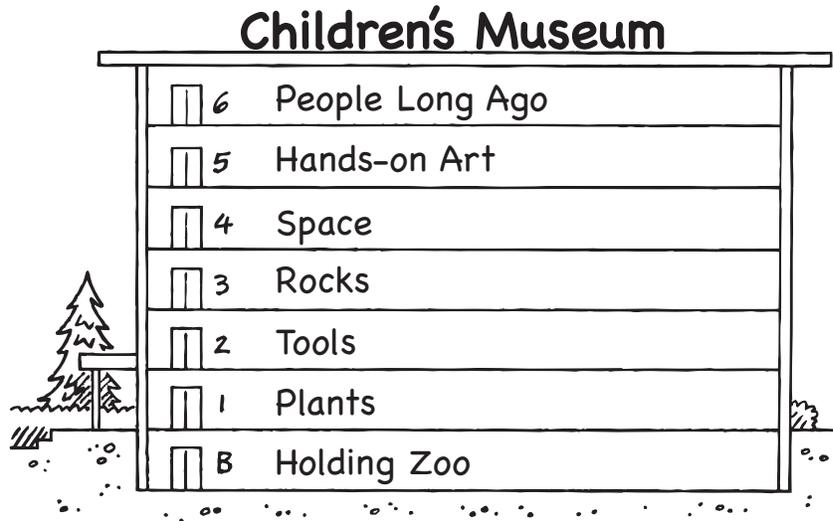




Name _____ Date _____

Activity 11

Jay and Debra decided to go to the Children’s Museum. The Children’s Museum had six floors, with one floor underground. Jay wanted to hold a snake and Debra wanted to sit in a spaceship. Jay and Debra used a map to find out where to go. Draw a snake on the floor where Jay should go and draw a spaceship on the floor where Debra should go.



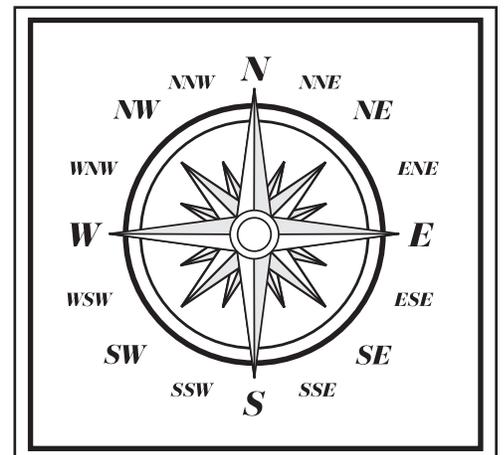
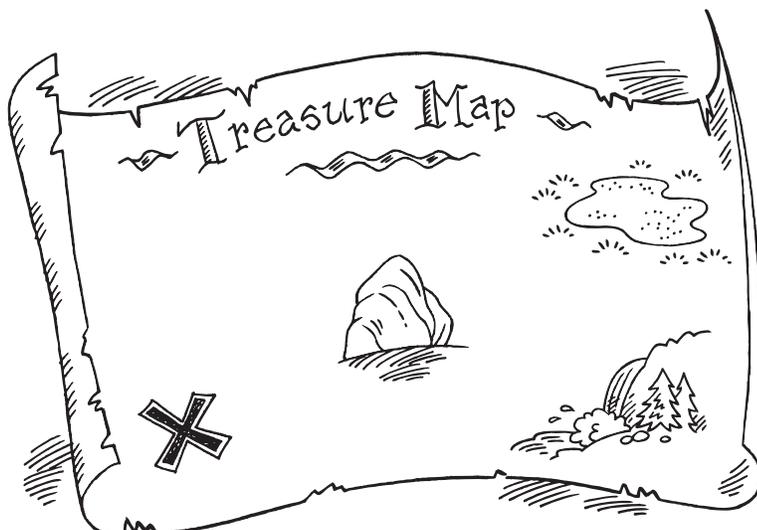
Activity 12

The cardinal directions are north, east, south, and west. Sometimes people need to know more than the cardinal directions. The compass below has more than the cardinal directions. It has all the directions mapmakers use.

The map below is a treasure map. The treasure is marked by the **X**. If you are standing at Big Rock, which direction should you go to find the treasure? _____

Which direction will take you to the sand trap? _____

Which direction will take you to the waterfall? _____





Buying and Selling Around the World

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- goods
- services
- trade
- recreational
- residential
- commercial
- industrial
- natural resource

What I Do

About Buying and Selling

All over the world, people trade. They buy and sell goods and services. They trade goods and services. A good is a thing you can make or sell. Goods are things like paper, clothes, and bicycles. A service is work done. You may pay someone to make your clothes. You may pay someone to fix your bicycle. You pay them for their service. With the money, the person who made your clothes can buy goods.

Today, products are sold all over the world. Your clothes may have been made in a different country. Your bicycle may have been made in a different country. Our world has become a global market. Different countries produce different goods. The different goods are sold all over the world.

Complete the Activities. When you are done, you will know about a floating market. You will know why men stand on ladders. The ladders are high and flimsy. You will know about an island whose main crop is bananas.



Name _____ Date _____

Activity 3

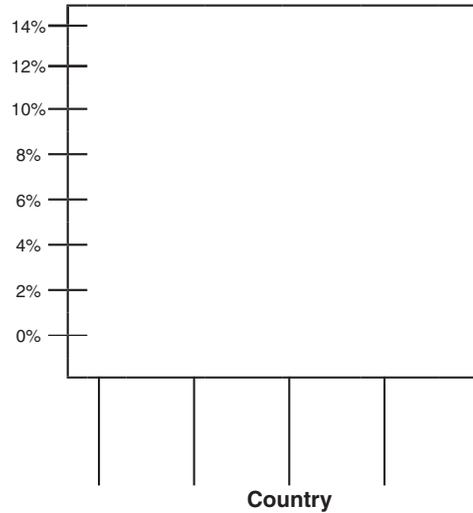
Who does the most trading? In 1996, five countries did almost half of the world's trade. The five countries are: Japan, France, Germany, United Kingdom, and the United States.

Make a bar graph showing how much world trade the countries get. Do not forget to title your graph.

Japan—8% • France—6.5% • Germany—11.5% • United Kingdom—5.8% • United States—13.2%

(186 other world nations share 55% of the world's trade.)

Title: _____



Activity 4

St. Lucia is a small island. It is in the Caribbean. Bananas grow well in St. Lucia. Bananas were brought to the Caribbean from tropical Asia.

Draw a line on the map from Asia to St. Lucia.

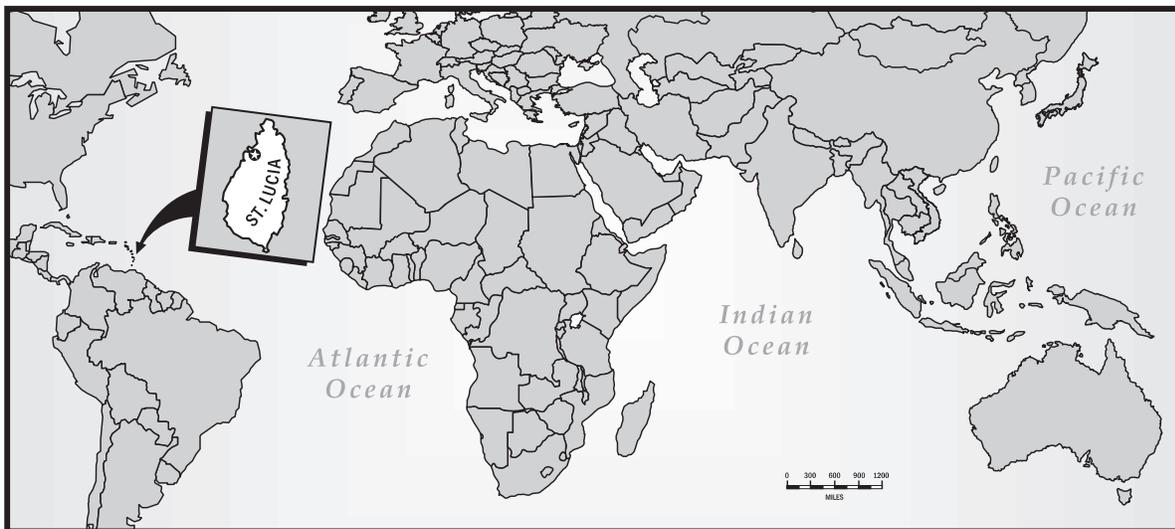
Today, bananas are St. Lucia's key trade good. The bananas bring in money. They bring in more money than anything else. Hurricanes often blow through the Caribbean. Hurricanes are big storms with strong winds. What might happen to St. Lucia's key crop if a hurricane hits? _____

One year it is a good year for bananas. All the countries that raise bananas have a good crop. No hurricanes hit. Every country has bananas to sell. There are too many bananas! No one wants all the bananas.

What will happen to the price?

- A. It will go up.
- B. It will go down.
- C. It will stay the same.

Why is it important to have more than one key trade good? _____





Name _____ Date _____

Activity 11

You are in Thailand. You are in the city of Bangkok.

You want to buy vegetables, fruit, rice, flowers, and fish. You want a cooked meal of noodles, coconut milk, and fried bananas. Do you go to a store? Do you go to a restaurant? Do you drive on a road? No.

Bangkok is filled with canals. The canals are narrow. The canals are filled with boats. Over 10,000 boats fill the canals! The boats make up a floating market. Mostly women paddle the boats. The women sell their goods to people along the banks. If you want to buy something, you go to a canal bank. You wait for a boat that has what you want.

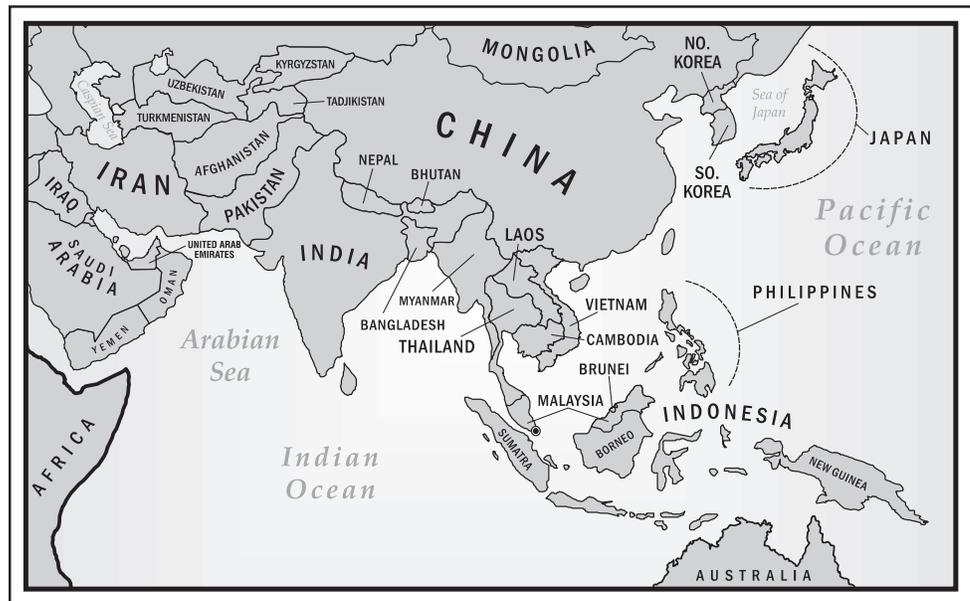
Find Thailand and Bangkok on the map.

Which statement is most probably true?

- A. Markets are visited only by women.
- B. Markets are found only in warm places.
- C. Markets are found all around the world.
- D. Markets are found only where there are roads.

Name a country to the south of Thailand. _____

Name a country to the east of Thailand. _____



Activity 12

Men put themselves in danger. What do they do? They climb ladders. The ladders are flimsy. When something is flimsy, it is not strong. It is weak. The ladders go high up to the tops of caves. There, the men gather nests. The nests are brown-rumped swallow nests. Brown-rumped swallows make their nests high in cave roofs throughout Thailand and other Southeast Asian countries. The nests are made from the birds' saliva. They are gathered to make soup.

From the story, you can tell that brown-rumped swallow nests

- A. are flimsy
- B. are man-made
- C. are not good to eat
- D. are a natural resource

What is the capital of Thailand? _____