

About Daily Geography Practice

Daily Geography Practice is based on the eighteen National Geography Standards and is designed to support any geography and social studies curriculums that you may be using in your classroom.

36 Weekly Sections

Teacher Page

- An answer key for the week is included for easy reference.

WEEK 10
Daily Geography

ANSWER KEY

Monday
1. North America
2. Canada, Mexico, and the United States

Tuesday
1. Canada
2. Mexico

Wednesday
1. Canada
2. Alaska

Thursday
1. Atlantic Ocean, and Pacific Ocean
2. Belize and Guatemala

Friday
1. Cuba
2. South America

Challenge
Students should follow the directions to make the outline shape of North America. It is not necessary for students to include every little island, as long as they draw the general outline shape of the continent.

Introducing the Map
Explain to students that a mental map is a map you picture in your mind. Ask students to picture where their classroom is. Have them think about where the office is, the cafeteria, and the library. Tell them the picture they have in their mind is a mental map.

Explain that where one thing is in relation to another is called location. Tell students that when they made a mental map of the school, they were picturing the location of the different rooms in the school.

Show students the map of North America. Talk about the countries on the continent. The students will probably recognize the three large countries of Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Talk about the location of each of these countries in relation to each other.

Show students the seven smaller countries south of Mexico. Students should also notice the islands that are part of North America. There are many islands south of the United States. Also, have students find the island of Greenland. Tell students that there are actually twenty-three countries in North America, but only the largest are labeled on the map.

Then have students look at the small map of the world with North America shaded. Ask students to turn the map page over and picture where North America is in the world and what it looks like. Tell students that what they have just done is to create a mental map of North America.

Now give students a blank piece of paper and have them draw a simple sketch of the shape of North America from memory. Have them compare their map sketches with the actual map. Tell students that making a mental picture of places helps them to understand where different places in the world are located.

Students may find it difficult to understand the concept of mental maps and may need a review each day. Encourage students to try to answer as many questions as possible without looking at the map. Then have students look at the map to check their answers.

Introducing Vocabulary

continent one of the seven largest areas of land on Earth: Africa, America, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, or South America

country a part of the world with its own borders and government:

nation

location the site or position of something

map sketch a rough drawing of a mental map

mental map a map that a person pictures in his or her mind

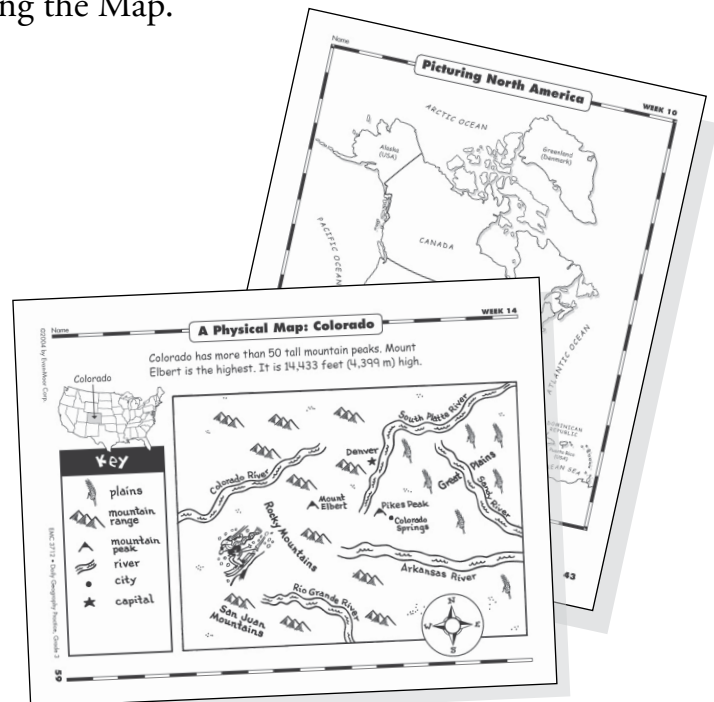
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- The national geography element, standard, and skill are included.
- Background information helps the teacher introduce the geography skill.
- Vocabulary words and definitions are given.

Please note that the skills in this book should be taught in direct instruction, and not used as independent practice. Teachers are encouraged to use other reference maps and globes to aid in instruction. Most of the questions can be answered by studying the map or globe. There are some questions, however, that specifically relate to the lesson given by the teacher at the beginning of the week. Review daily the information presented in “Introducing the Map.”

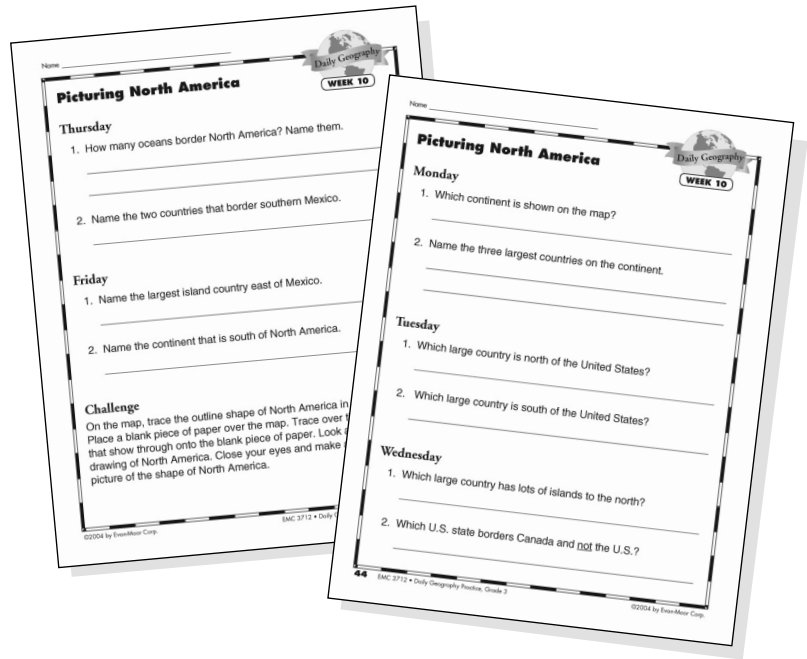
Map Page

A map illustrates the geography skills emphasized during the week. Use the map to aid in whole-class instruction, or reproduce a copy for each student to use as a reference for the questions.



Question Pages

There are two geography questions for each day of the week. The questions progress in difficulty from Monday to Friday. The challenge question at the end of the week asks students to add a feature to the map. Outside references are often required to answer the challenge question.



Geography Glossary

Reproduce the glossary pages and cover for students to use as an easy reference booklet throughout the year.

