

EMP4755  
GRADES 7-9



Revised  
and Updated  
for 2009!

# Map Skills

## Europe

16  
Full-Color  
Overheads



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The Lorenz Educational Press Team

# Map Skills

## Grades 7, 8, 9

# Map Skills

## Europe

by R. Scott House  
and Patti M. House

Explore the varied features of the European continent while reinforcing basic map reading skills. Sixteen student pages and accompanying blackline and full-color maps coordinate to provide a relational study of the elevations, vegetation, climates, products, populations, and peoples of Europe. Student pages challenge students to combine maps and additional resources in order to answer questions and make judgments.

Question topics follow the *Five Themes of Geography* as outlined by the National Geographic Society: finding absolute and relative locations on a map, relating physical and human characteristics to an area, understanding human relationships to the environment, tracing movement of peoples and goods throughout an area, and organizing countries and continents into regions for detailed study.

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# Table of Contents

Europe in the World .....	1	Land Use .....	9
Europe in the World .....	1a,1b*	Land Use .....	9a,9b*
Countries and Capitals .....	2	Population .....	10
Countries and Capitals .....	2a,2b*	Population .....	10a,10b*
Physical Features .....	3	Civilizations .....	11
Physical Features .....	3a,3b*	Civilizations .....	11a,11b*
Elevations .....	4	Northern Europe .....	12
Elevations .....	4a,4b*	Northern Europe .....	12a,12b*
Precipitation .....	5	Central Europe .....	13
Precipitation .....	5a,5b*	Central Europe .....	13a,13b*
Climates .....	6	Western Europe .....	14
Climates .....	6a,6b*	Western Europe .....	14a,14b*
Vegetation .....	7	Eastern Europe .....	15
Vegetation .....	7a,7b*	Eastern Europe .....	15a,15b*
Products .....	8	Southern Europe .....	16
Products .....	8a,8b*	Southern Europe .....	16a,16b*

\* Full-color transparencies are found at the back of the book. Each transparency should be used to introduce the corresponding unit.

## Teaching Guide

This book has been designed to strengthen map reading and analyzing skills and to familiarize students with the features of different regions of Europe. Each section contains a student page and an accompanying map that is used to complete the student page. Each page builds upon previous pages and students should have access to all previously completed maps. Encourage students to use latitude and longitude markings when comparing features between maps. Students may use related resources to assist them in completing the student pages. Accept all reasonable answers that can be logically supported. Color transparencies, located at the back of the book, will assist you in your classroom presentation.

Additionally, countries such as those which comprised the former Soviet Union were undergoing political and economic reformation, while others, like Yugoslavia, were showing the strains of political boundaries that included several nations. Use the geographic boundaries between nations that are presented here with caution; the swift nature of the changes that occurred may cause some information to be no longer current.

### Map 1: Europe in the World

This Robinson projection map provides a continuous map with relatively little distortion of shapes and sizes. It is a compromise between rectangular projections such as the Mercator or Peters and more accurate interrupted projections. The student page offers directional activities and a world overview.

#### Extension Activities:

1. Note that Europe is one of the world's smaller continents and compare its size to other continents. Discuss the

latitude that Europe covers and its effect on climate.

2. Use this map to discuss the European exploration of the world. Have students trace the routes of Columbus, Dias, Da Gama, the Vikings, and Magellan.

3. Use this map to plot trade routes. Keep in mind that Europe is fairly dependent on other parts of the world for its raw resources.

### Map 2: Countries and Capitals

The student page can be used for latitude and longitude practice or the map can be labeled using a classroom atlas or textbook.

**Note:** The maps and other information in this text are accurate as of early 2007. Use the information presented here with caution. The swift nature of political changes that can occur may cause current political situations to differ from those accurate at the time of publication.

#### Extension Activities:

1. Make a copy of the map and have students color the countries according to their form of government (*republic, constitutional monarchy, and so on*).

2. Color the map to indicate membership in various alliances and participation in trade agreements (*EEC, NATO, and so on*).

3. Make choropleth maps for a variety of statistics. A choropleth map uses a different color for a different range. For example, have students research the literacy rate for European countries and then color the countries according to established percentages.

### Map 3: Physical Features

The student page provides a narrative description of the features of Europe. After reading the narrative, students

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# Europe in the World

Use the maps and additional references to complete the following.

1. Label and color the continents.

Africa	green
Asia	orange
Europe	yellow
Australia	red
North America	brown
South America	purple
Antarctica	gray



2. Label these parallels and meridians: Equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle, and Prime Meridian.
3. Label the North and South poles. Label the four hemispheres.
4. Label the oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, and Arctic.
5. Label the compass rose on the map with these directions: north, south, east, west, northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest.

Use the eight major directions or names of seas and continents to complete the following.

6. Europe lies \_\_\_\_\_ of Africa.
7. The continent of \_\_\_\_\_ lies just east of Europe.
8. The continent of North America lies \_\_\_\_\_ of Europe and across the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean.
9. The continent of \_\_\_\_\_ lies southwest of Europe and across the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean.
10. Europe lies entirely in the \_\_\_\_\_ Hemisphere.
11. Part of Europe is west of the Prime Meridian but most is not; therefore, most of Europe is in the \_\_\_\_\_ Hemisphere.
12. Australia lies \_\_\_\_\_ of Europe
13. To reach the North Pole from Europe, one would travel \_\_\_\_\_ and cross the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean.
14. The continent of Antarctica is \_\_\_\_\_ of Europe.
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ oceans border Europe.