

GEOGRAPHY – UNIT 1 MAPPING

Preparation

- Access the WHP Maps Index

Purpose

This activity will introduce you to WHP’s map activities. Maps are a great way to show information about our world. They let you know where stuff is in relation to other stuff. They can help orient you in time and space and identify some important historical changes. But maps are also one more way to tell a story. You’re probably not super familiar with the geography of 1750, so we won’t ask you to draw any historical maps...yet. Instead, in this first activity, you’ll get familiar with WHP mapping activities by completing a scavenger hunt—a map of your personal world!

Process

You’ll begin this activity by completing a scavenger hunt, in which you identify, label, and annotate a blank map. Next, you’ll discuss what maps are and what they do. Finally, your teacher will do some show-and-tell, guiding you through some of WHP’s maps so you can easily recognize the various blank, political, and thematic maps you’ll encounter in the course.

Step 1

This is the first of several mapping activities you’ll complete in this course. At the beginning of each unit, you will identify features and label them on a map, and at the end of each unit, you will use maps to respond to the Unit Problem or frame narratives.

Individually or in small groups, you should review the scavenger hunt list and label the map to the best of your ability. Some items on the list ask you to provide an annotation—meaning you need to write notes on the map giving additional explanation along with the label. Remember, this is the first map activity, and you’re not expected to know everything.

Step 2

As a whole class, share your answers to the scavenger hunt and make any corrections to your map. Your teacher will then ask you some questions about what maps are and what they do.

Step 3

In groups or as a whole class, your teacher will guide you through some of WHP’s maps. In the scavenger hunt, you’ve just worked with a blank map, but there are two more kinds of maps in WHP activities: political and thematic maps. As your teacher introduces you to each new map, try to identify important features. What information is contained in the map? What do the labels and colors mean? Where is the legend? What did the makers of this map care about? What’s missing from this map? Did anything surprise you?

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Name:

Date:

Step 1

Directions: Label and annotate the map with the features in the scavenger list below.



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Name:

Date:

Scavenger:

1. Label three continents.
2. Label one city you've heard of that's outside your country.
3. Label one place you've heard of in a movie, book, or TV show (include the title).
4. Label three oceans or seas.
5. Trace the path of one river.
6. Mark one place that you associate with a famous person (include their name).
7. Draw and label one mountain range.
8. Draw the outline of one desert. Provide an explanation of why you think this desert might have been important historically.
9. Mark the map with the name of the place you consider home.
10. Draw lines connecting your home with two foreign countries. Include notes explaining what the connection is.
11. Bonus: Label at least one of these places:
 - a. Timbuktu
 - b. Hell
 - c. Middlefart
 - d. Batman
 - e. Disappointment Islands
 - f. Poo
 - g. Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch