Introduction to Geography Handouts
Compass Roses

A **compass rose** is used on a map to indicate directions. Some compass roses are very simple, indicating a single direction. Others are more elaborate, indicating as many as sixteen directions.

When a compass rose indicates only one direction, it usually points north.

Many compass roses indicate the four **cardinal directions**, which are North, South, East, and West. *Complete the compass rose using the cardinal directions.*

A compass rose showing eight directions includes the cardinal directions plus the directions directly between those directions, called the intermediate directions. The intermediate directions always use north or south before east or west.

For example, between North and East is Northeast. *Complete the compass rose using the cardinal and intermediate directions.*
World Activity

Follow these directions to complete the world map you have been given.
1. Refer to the list below and match the continents, bodies of water, and north and south poles with the matching numbers. Write the correct names on the numbered lines.
2. Correctly label the map.
3. Correctly complete the compass at the bottom of the page.
4. Use colored pencils to color the map. Refer to the colors next to the names.

Africa (brown) 1. ____________________________
Asia (green) 2. ____________________________
North America (yellow) 3. ____________________________
Australia (orange) 4. ____________________________
Europe (purple) 5. ____________________________
South America (red) 6. ____________________________
Antarctica (grey) 7. ____________________________
Indian Ocean (blue) 8. ____________________________
Atlantic Ocean (blue) 9. ____________________________
Pacific Ocean (blue) 10. ____________________________
Arctic Ocean (blue) 11. ____________________________
North Pole 12. ____________________________
South Pole 13. ____________________________
Equator 14. ____________________________
What is Latitude?

Latitude is defined as a measurement of distance in degrees north or south of the equator. The word latitude comes from the Latin, "latus," meaning "wide."

Latitude lines circle the globe running east and west. Latitude lines are sometimes called parallels. There are ninety degrees of latitude from the equator to each of the poles. The Equator is 0°. It divides the earth in half, the northern hemisphere and the southern hemisphere. It is called the equator all the way around the earth. You can imagine that the equator is like a belt around a person's waist.

All lines of latitude north of the equator are written in degrees north. For example, 40°N is the line of latitude that runs through Columbus, Ohio. All lines of latitude south of the equator are written in degrees south. 33°S runs through Santiago, Chile. The farther from the equator, the larger the numbers become.

Other named lines of latitude include the Tropic of Cancer (27 1/2°N) and the Tropic of Capricorn (27 1/2°S).

Complete the following

Lines of latitude are ________________________ to the equator.

There are _________ degrees of latitude north and south of the equator.

The equator is at _________degrees.

Another name for latitude lines are _________________________.

The equator divides the earth into ______________ equal parts.

Draw the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn on the diagram above.

Write a definition of latitude.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
What is Longitude?

Longitude is defined as measurement of distance in degrees east or west of the prime meridian. Longitude comes from the Latin, "longus," meaning "length." Longitude lines are sometimes called meridians.

Lines of longitude run north and south from the North Pole to the South Pole. Lines of longitude are not parallel like lines of latitude. The Prime Meridian (0°) runs through Greenwich (London), England. The Prime Meridian divides the Earth into Eastern and Western Hemispheres. All longitudes east (to the right) of the Prime Meridian are written "East." All longitudes west (to the left) of the Prime Meridian are written "West."

The International Dateline (180°) is on the opposite side of the globe from the Prime Meridian. It is the starting and stopping line for the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.

Complete the Following

Longitude lines connect the _____________ pole with the _____________ pole.
The line of 0° longitude is called the _____________________________.
Longitude lines give directions _______________ and _______________ of the Prime Meridian.
There are _____ degrees of longitude on each side of the prime meridian.
Longitude lines are not _________________ like latitude lines.
Write a definition of longitude.

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
Using Latitude and Longitude

Latitude and longitude are the imaginary grid lines on the globe. To locate an exact location on a map, identify the latitude and longitude lines that cross each other. These are called coordinates. Coordinates mean the latitude and longitude numbers for a particular spot and they are written as an ordered pair. When coordinates are written, latitude is always given first. For example, Columbus, Ohio, is written as (40°N, 83°W).

Give the latitude and longitude of the shapes positioned on the grid. Use an ordered pair.

Bird
Businessman
Driver
Golfer
Gondola
Rafter
Ship
Tornado
Whale
### Absolute Location

#### List A

*Give your partner the coordinates of the city. The partner finds those coordinates and guesses the city. Hide the answers from your partner.*

1. 14°N, 100°E  
   *Bangkok, Thailand*
2. 41°N, 29°E  
   *Istanbul, Turkey*
3. 30°N, 95°W  
   *Houston, Texas*
4. 32°S, 116°E  
   *Perth, Australia*
5. 30°N, 31°E  
   *Cairo, Egypt*
6. 15°N, 121°E  
   *Manilla, Philippines*
7. 51°N, 4°E  
   *Brussels, Belgium*
8. 16°N, 33°E  
   *Khartoum, Sudan*
9. 47°N, 71°W  
   *Quebec City, Quebec*
10. 37°N, 3°E  
    *Algiers, Algeria*

#### List B

*Give your partner the coordinates of the city. The partner finds those coordinates and guesses the city. Hide the answers from your partner.*

1. 6°S, 107°E  
   *Jakarta, Indonesia*
2. 56°N, 38°E  
   *Moscow, Russia*
3. 34°N, 8°W  
   *Casablanca, Morocco*
4. 15°N, 17°W  
   *Dakar, Senegal*
5. 48°N, 122°W  
   *Seattle, Washington*
6. 59°N, 18°E  
   *Stockholm, Sweden*
7. 43°N, 88°W  
   *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*
8. 40°N, 4°W  
   *Madrid, Spain*
9. 50°N, 19°E  
   *Katowice, Poland*
10. 41°S, 175°E  
    *Wellington, New Zealand*
Latitude Stretch

North Pole

Arctic Circle

Tropic of Cancer

Equator

Tropic of Capricorn

Antarctic Circle

South Pole

You can play Simon Says, or this can be sung to the tune of "You Are My Sunshine," or "This Land is Your Land."

♫ This is the North Pole,
The Arctic Circle,
The Tropic of Cancer,
♫ Equator, too.♫
The Tropic of Capricorn,
Antarctic Circle,
Don't forget the South Pole, too.♫
Famous Places

You can learn about famous places in the world. First, choose a famous place from the list below. Next, locate the famous place by using absolute and relative location. Then complete the worksheet and share with your classmates. You could also create a poster revealing information about the famous place you chose.

Yosemite
The White House
Victoria Falls
Mt. Rushmore
Acropolis
Yellowstone
Eiffel Tower
Tower of London
Panama Canal
Mt. St. Helens
Angel Falls
Big Ben
Wailing Wall
Bermuda Triangle

Mt. Everest
Stonehenge
Niagara Falls
Vatican
Statue of Liberty
Taj Mahal
Grand Canyon
Great Barrier Reef
Great Wall of China
Leaning Tower of Pisa
Victoria Falls
Colosseum
Mt. Pinatubo
Machu Picchu
Famous Places

The name of my famous place is ____________________________.

Its absolute location is _________________________________.
Its relative location is: (Relative location is the position of a place in relation to another place.)

Create a compass rose in the space provided and label the cardinal and intermediate directions. Circle the direction you would have to travel to go to your famous place from your home.

A brief description of my famous place:

The book(s) where I found my information are listed here with relevant page numbers for future reference.
**Geography Terms Booklet Instruction Sheet**

You will make a booklet of geography terms. Each page will include the following.
- a geography term.
- the definition of the geography term.
- a drawing that shows what the definition means.
- a map section showing where one of these land forms exists in the world.
- a sentence that uses the word correctly. (This will go on the opposite page)

**Instructions**

1. Choose 10 terms from the terms list (1.2b) for your booklet.
2. On each white half sheet, write on term and its definition.
3. Use the resource books to find a real example of the landform somewhere in the world.
4. Draw a good map showing where the land form exists. Be sure to label surrounding features, countries, and/or states. This will identify where the landform is.
5. Make a drawing that shows what the landform looks like, if your location map doesn't show that. For example, a map showing the location of a bay would show what a bay looks like. A map showing the location of a desert would not. You would have to draw a desert.
6. On the opposite page (the back of another term) write a good sentence that correctly uses your geographic term. Be careful not to write general sentences in which any term could be inserted.

   **Acceptable:** We saw a large cactus and a scorpion on our drive through the hot, desert.

   **Unacceptable:** We went for a drive in the desert. (You could go for a drive almost anywhere.)

7. Arrange your booklet pages so the page with the term and drawing faces the page with the sentence.
8. Create an attractive cover with title, illustrations, and your name.
9. Neatness and color count!!!
Geography Word List

archipelago a group of many islands
bay part of an ocean or lake extending into the land and usually smaller than a gulf
beach a rocky or sandy edge of land along a body of water
canal a waterway dug across land through which ships can pass
canyon a deep valley with steep sides
cape a point of land extending into a body of water
channel a narrow, deep waterway connecting two bodies of water; the deepest part of a river or waterway
coast the region of land that meets with a body of water
continent one of the seven great land masses on earth
delta a triangular deposit of sand and soil that collects at the mouth of some rivers
desert a dry barren region that may be sandy and rocky and without trees
forest a large area of land covered with trees and other plants
glacier a huge mass of ice that moves slowly down a mountain
gulf part of an ocean extending into land and usually larger that a bay
harbor a sheltered area of water where ships can anchor safely
island an area of land completely surrounded by water
isthmus a narrow strip of land with water on both sides, connecting two larger areas of land
lake a large body of water surrounded by land
mountain a land form with high elevation and a pointed or rounded top higher than a hill
**Geography Word List**

*mountain range* a row of connected mountains

*mouth* (of a river) the part of a river where its waters flow into another body of water

*oasis* a fertile place in the desert where there is water and some vegetation

*ocean* the body of salt water that covers most of the earth

*peninsula* land surrounded by water on all sides but one

*plain* a broad and flat or gently rolling area usually low in elevation

*plateau* a flat area of land that is higher than the land around it

*prairie* a region of flat or hilly land covered by tall grasses

*rain forest* a large, very dense forest in a region where rain is very heavy throughout the year.

*river* a large stream of water that flows over land into a lake, ocean, or other body of water

*sea* a body of salt water that is partly enclosed by land

*strait* a narrow waterway connecting two large bodies of water

*tributary* a stream or river that flows into a larger stream or river

*tundra* a cold dry, treeless region where mosses, grasses, and lichens grow

*valley* low land between hills or mountains

*volcano* an opening in the earth's surface through which seam ashes, and lava are forced out.

*waterfall* a stream of water that falls from a high place

*wetlands* low, wet land that supports grass and trees; sometimes called a swamp or a marsh
Real-World Examples
(For teacher's reference)

archipelago Indonesia, Canary Islands, Hawaiian Islands, West Indies

bay Hudson, San Francisco, Bengal, Biscay (Atlantic Ocean, between Northern Spain and Western France)

beach Daytona, Clearwater

canal Erie, Panama, Suez

canyon Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon (Utah), Royal Gorge (Colorado)

cape Horn (Florida), of Good Hope (South Africa), Canaveral, Cod

channel English, Mozambique

coast New England, Gulf Coast (U.S.),

continent North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Antarctica

delta Mississippi, Amazon, Nile

desert Sahara, Gobi, Mojave, Kalahari,

forest Amazon Rain Forest, Black Forest, Wayne National Forest

glacier Glacier Bay (Alaska), Greenland, in the Alps, Himalayas

gulf of Mexico, Persian, Carpentaria (Australia)

harbor Boston, Hong Kong, Rio de Janeiro, Pearl

island Barbados, Madagascar, Sicily, Vancouver, Kelley's Island

isthmus Panama,

lake Great Salt Lake, Great Lakes, Victoria,

mountain Everest, Denali, Kilimanjaro

mountain range Himalayas, Andes, Alps, Rockies

mouth (of a river) Mississippi, Nile

oasis found in the Sahara Desert

ocean Atlantic, Pacific, Indian

peninsula Florida, Sinai, Italy, Malay (Thailand)
Real-World Examples—continued

*plain*  Great Plains, Pampas, West Siberian Plains

*plateau*  Plateau of Tibet, Altiplano (Bolivia), Columbia Plateau

*prairie*  central United States, Saskatchewan, the Pampas of Argentina, the veldt of South Africa, the Canterbury Plains of New Zealand, and parts of Hungary, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine

*rain forest*  Congo Rain Forest, Amazon Rain Forest

*river*  Nile, Amazon, Mississippi, Rhine, Ohio

*sea*  Mediterranean Sea, Caribbean, South China, Bering

*strait*  of Gibraltar (between Africa and Europe), of Magellan, of Florida

*tributary*  The Missouri River as a tributary of the Mississippi River

*tundra*  Northern Russia, Northern Canada, Alaska

*valley*  Death, Ruhr, Loire

*volcano*  Mauna Loa, Mt. Saint Helens, Krakatoa (Indonesia), Pinatubo (Phillippines)

*waterfall*  Angel Falls (Venezuela), Niagara Falls, Victoria (Zambia, Zimbabwe), Montmorecy

*wetlands*  Everglades, Okefenokee Swamp (Georgia)
Vocabulary Template

Using the template below, fold your paper forwards after the first column and cut to the folded line. Vocabulary words, provided by your teacher, will be placed on the outside of the first column. Next, you can then either draw a nonlinguistic representation for the word or locate a picture on the Internet to cut and paste in the second column. Finally, define the vocabulary word using a dictionary or the textbook and provide a sentence using the word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary Word</th>
<th>Picture</th>
<th>Definition of Term and Sentence</th>
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Internet Scavenger Hunt

There are hundreds of active volcanoes around the world, and more and more people are living dangerously near them. Being able to predict when volcanoes might erupt could save many lives. Start your study of volcanoes at this site:

Volcanoes
http://www.learner.org/exhibits/volcanoes

1. What types of tools does a volcanologist use to monitor volcanoes?

2. What are plate boundaries?

Card 2

1. Seismographs, tiltmeters, geodimeters, correlation spectrometers.

2. Areas where the earth’s shifting plates meet or split apart.

Card 2 Answers
Internet Scavenger Hunt

Do you know your Geography terms? Use the following website for help:

Terms
http://www.enchantedlearning.com/geography/landforms/glossaryprintable.shtml

1. What is the scientific field that investigates how landforms are formed on the Earth (and other planets)?
2. What is a ring (or partial ring) of coral that forms an island in an ocean or sea?

Challenge: Locate an example of an atoll.

Card 3

1. Geomorphology

2. An atoll

Challenge: Bikini Atoll, Palmyra Atoll

Card 3 Answers