

SETON PRESS

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS 2

FOR YOUNG CATHOLICS



THE WORLD AROUND US

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A Big Blue Marble



In this picture of Earth taken from outer space, we can see both land and water. Most of all, we see water. If Earth's surface were divided into ten parts—all the same size—more than seven of those parts would be ocean. That is why we sometimes call Earth a “Big Blue Marble.” From space, it looks like a big blue marble.

For us to understand where everything on our planet is, we sometimes use a globe. A **globe** is a picture of Earth drawn on a ball. A ball has the same shape as Earth. We call this shape a **sphere**. The planet Earth is immense, but a globe is small enough for us to study.

In the morning, we see the sun come up in the east—**sunrise**. During the day, it appears to cross the sky. Then, in the evening, we see it sink down in the west—**sunset**. But the sun is not really rising or setting. It just *looks* like that, because Earth is spinning around.

Look at the globe. Do you see where it is connected to its stand? Just like you can spin a globe, the real Earth spins around.

We can see only one-half of Earth when we look at a globe. We need to spin it around to see the other half.

This globe shows the same part of Earth as we see in the picture taken from space. It is called the Western Hemisphere. (The word **hemisphere** means half of a sphere.) You can see two continents: North America at the top and South America at the bottom. **Continents** are large areas of land on Earth. They are usually separated from other land masses by oceans. North and South America are connected, but only by a tiny strip of land.



Here is a picture of the other side of Earth—the Eastern Hemisphere. Next to it is a globe turned to show Earth's Eastern Hemisphere.



Activity

Complete the following exercises.

1. Look at the two pictures of the Eastern Hemisphere. Write **photo** underneath the picture that was taken from space. Write **globe** underneath the globe.
2. Find the photo of the Western Hemisphere at the beginning of this lesson. North America is the continent at the top of the picture. Put a red **X** on North America. Then find North America on the globe. Put a red **X** on it.
3. Now find South America on the photo and the globe at the beginning of the lesson. Put a blue **X** on both.

Village Map

Oak City



Map Key



Bridge



House



Church



Park



Library



Gas Station



Dentist



Grocery Store



Hospital



Picnic Area

Kate and Pete, and Ava and Mike, live in Oak City. This is a map of their neighborhood. The **map key** shows you what the symbols on the map stand for. Study them carefully. Make sure you look at the **compass rose** to see where the directions point.

An **address** tells the mail carrier where a home or a building is located. Addresses usually have the following parts:

- Building number and sometimes unit number
- Street name
- Name of city or town
- State
- Zip code

The address of Seton Home Study School is 1350 Progress Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630. VA stands for Virginia, the state where Seton's office is located.

Each of the fifty states has a special two-letter postal code, set by the United States Postal Service. You will memorize them in later grades.



Kate



Pete



Ava



Mike

Activity

Complete the following exercises.

1. Kate and Pete live on the **west** side of Oak City. Their house is right **next to** the park. Their **address** is **1 Main Street, Oak City**. Circle the symbol for their house.
2. Ava and Mike live on the corner of North Avenue and Second Street, across from St. Mary's Church. Their **address** is **16 Second Street, Oak City**. Circle the symbol for their house.
3. There are two parks on this map. Circle the two park symbols.

Activity

Circle the correct answer. Use the map at the beginning of the lesson to answer these questions.

4. The only bridge to cross the Green River is on

Main Street

North Avenue

5. The grocery store is across the street from the

hospital

gas station

6. The park with the picnic area is on which side of town?

east

west

7. The dentist's office is on which side of Third Street?

east

west

Write the correct answer on the line. Ask your parents to help you.

8. What is the number of your home? _____

9. Do you have a unit number? Write it here. _____

10. What is the name of your street?

11. What is the name of your city or town?

12. What state do you live in?

13. What is the two-letter postal code for your state? _____

14. What is your zip code? _____

Australia: Using a Road Map

Lesson
14

Continents are large areas of land on Earth. They are usually separated from other land masses by oceans. Do you remember the names of all seven continents? There are many ways to memorize them, but here is a trick. Remember, “**Eat An Apple As A Nighttime Snack.**” The first letters of these words are the same as **E**urope, **A**sia, **A**ustralia, **A**ntarctica, **A**frica, **N**orth America, and **S**outh America.

An **island** is also an area of land that is completely surrounded by water. An island is smaller than a continent. In fact, some islands are so small that a person could walk across them in minutes. Others are a lot bigger, but none are as big as a continent.

Map of the of Country of Australia



Map of Oceania



Many books now list **Oceania** as a continent instead of Australia. Oceania is a region that includes the large land area of Australia plus about 25,000 islands. Some of those islands are quite small. (In most maps, these islands are designated as part of the continent of Australia.)

Australia/Oceania is the smallest of the seven continents. The large land area of Australia is one very big country, which is also called Australia. It is the sixth largest country in the world.

The country of Australia has both states and territories. One state, Tasmania, is an island off its southern coast.

Activity

Complete the following exercises using the maps in this lesson.

1. Find Australia on the map of Oceania. Southeast of Australia is the island country of New Zealand. Circle New Zealand on this map.
2. A **map scale** shows how long distances on a map can be measured. On the map of Australia, circle the map scale.
3. This map of Australia does not have a compass rose. On the top of the map, make a cross. Then write an **N** for north at the top of the cross, **S** for south at the bottom, **E** for east on the right, and **W** for west on the left.

Circle the answer. Use the map of Australia.

4. Adelaide and Melbourne are two cities in the southeast part of Australia. Look at the map scale. *About* how far apart are these two cities from each other?

100 miles

500 miles

5. Which highway would a driver follow to travel from Brisbane to Cairns, cities on Australia's eastern coast?

1

A2



Kangaroo



Koala



Emu

Tallies and Bar Graphs

The Oak City homeschoolers are working on a project. They are learning to identify different types of trees. On Fridays, they visited two parks in their neighborhood and made a tally of the types of trees they identified.

The easiest trees to identify were the huge willows. The children found five **willow** trees. Birch trees have white bark with black markings. The children found twelve **birch** trees. Maples are great shade trees. The children found seven **maple** trees. At first, the children had trouble telling the difference between oak and elm trees. It helped to learn that their leaves have very different shapes. The children found eight **oak** trees, but only three **elm** trees.

After the children finished their tallies, they decided to make a bar graph listing the trees they saw. A **bar graph** is a graph drawn using rectangular bars to present information. This bar graph allows people to see which types, and how many, trees are in the Oak City parks.

Activity

Use the information on this page to make a tally of the trees they identified.



Oak



Elm



Maple



Willow



Birch

Make a Bar Graph!

To make this bar graph, you need to remember your 2 times table. Write your 2 times table on the lines below.

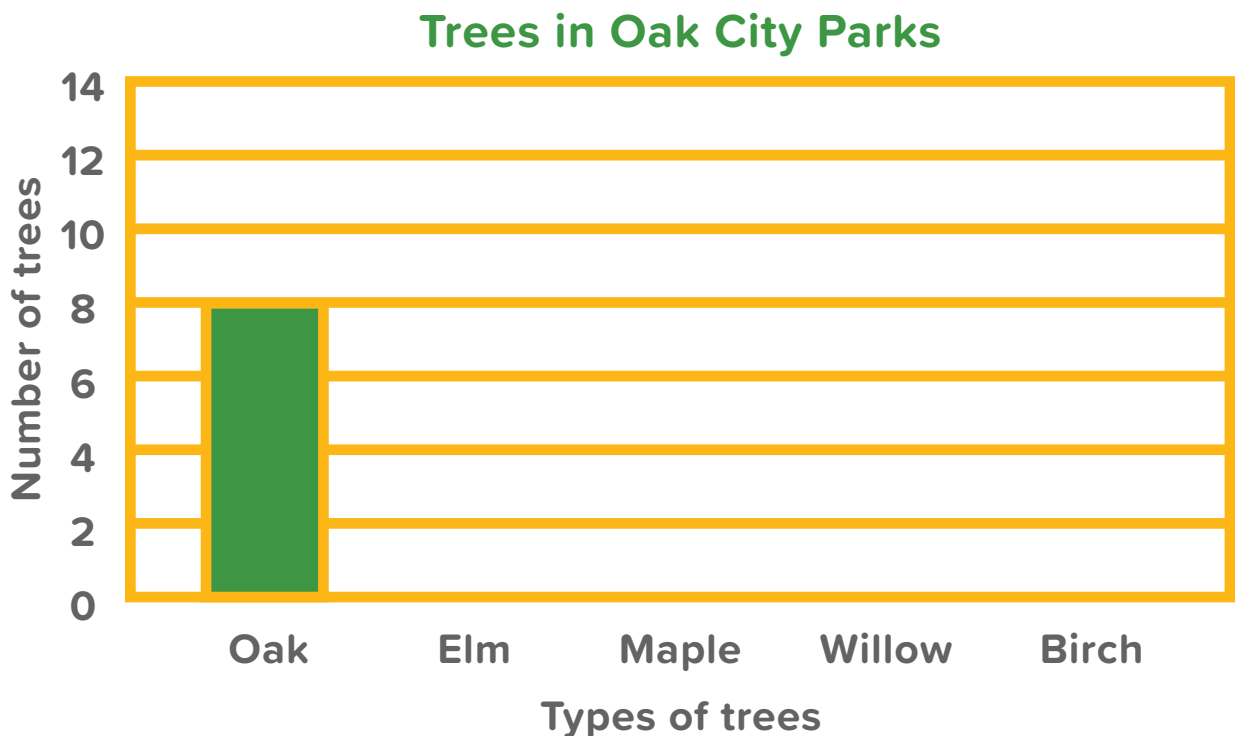
2

20

On this blank bar graph, the names of different types of trees are written along the bottom. The number of trees that the homeschoolers saw are on the side. Look at the first column, which records the eight oak trees that students saw. The top of the bar is at the line next to the number 8.

Now you try one. Look at your tally. How many elm trees are there? ____ There is no number 3. You must carefully draw the top of the bar halfway between the lines for number 2 and number 4, because 3 is halfway between 2 and 4.

Now complete the bar graph by filling in bars with the correct numbers of maple, willow, and birch trees.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS 2

Name of Student _____

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