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CELEBRATE BASIC WORLD GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

Basic does not mean boring! There certainly is nothing dull about . . .

- . . . visiting deserts and oases and icebergs and volcanoes
- . . . tracking down the deepest canyon in the world
- . . . wondering what's so wonderful about the world wonders
- . . . figuring out how far a barrel drops over one of the world's greatest waterfalls
- . . . getting to know some of the world's most interesting cities
- . . . telling the difference between Gabon, Gambia, and Ghana
- . . . planning a whirlwind trip around the world
- . . . adventuring around the deserts and jungles of Africa
- . . . becoming an expert on the waterways of the world
- . . . discovering that polar bears and penguins may not live where you thought
- . . . telling what time it is in Sri Lanka, Togo, or Fiji

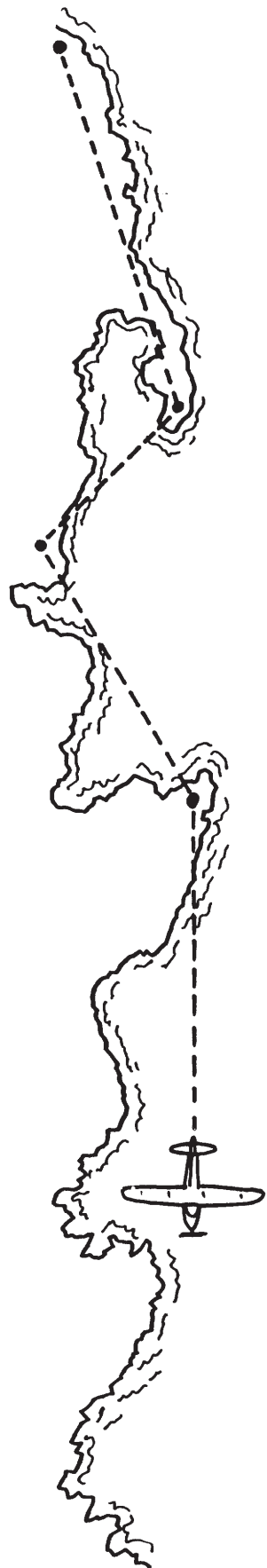
The idea of celebrating the basics is just what it sounds like—enjoying and improving social studies skills. The pages that follow are full of exercises for students that will help to review and strengthen specific, basic skills in the content area of social studies. This is not just another ordinary “fill-in-the-blanks” way to learn. The activities will put students to work applying a rich variety of the most important facts and knowledge about many aspects of world geography while they enjoy fun and challenging activities about oceans and continents, countries and landmarks, cities and climates.

The pages in this book can be used in many ways . . .

- for individual students to sharpen a particular skill
- with a small group needing to relearn or strengthen a skill
- as an instructional tool for teaching a skill to any size group
- by students working on their own
- by students working under the direction of an adult

Each page may be used to introduce a new skill, to reinforce a skill, or to assess a student's performance of a skill. And, there's more than just the great student activities! You'll also find a hearty appendix of resources helpful for students and teachers—including a ready-to-use test for assessment of these world geography content skills.

As students take on the challenges of these adventures with spaces and places and wonders around the world, they will grow in their mastery of basic skills and will enjoy learning to the fullest. And as you watch them check off the basic world geography skills and knowledge they've strengthened, you can celebrate with them!



SKILLS CHECKLIST FOR WORLD GEOGRAPHY

✓	SKILL	PAGE(S)
	List and define the geographic features used to describe a region	10, 14-27
	Identify and locate the world's continents and oceans	12-13
	Locate and describe the earth's hemispheres	13
	Identify and locate the 8 major geographic regions of the world	14, 15
	Identify the continents and countries in each of the 8 major world regions	14-27
	Determine the main geographic features of Latin America	16, 17
	Determine the main geographic features of the U.S. and Canada	18
	Determine the main geographic features of Western Europe	19
	Determine the main geographic features of Russia & Eastern Europe	20, 21, 22
	Determine the main geographic features of the Middle East & North Africa	23, 24
	Determine the main geographic features of Sub-Saharan Africa	24
	Determine the main geographic features of Southern & Eastern Asia	25
	Determine the main geographic features of the Pacific Region	26
	Locate and describe the arctic and antarctic regions	27
	Identify resources and products associated with specific countries and regions	28
	Compare sizes and populations of regions and countries	29
	Identify, locate, and compare major cities of the world	30, 42
	Identify, describe, and illustrate major landforms of the world	31, 32, 33, 35
	Identify, describe, and locate the world's most important bodies of water	32, 33, 34
	Identify, describe, and locate major geographic features of the world	32, 33, 34, 35, 37
	Identify, describe, and locate major cultural and man-made features of the world	32, 33, 38
	Describe and locate the world's major climate patterns and zones	36, 37
	Identify and locate the states of the U.S. and provinces & territories of Canada	39
	Identify and locate capital cities and other major cities of U.S. and Canada	42
	Identify and describe features of the main geographical regions of the U.S.	40, 41
	Define latitude and longitude; describe features of latitudinal zones	43, 44
	Locate places on a map or globe using latitude and longitude	43, 44
	Use map scales to find distances	45
	Use map keys and symbols to find information	46
	Identify and find information on different kinds of maps	13, 14, 16-26, 36, 43-48
	Locate places on a variety of maps	13, 14, 16-26, 43-48

GEOGRAPHICALLY SPEAKING

Would you rather eat a *desert* or a *dessert*? Could you *ford* a *fjord*? Where is there a *cape* that you cannot wear? Is every *strait* *straight*? Can you tell a *mesa* from a *butte* from a *plateau*? The italicized words are all geographic features. You cannot answer the questions about them unless you know what they mean. Find out how much you really know about geographical features of the world.

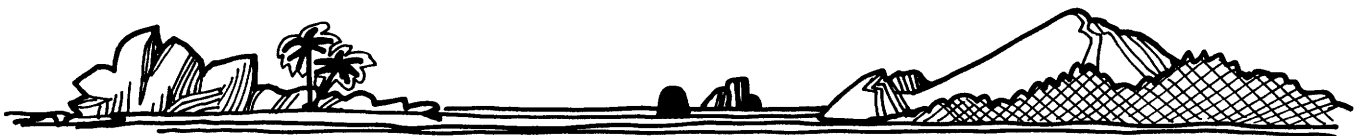
- I. Look at each numbered feature on the map on the next page (page 11). Use a colored pen to write one of the labels in the box below on the map.

* archipelago	butte	* sea	hill	plain
* lake	* peak	dune	* waterfall	plateau
* mountain range	cliff	* gulf	island	coral reef
atoll	* desert	fjord	lagoon	sound
* bay	canyon	* strait	mesa	prairie
jungle	* river	foothills	mountain	iceberg
* ocean	tundra	* isthmus	channel	swamp
beach	* glacier	harbor or port	mouth	valley
* cape	delta	* volcano	peninsula	

- II. Next, become more familiar with some of these features while you practice finding them in the world. Use your textbook, maps, a globe, an encyclopedia, an atlas, or other references to find examples of the 16 features that are starred above. Here's how to do it:

1. Divide a piece a paper into sixteen sections, or little boxes.
2. Write one of the features at the top of each section as a bold label or title.
3. Explain or define the feature in your own words.
4. Find an example of that feature somewhere in the world and tell where it is.
Write this information in the box.
5. Tell what world region this example is in. Here's the challenge:
You must find 2 examples in each of the 8 major world regions (NO MORE THAN 2 from each): Anglo America; Latin America; Western Europe; Eastern Europe and Russia; Middle East and North Africa; Sub-Saharan Africa; Southern and Eastern Asia; and Pacific Region.

Use with page 11.



Use with page 10.

WORLD GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES



Name _____