

# Let's Look at Canada

Grades 4-6

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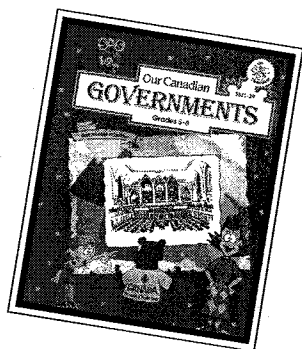
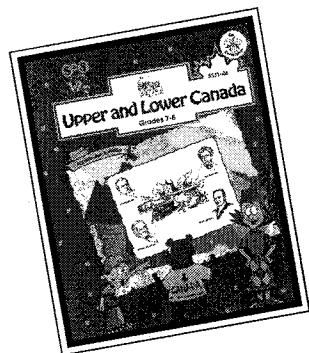
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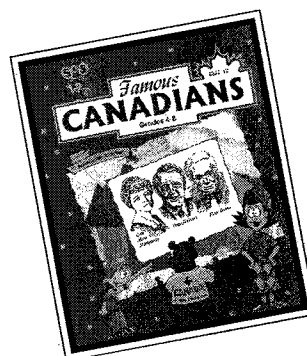
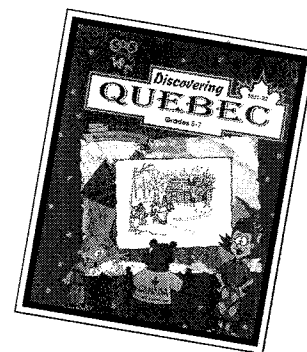
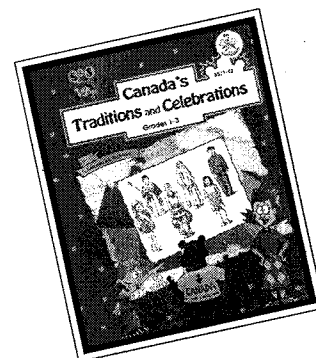
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## Canadian Communities

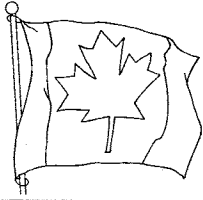
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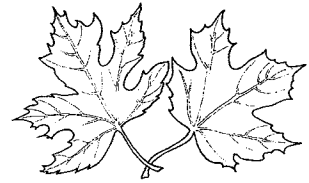
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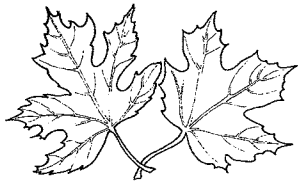


# Let's Look at Canada

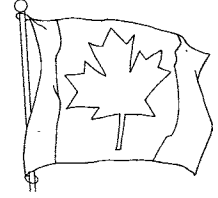


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# Let's Look at Canada



## Canada Information Card One

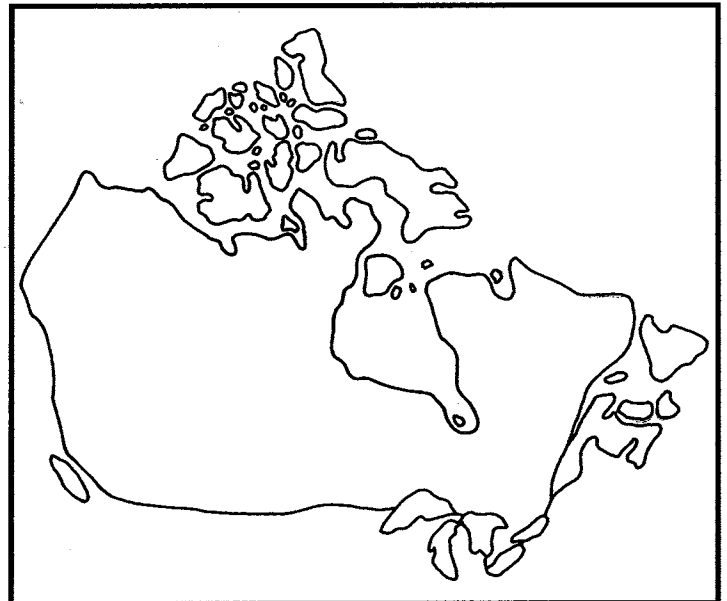
### **An Introduction to Canada**

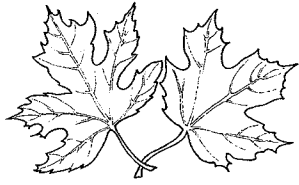
Canada is a very large country with a variety of climates, vegetation and landforms. Within its border you can find tall mountains, vast plains, thousands of lakes and large stretches of forest. Canada will let you experience hot summers and icy winters. There are large metropolitan centres where people from all over the world come to work or play. There are small villages that make the visitor feel like they have stepped back in time to a setting in the 1800's. Canada is definitely a land of contrasts.

It is easy to find Canada on a map of the world because it is so big in size. You can see why the Canadian motto is "From Sea to Sea" when you realize just how big this country is. It is the second largest country (in land mass) in the world. Located in the continent of North America, Canada lies on the northern border of the United States, with the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the Pacific Ocean to the west and the Arctic Ocean to the north. This country stretches just over 5 000 km from east to west.

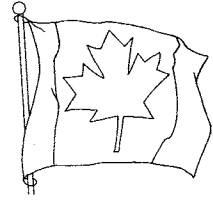
Because of its size and climatic conditions, exploration of Canada took a long time. Canada is a young country, politically, if you compare it to the countries in Europe. It was settlers from Europe who helped to establish farms and villages throughout Canada and gradually helped it to grow from a small colony to an independent nation.

Though Canada has only been a nation since 1867, it is recognized by many countries as a leader in medical and technological research as well as the supplier of much of the world's resources. Canada's population may be less than that of countries with a much smaller area but her contribution to the world community is formidable.





# Let's Look at Canada



## Canada Reading Activity One

Read the Information Card entitled "An Introduction to Canada"

Complete the following activities.

1. Why would visitors to Canada feel they had many choices in the types of activities they may want to experience?

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2. Using a geography resource book, find the ten largest countries in land mass, and list them from the largest to the smallest. Underline Canada in red.

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3. What problems would explorers have had in trying to cross the country of Canada?

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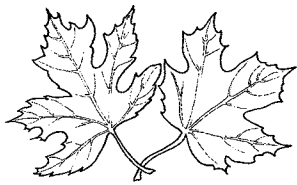
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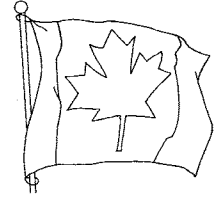
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4. Using the library as a resource, make a list of five to eight books that would help you find out more about Canada. Record the title, author and publisher of each book. Complete the list on the back of this activity sheet. Be prepared to report your findings to the class.



# Let's Look at Canada



## Canada Information Card Two

### The First Canadians

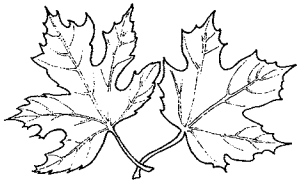
There have been many theories as to who the first Canadians were or when they were able to move into Canada. However, most scientists and historians seem to agree that the first people to arrive in Canada came by way of a "land bridge" that at one time connected Northern Russia and Alaska.

The people that we know as Native Canadians and Inuit are the descendants of these first immigrants to North America. Scientists believe that the first people to enter Canada did so about 30 000 years ago. They were tribes of ancient hunters, following the animals they killed for their food. At that time, before the end of the last Ice Age, these people were able to cross from the area where they lived, Northern Russia, and gradually move into northern Canada. Over a period of thousands of years, their descendants gradually moved south, still following the animals that they depended upon for food and clothing.

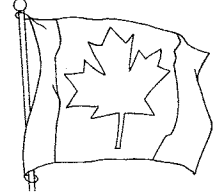
Some of these people eventually reached South America. Many settled down in various parts of Canada and the United States to become the Native Canadians and the Inuit that we are familiar with today.

The "land bridge" no longer exists. After the last Ice Age the increase in the level of the ocean water caused the bridge to disappear beneath what we know as the Bering Strait. The ancient hunters were now "trapped" in the New World and it would be more than 10 000 years before new explorers set foot in Canada.





# Let's Look at Canada



## Canada Reading Activity Two

Read the Information Card entitled "The First Canadians".

Complete the following activities.

1. Obtain a map of the world from your teacher. Locate Canada on the map. Show the route that the early Natives took as they moved from Asia to North America.

2. Who are the Inuit? What does the word mean? Where do they live today?

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3. Why did it take so long for North America to become settled by the Natives?

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4. Why do you think some hunters chose to stay in the Arctic regions of North America while others moved south and settled in warmer areas?

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5. When did the land bridge disappear and why did this happen?

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