

Geographic Terms
Spatial Sense
Unit Organizer

Third Grade
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Core Knowledge Objectives: The students will be able to

- Recognize and use map keys and legends
- Follow directions using a compass rose
- Identify the seven continents and four oceans
- Identify the continent, country, state, and city they live in
- Locate the countries located on North America
- Identify the northern and southern hemisphere, the equator, and the north and south pole
- Use a bar scale to measure distances on a map
- Use an atlas
- Define and illustrate the following geographic terms: harbor, bay, island, peninsula, valley, prairie, oasis, coast, desert, channel, delta, strait, boundary, isthmus, reservoir, and plateau

Colorado State Standards
Geography

Standard 1: Students know how to use and construct maps, globes, and other geographic tools to locate and derive information about people, places, and environments.

- identifying the characteristics and purposes of maps, globes, and other geographic tools
- reading and interpreting information from photographs, maps, globes, and graphs
- displaying information on maps, globes, and geographic models, and in graphs, diagrams and charts
- identifying major geographic features
- locating various states, regions, and countries
- drawing a map of continents and oceans
- defining basic geographic vocabulary such as the concepts of location, direction, distance, scale, movement, and region using appropriate words and diagrams
- making and defending locational decisions for human activity

Thinking Framework

- Knowledge – Define geographic terms
- Knowledge – Locate the equator and the northern and southern hemisphere
- Patterning – Understand how to use a globe, map and atlas

- Patterning – Make a world map labeling continents and oceans
- Mental Modeling – Use maps or atlases to find given locations
- Mental Modeling – Use a distance scale to find the distance from one city to another
- Mental Modeling – Use a map and background knowledge to identify specific geographic terms (ex. Locate a peninsula – Florida, strait – Bosphorus Strait)

Possible Activities & Assessments

- Make a world map labeling the oceans and continents
- Geographic terms book
- Daily Geography activities
- Mapping skills worksheets
- Geographical terms test