

**National Council for Geographic Education  
Curriculum & Instruction Committee  
Elementary Level Geography Club**

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**Third Month Activities**

**Geography for Life: National Geography Standards**

*The World in Spatial Terms*

**Standard 1:** How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information.

*Places and Regions*

**Standard 4:** The physical and human characteristics of places

*Physical Systems*

**Standard 7:** The physical processes that shape the patterns of the Earth's surface

**Standard 8:** The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems on the earth's surface

**I. Warm-up Activity: Map Scraps**

*Examine each "Map Scrap" and try to determine the locations. Use reference materials to answer the questions.*

**Map Scrap 3-1**



*Map: National Geographic Magazine*

**Questions:**

1. What large island and peninsula are shown on the map?
2. Parts of two countries are shown on the map. Name them.
3. What narrow body of water separates the two pieces of land?
4. What large body of water lies to the southwest?
5. What small country lies at the tip of the peninsula?

## Map Scrap 3-2



Map: National Geographic Magazine

### Questions:

1. What is the name of the lake shown on the map?
2. In which country is the lake located?
3. What other country is shown on the map?
4. What is the most unique fact about this lake?
5. What large north-flowing river has its source in the mountains east of this lake?

## II. Activity: An A to Z Visual Glossary of Geographic Terms

*In this activity students will find examples of many common geographic terms.*

### Materials needed:

1. A list of geographic terms ( *see below*) You may want to add or delete terms to suit your needs.
2. Resource book or atlas for defining terms
3. Internet access to locate images
4. Multimedia program

### Procedures

1. Assign students some of the terms from the list of geographic terms.
2. Students should look up and write a definition for each term.
3. Using an internet resource (*see list*) students should find an image that is an example of each term. If possible a local example can be used.
4. To create a multimedia presentation one slide can be made for each term. Each slide should have the term, the student's definition and the image. *See the sample slide provided.*
5. Instruct students to properly cite the source of the image and definition on the slide. The URL of the image source should accompany each image used. *Check with copyright rules that apply to any image used.*
6. The slides can be put into one presentation to be viewed.

## **A List of Geographic Terms**

archipelago	isthmus
atoll	lagoon
aurora	lake
avalanche	landslide
basin	lava
bay	mesa
bayou	monsoon
butte	mountain
canal	mountain range
canyon	oasis
cape	ocean
cave	pass
coast	peninsula
continent	permafrost
continental divide	plain
continental shelf	plate tectonics
coral reef	plateau
crater	port
crevasse	prairie
dam	rainforest
delta	rain shadow
desert	reservoir
dune	rift valley
equator	ring of fire
erosion	river (source, mouth, tributary)
escarpment	savanna
estuary	sea
fault	sinkhole
fjord	steppe
geyser	strait
glacier	swamp
gorge	taiga
grassland	terrace
gulf	timberline
harbor	tsunami
hurricane	tundra
ice cap	valley
iceberg	volcano
irrigation	waterfall
island	

## **Resources**

### **Definitions of Terms**

[Exploring Your World](#). National Geographic Society, 1993

[The National Geographic Desk Reference](#). National Geographic Society, 1999

Other sources include atlases and textbook glossaries.

### **Internet Resources**

*Note: Be aware that some sites have copyright restrictions*

About.com Photos of Places

<http://geography.about.com/od/photosofplaces/index.htm>

Picks 4 Learning - Copyright-friendly images for Education  
<http://pics.tech4learning.com/index.php>  
Terra Galleria Photography  
<http://www.terragalleria.com/>  
National Geographic Society One-Stop Research  
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/onestop/>

### **III. Geo-Questions: World Rivers**

*Students will hone their research skills as they use maps, atlases, or online resources to find answers to these questions.*

1. Which North American gulf is also known as the Sea of Cortez?
2. Of these three colorful seas - the Yellow, Red, and White - which is an arm of the Arctic Ocean?
3. These seas - the Java, Banda, Flores, and Celebes - lie along the coasts of islands that make up what island nation of Asia?
4. To sail around South America from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean you could sail through the Strait of Magellan or south of Cape Horn through what passage of water?
5. What sound, site of the infamous Exxon Valdez oil spill, is located on Alaska's southern coast at the southern terminus of the Alaska Pipeline at Valdez?
6. The Kattegat and Skagerrak are two channels that separate Norway and Sweden from which other Scandinavian country?
7. India and Sri Lanka are separated by which strait?
8. What sea, named for a Dutch explorer, separates Australia and New Zealand?
9. The Delmarva Peninsula lies between the Atlantic Ocean and what other body of water?
10. If you traversed the Bosphorus Strait, the Sea of Marmara, and the Dardanelles Strait your ship would pass between which two seas in southeastern Europe?
11. Tyrrhenian, Alboran, and Ligurian are seas located in the western part of which larger sea?
12. The capital cities of Buenos Aires and Montevideo lie along an estuary on the Atlantic coast of South America. What is the name of this body of water, referred to as a river in its name?
13. Eritrea and Djibouti, two African nations, border each other at a strait that joins the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Name this strait that also forms part of the coast of Yemen.
14. Seychelles, Comoros, and Maldives are island groups located in which ocean?
15. The Kamchatka Peninsula and the Kuril Islands archipelago separate what sea from the Pacific Ocean?

## **Answers**

### **I. Map Scraps**

#### **Map 3-1**

1. Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula
2. Indonesia and Malaysia
3. Strait of Malacca
4. Indian Ocean
5. Singapore

#### **Map 3-2**

1. Lake Baykal (or Baikal)
2. Russia
3. Mongolia
4. It is the world's deepest lake; 5,315 feet deep
5. Lena River

### **III. Geo-Questions**

1. Gulf of California
2. White Sea
3. Indonesia
4. Drake Passage
5. Prince William Sound
6. Denmark
7. Palk Strait
8. Tasman Sea
9. Chesapeake Bay
10. Black Sea and Aegean Sea
11. Mediterranean Sea
12. Rio de la Plata
13. Bab el Mandeb
14. Indian Ocean
15. Sea of Okhotsk