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The National Geography Standards

There are 18 National Geography Standards. All 18 standards are covered in this book. Each standard is covered in its own unit. Each unit has a series of Activity exercises. The Activity exercises were designed to meet student expectations as listed by the National Geography Standards. Listed below and on page 7 are the standards taught and reinforced in this book.

Standards 1–8

The World in Spatial Terms

Standard 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information

Standard 2: How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments

Standard 3: How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments

Places and Regions

Standard 4: The physical and human characteristics of a place

Standard 5: That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity

Standard 6: How culture and experience influence people's perception of places and regions

Physical Systems

Standard 7: The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface

Standard 8: The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems on Earth's surface

The National Geography Standards *(cont.)*

Standards 9–18

Human Systems

Standard 9: The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface

Standard 10: The characteristics, distributions, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics

Standard 11: The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface

Standard 12: The process, patterns, and functions of human settlement

Standard 13: How forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface

Environment and Society

Standard 14: How human actions modify the physical environment

Standard 15: How physical systems affect human systems

Standard 16: The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources

The Uses of Geography

Standard 17: How to apply geography to interpret the past

Standard 18: To apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future

Directions and Where Things Are

About Directions and Where Things Are

Where do the clothes you are wearing come from? How about the food you eat? We use directions to answers these questions. Some directions are for things that are far away, and some directions are for things that are close together. When we map the world, we do more than write the names of places: we also think about how things are linked. We think about how far apart or close together things are. We draw maps so that we can tell by looking at them how far away or close something is in real life.

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- scale
- transported
- density

What I Do

Complete the Activities. When you are done, you will know a trick to help you remember the names of the Great Lakes. You will know what kind of music is considered American. You will also know how this music has ties to two other continents!

Name _____ **Date** _____

Activity 9

Density refers to how thick or crowded something is. When something is dense, its parts are close together.

Look at the map to the right. In which grid section would you expect there to be the:

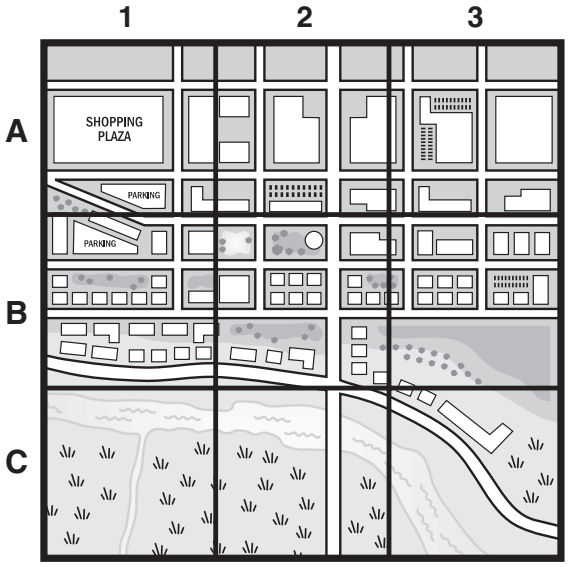
highest density of people working in offices?

_____

highest density of people living in houses?

_____

highest density of mosquitoes? (Hint: mosquitoes lay eggs in standing water.) _____



Activity 10

There is going to be a new restaurant that will serve drinks and sandwiches. There is going to be a new store that sells medical supplies and medicine. There is going to be a new school for elementary school students. There is going to be a new gas station. Where should each new place be located?

Look at the map. There are eight circles on the map. Choose one circle for the restaurant's, store's, school's, and gas station's location.

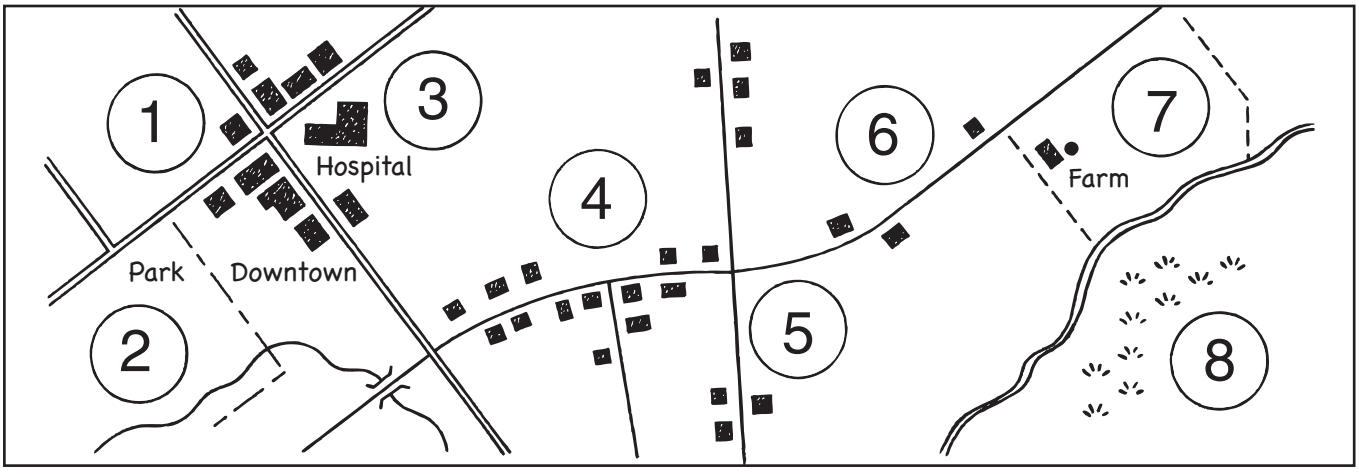
Tell why you chose to locate the restaurant, store, school, and gas station where you did.

restaurant: _____

store: _____

school: _____

gas station: _____



Name _____ **Date** _____

Activity 13

Look at the picture. Write five sentences about the picture. In each sentence, tell where an item is in relation to other items in the picture. Use directional words such as *north*, *east*, *south*, and *west*. Use positional words such as *closer than*, *next to*, and *beside*.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

How Earth's Surface Shapes How People Live

About How Earth's Surface Shapes How People Live

Earth's surface shapes what we do and how we adapt to what is around us. For example, we might build a house on stilts in an area where it rains a lot. We might sail at certain times of the year because we know the direction the winds will be blowing. We might invent something new to be used in a particular place, and we usually adapt our clothes to fit the climate we live in.

What I Need to Know

Vocabulary

- monsoon
- adapt
- salt pan
- hazard
- traditional
- treaty

What I Do

Complete the Activities. When you are done, you will know about a hotel made of salt, what was invented so that people could practice ice hockey in the summer, and what made the loudest sound ever heard on Earth.

Name _____ **Date** _____

Activity 5

In Bolivia, the building material of one hotel was adapted to fit its environment. It is made entirely of salt! The walls, floors, chairs, tables, and even the beds in the hotel are all made of salt. Chainsaws are used to cut it into blocks.

The hotel is in a **salt pan**, which is where salt has been left on the floor of a desert basin. A basin is like a wide, shallow bowl. The salt pan is called the Salar de Uyuni salt pan, and it is estimated that it contains more than 10 billion tons (10.2 billion metric tons) of salt!

Bolivia is landlocked, which means that Bolivia has

A. a sea or ocean coastline

B. no sea or ocean coastline

List all of Bolivia's neighbors. _____

_____

_____

Does Bolivia have more or fewer neighbors than your country?

_____

Are any of your neighbors the same as Bolivia's?

_____

Activity 6

A **hazard** is a danger. A natural hazard is not man-made; it happens in and is caused by nature. A natural hazard may be a flood, a windstorm, a tornado, or an earthquake.

Think about where you live. List some natural hazards. _____

_____

Are these hazards different or the same as hazards in other parts of your region?

_____

How has your community or region adapted to these hazards (where houses are built, alarm systems, emergency services, etc.)?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Name _____ **Date** _____

Activity 9

When Mt. Vesuvius erupted in Italy in 79 CE, people breathed in poisonous volcanic gases. They were buried in ash and rock. More than 16,000 people died in the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

In 1749, the city of Pompeii was dug out. Artifacts and people were almost perfectly preserved. (An artifact is a thing made by human work or skill.) This made it easier for researchers to learn about life in the city of long ago. Today, you can walk among the parts of a city that have been uncovered. The ancient city is just a little southeast of Naples.

On the map, find Italy and the city of Naples. Italy looks like a high-heeled boot kicking a rock. The "rock" is part of Italy. What is the island called? _____

Which three seas surround Italy?

A. Adriatic, Black, Caspian

B. Mediterranean, Red, Ionic

C. Mediterranean, Black, Ionic

D. Ionian, Tyrrhenian, Adriatic

Activity 10

A **treaty** is an agreement between two nations. Treaties deal with peace and/or trade. They may also have to do with pollution.

Think about acid rain. Acid rain is caused by fumes (gases and smoke) from cars, factories, and power stations. In the air, the fumes change into acids, and winds blow the acids away. Far away, rain falls. The rain is acid because of fumes let into the air from far away! Acid rain harms trees, crops, and fish.

Trees in southeastern Canada were dying from acid rain. Part of the problem may have been pollution from factories in the

A. southeastern United States blowing east

B. southwestern United States blowing east

C. northeastern United States blowing north

D. northwestern United States blowing north

What is a treaty? _____