Geography

Some curricula treat geography as a subject separate from history in K-8th grade, while others incorporate it into historical studies. For example, any time the nation of China is studied is a perfect time to explore the physical characteristics and boundaries of the nation. This makes geography interesting and relevant for the students. However, there is some basic geography that can be studied independently from historical studies. Here are some of the goals included in various curricula.

You may also enjoy Michelle Miller’s Monthly Book Lists for Families selections for Africa, Florida, and Travel.
Geography

Kindergarten

- Learn to recognize pictures of famous US monuments or landmarks
- Create maps of places you know, such as your room, your house, your neighborhood, etc.
- Develop a sense of awareness of geographical location (house, street, city, state, country, continent, planet)

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

U.S. Landmarks Coloring Book: in the Unit Studies and More section
All About Maps: Unit K: self-paced unit

Additionally, SchoolhouseTeachers.com has a number of supplemental geography resources for your family to enjoy. You will find these on the page titled Additional Geography Resources that is included with this scope and sequence. There are printable maps, outline maps and flags, an atlas, interactive maps, and more in the map resources featured in several of our World Book libraries and fun geography games in our World Book Kids library.
Geography

1st Grade

- Learn about different types of maps (atlases, globes, etc.)
- Learn how to understand a basic map key (water, land, rivers, etc.)
- Learn about the compass rose and cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west)
- Memorize the seven continents and where they are on a map
- Memorize the five oceans and where they are on a map
- Locate the United States, Canada, and Mexico on a map

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

All About Maps: Unit 1: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 1: self-paced unit
Living Geography: 16 weekly lessons

Our World Book Early World of Learning library has short videos about places around the world.
Our World Book Kids library includes two mapping your environment projects under Doodle and Design.

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Geography

2nd Grade

- Learn about the equator, the hemispheres, and the north and south poles
- Learn more about the oceans (which is the largest, what types of animals live in them)
- Learn about major geographical features of the Earth (Mount Everest, the Sahara, the Amazon rainforest)
- Create maps of stories you hear (showing where in the story various events took place)

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

All About Maps: Unit 2: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 2: self-paced unit

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Geography

3rd Grade

- Learn how to use grid maps (e.g. A4-D5)
- Learn about latitude and longitude
- Learn about various climates and where they are found
- Learn the meaning of the Prime Meridian and the significance of the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn
- Learn various landforms including peninsula, strait, gulf, bay, isthmus, plateau, mouth, delta, tributary, and drainage basin
- Continue to review information already learned (continents, oceans, equator, hemispheres, etc.)
- Learn the major rivers of each continent

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

All About Maps: Unit 3: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 3: self-paced unit

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Geography

4th Grade

- Learn about and use map scales
- Study population maps
- Learn about natural resources of various countries
- Review latitude, longitude, and degrees and how to use them to find locations
- Learn about the international date line
- Learn the major mountain ranges and peaks of the world
- Memorize the fifty states of the United States and their capitals

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Learning Across the USA: fifty daily lessons designed to cover ten weeks
All About Maps: Unit 4: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 4: self-paced unit

Our Social Studies Power library from World Book includes a series of lessons about types of maps and map skills under the section labeled Map Skills. There are also Geography Games as well as Local Resources, which allows students to learn about natural resources in countries around the world.

Additionally, SchoolhouseTeachers.com has a number of supplemental geography resources for your family to enjoy. You will find these on the page titled Additional Geography Resources that is included with this scope and sequence. There are printable maps, outline maps and flags, an atlas, interactive maps, and more in the map resources featured in several of our World Book libraries and fun geography games in our World Book Kids library. Several of our World Book libraries include a feature called Compare Places which allows students to compare and contrast various states, provinces, dependencies, countries, and continents.
Geography

5th Grade

- Learn about different types of maps (Mercator projection, political, physical, time zones)
- Cartography
- Natural boundaries
- Learn major lakes
- Learn the characteristics of major regions of the United States
- Learn about the Gulf Stream and its effects

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

All About Maps: Unit 5: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 5: self-paced unit

Our Social Studies Power library from World Book includes a series of lessons under Parts of the World that explore the regions of the United States, Canada, and Australia, as well as features and aspects of life on each of the continents.

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Geography

6th Grade

- Learn about topographical maps
- Study major landmarks and features of the United States and her territories
- Learn the capitals of all North American, Central American, South American, and Caribbean nations

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

**All About Maps**: Unit 6: self-paced unit

**All About the World**: Unit 6: self-paced unit

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Geography

7th Grade

- Study major landmarks and features of Canada and Mexico
- Study how the United States has changed over time (colonies, the Louisiana Purchase, new territories, etc.)
- Study how major events such as World Wars I and II significantly changed the political geography of the world
- Learn the capitals of all major European nations

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

All About Maps: Unit 7: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 7: self-paced unit

Materials that discuss how the United States has changed over time and the effect major events have had on the political geography of the world are woven throughout multiple history classes on the site.

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Geography

8th Grade

- Study the main physical features of each continent
- Learn to locate the majority of the world’s nations on a political map
- Learn the capitals of all major Asian and African nations along with Australia and New Zealand

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

All About Maps: Unit 8: self-paced unit
All About the World: Unit 8: self-paced unit

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Additional Geography Resources

**Everyday Explorers-Australia/New Zealand**: 7 monthly units for K-12th grade
**Everyday Explorers-Canada**: 11 monthly units for K-12th grade
**Everyday Explorers-USA**: 17 monthly units for K-12th grade
**Exploring Elementary World Geography**: 7 units for 1st-4th grade
**A Splash of Geography**: 12 monthly units for 1st-12th grade
**Ayo’s Awesome Adventures Around the World for Kids**: 10 eBooks for 2nd-4th grade
**Asia: Trade Route Safari** (also included with Additional History Resources): 38 weeks for 2nd-5th grade
**Wonders of the World**: 5 weeks for 3rd-5th grade
**Let's Visit Denmark**: 9 week-study for 3rd-6th grade
**Lapbooking**: 4-week unit on London and Buckingham Palace for 3rd-7th grade
**Get to Know Australia**: webquest for 5th-8th grade
**Geography Quizzes and Activities**: numerous units for 7th-12th grade*
**Kinetic Connections**: offers tips to help parents teach geography to hands-on learners
**Trek to the Holy Land and Beyond**: video series for middle-high school
**Geography of the Bible**: video series for high school

There are further resources in our [Unit Studies and More section](#) including Cruisin' the Country, Geography Study with George Frederic Handel, Geography Study with Missionary William Carey, Military Geography, Physical Geography of Africa, and Travel the World.

*One way to use the geography quizzes as part of your curriculum is to use the answer key as the lesson to spark independent research. For example, using the Commodities quiz, students can learn that Venezuela exports iron ore, Russia exports natural gas, etc. They can use that as a springboard to learn more about these specific countries and exports, write a paragraph or more on each, and then take the quiz at the end.*