

LANDS OF THE WORLD

REM 130

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM



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INTRODUCTION

Lands of the World has been created to not only provide some basic information about some of the countries in our world, but to increase reading comprehension in a content area. Reading level is 3rd - 4th grade.

The book features:

1. A reading page on each country.
2. A question page which can be used with each country (p. 45). Questions to use after students read about Antarctica, Greenland, and Oceania can be found on page 52.
3. A bonus research activity for each country.
4. A "Research the Facts" page which can be used to gather facts from a source other than this book. (a homework or enrichment assignment)
5. A letter format which may be used by students to request additional information about a country from its embassy in the United States. A list of embassy names and addresses.
6. "World Record Facts" and a question page to be used with the fact page.

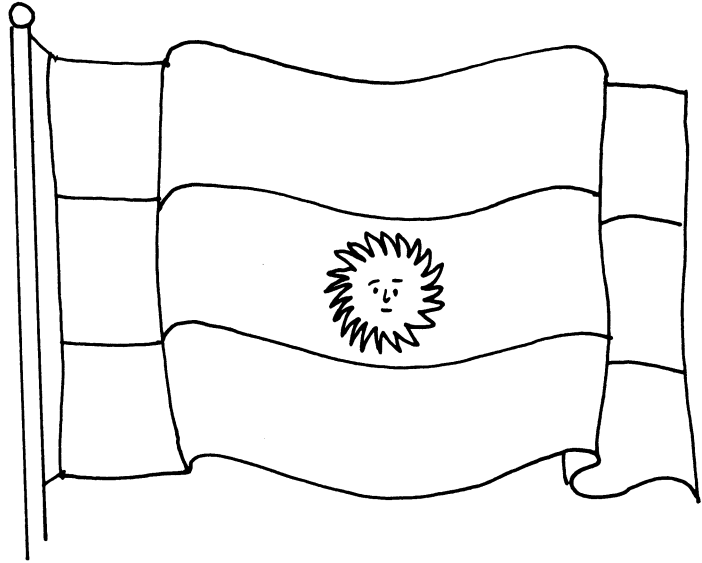
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Argentina

Argentina is a land of variety. It is on the continent of South America. On the map, you can find it east of Chile and south of Brazil.

The capital city of Argentina is Buenos Aires. Cordoba, Rosario, Mendoza, and San Miguel de Tucuman are other cities in Argentina. The people who live in Argentina are called Argentinians. The people speak Spanish. The flag of Argentina has two light blue stripes with a white stripe in the middle. There is a yellow sun in the middle of the flag. Argentina has its own kind of money called pesos.



Argentina makes flour, chemicals, textiles, and cars. The farmers grow grain, corn, grapes, linseed, sugar, and tobacco. Oil, lead, zinc, iron, sulphur, and silver are mined in Argentina. Fish are caught off the shores of Argentina.

One-third of the people of Argentina live in or near the capital city. Buenos Aires is one of the world's busiest ports. The manufacturing in Argentina is done to make things for Argentinians to use, and to sell to other countries.

The most important thing in Argentina is cattle ranching. A large area of the country is called the pampas. The pampas is an area of flat grassland. There are big ranches all over the pampas. Argentinians process the beef and sell it to all parts of the world. They also eat more beef than the people of any other country.

The Andes Mountains are on the western border of Argentina. There are many hiking and camping resorts in the area. In the northern part of Argentina, you would find jungles. On the very southern tip of Argentina is a spot called Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire). Magellan named it that when he sailed around the tip and saw big fires on the shore. The Indians who lived there were just trying to keep warm.

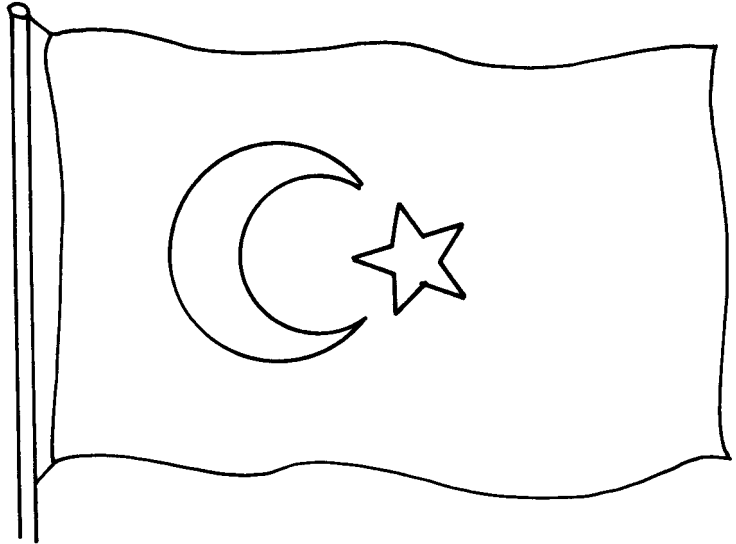
Visitors to Argentina usually visit the city of Buenos Aires. They like the beautiful beaches. They also enjoy the colorful dancing and music of the Argentinians.

BONUS: Ferdinand Magellan named Tierra del Fuego. On a separate piece of paper, write a report about Ferdinand Magellan.

Turkey

Turkey is a land of history. It is mostly on the continent of Asia. A small part of the country is on the continent of Europe. On the map, you can find it between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea.

The capital city of Turkey is Ankara. Istanbul, Izmir, and Adana are other big cities in Turkey. The people who live in Turkey are called Turks. The people speak Turkish, Kurdish, and Arabic. The flag of Turkey is red with a white crescent moon and a star on it. Turkey has its own kind of money called lira.



Turkey makes silk, textiles, steel, shoes, furniture, carpets, and paper. The farmers grow tobacco, grains, cotton, and olives. Antimony, chromium, mercury, and copper are mined in Turkey. Fishermen catch fish off the shores of Turkey in the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

The European part of Turkey is divided from the Asian part. It is divided by two narrow straits of water. The straits are called the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles. These narrow strips of water divide the two huge continents. The part of Turkey that is in Europe is a very small part of the country. The largest city, Istanbul, is in that part of the country. Istanbul used to be called Constantinople.

Visitors to Turkey come to see the ancient cities and buildings. Istanbul is one of the world's oldest cities. It used to be the capital of a great empire. The ruler who lived there ruled many countries. It has become very modern. People who visit Ankara will see a much newer city. It became the capital of Turkey when it became a free country.

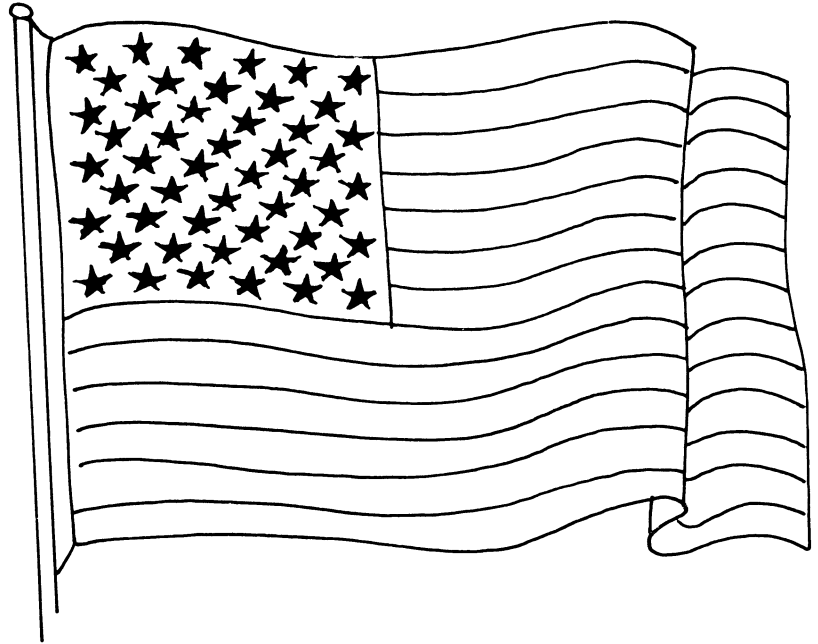
The Turkish people can vacation on the shores of the Aegean Sea where the climate is not as hot as the Mediterranean Sea. There is a beautiful, turquoise-colored lake in east Turkey. It is called Lake Van. The tall, snow-capped mountains are reflected in the lake. People say the lake is just like a mirror.

BONUS: Turkish carpets are very pretty. On a separate sheet of paper, write a report about carpet weaving.

United States

The United States is a land of variety. It is part of the continent of North America. On the map, you can find it north of Mexico and south of Canada .

The capital city of the United States is Washington, D.C. New York City, Chicago, Houston, and Los Angeles are other big cities in the United States. The people who live in the United States are called Americans. The people in the United States speak English. The flag of the United States has seven red stripes and six white stripes. In the corner, there is a blue rectangle with fifty white stars. The United States has its own kind of money called dollars.



The United States makes steel, cars, machinery, electronics, and wood products. Farmers grow grain, cotton, cattle, fruit, and vegetables. Coal, copper, lead, phosphates, uranium, iron, oil, and silver are mined in the United States. Fish are caught off the coasts of the United States.

There are fifty states in the United States. This country has very high mountains and very low deserts. In the eastern part of the United States, there are many big cities with factories. The middle of the country is mostly farmland. In the western United States, there are big cattle ranches.

Visitors to the United States like to visit New York City. In Chicago, they can see one of the world's tallest skyscrapers. They can see cars being made in Detroit. In New Orleans, they can hear jazz music.

Others go to see the Grand Canyon in Arizona. They can go to Walt Disney World in Florida. In California, visitors go to see movies being made. They also visit Disneyland and SeaWorld. In South Dakota, people can see the faces of four Presidents carved in the side of a mountain. Visitors also like to go to Washington, D.C.

Americans love all sports. They especially like baseball, football, and basketball. The Summer Olympic Games have been held in Los Angeles twice and once in St. Louis and Atlanta. The Winter Olympics have been in Lake Placid twice and Squaw Valley once. In 2002, the winter games were held in Salt Lake City.

BONUS: San Francisco is another famous place to visit in the United States. On a separate sheet of paper, write a report about San Francisco.

Name _____ Date _____

1. Name of Country

2. Where can you find this country on the map?

3. On what continent is this country located?

4. What is this country's capital city?

5. What do we call people from this country?

6. What is the money from this country called?

7. What is made in this country?

8. What plants or animals are raised in this country?

9. What is mined in this country?

10. What cities are in this country?

11. What do visitors like to see or do in this country?

12. What would you like to see if you visited this country?

Note: This worksheet is not applicable to Antarctica, Greenland, or Oceania.

Name _____ Date _____

Research the Facts

_____ Country

1. Population: _____

2. Area: _____

3. Bordering Countries: _____

4. Rivers and Lakes: _____

5. Climate: _____

6. Annual Events: _____

7. Highest Point: _____

8. Lowest Point: _____

9. Early History: _____

Note: Information can be found in an encyclopedia.

World Records

Largest Continent.....	Asia
Smallest Continent.....	Australia
Largest Country	Russia
Smallest Country	Vatican City (Europe)
Continent with Most People	Asia
Continent with Least People	Antarctica
Country with Most People	China (Asia)
Country with Least People	Vatican City (Europe)
Most Crowded Country	Monaco (Europe)
Least Crowded Country	Mongolia (Asia)
Highest Point	Mount Everest (Asia)
Lowest Point	Dead Sea (Asia)
Deepest Ocean	Pacific
Largest Ocean	Pacific
Largest Lake	Lake Superior (North America)
Longest River	Nile (Africa)
Largest Desert	Sahara (Africa)
Highest Waterfall	Angel Falls (South America)
Biggest Island	Greenland
Driest Country	Egypt (Africa)
Wettest Country	Colombia (South America)
Hottest Place	Mali (Africa)
Coldest Place.....	Antarctica

World Record Questions

Use the information on the World Records page to answer these questions.

1. What mountain would you climb to be higher than anyone else?

2. Where would you find the smallest amount of rainfall in a year?

3. Where would you have the least amount of room to build a new house?

4. Where would you find the largest amount of rainfall in a year?

5. Where should you wear your warmest clothes?

6. In what country could you meet the most people?

7. Where might a submarine explore new areas?

8. Where might you travel by camel and see sand dunes?

9. What is the largest body of fresh water?

10. Where should you wear your coolest clothes?

_____:

I am studying the countries of the world. I am interested in receiving information about your country. I especially want to know about opportunities for recreation. I would also like information about the climate, economy, and history.

Thank you for giving attention to my request.

Yours truly,
