

TRAVEL BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION

Explore the world one geographic region at a time.

Divide the world into geographic regions, then explore several countries within each one through books, geography, and activities. Students learn about each country while also seeing it in relation to its neighbors and the larger region around it.



CHOOSE A REGION



EXPLORE ITS COUNTRIES



SEE THE REGION AS A WHOLE

CHOOSE THIS PATH IF YOU WANT TO...

- ✓ Follow a clear, systematic path around the world
- ✓ Spend focused time in one part of the world at a time
- ✓ Understand where countries are in relation to one another
- ✓ Notice connections and differences within regions



MULTIPLE AGES: Explore the same regions together using reading, worksheets, and activities appropriate for each student's grade level.

1 | DETERMINE YOUR GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

You can use continents and broad world regions for a straightforward trip around the globe, or focus on smaller geographic regions for a closer look.

BROAD REGIONS Continents & large world regions		CLOSER LOOK Smaller geographic regions	
	Africa	AFRICA	West Africa • Maghreb • Sahel • African Great Lakes • Horn of Africa
	Asia	ASIA	Southeast Asia • Himalayan & Hindu Kush Belt • Mekong Region • Pacific Rim
	Middle East	MIDDLE EAST	Levant • Arabian Peninsula • Persian Gulf
	Europe	EUROPE	Northern Europe • Balkans • Iberian Peninsula • Alpine Arc • Baltic States
	Americas & Caribbean	AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN	Central America • Caribbean • Andean States • Amazon Basin • Southern Cone
	Oceania & Pacific	OCEANIA & PACIFIC	Polynesia • Melanesia • Pacific Rim • Australia & New Zealand



Regions can also form around neighboring countries, mountain systems, river basins, seas, climate zones, shared landscapes, or historical and cultural connections.

RECOMMENDED PACING



4–6 WEEKS
per broad region
Cover most of the world in one year



2–4 WEEKS
per region
Explore more regions with selected countries



6–10+ WEEKS
per region
Study fewer regions in greater depth

2 | EXPLORE COUNTRIES WITHIN THE REGION

Use this simple routine for each country in your region.



NEXT COUNTRY IN THE REGION → REPEAT

3 | ZOOM OUT: LOOK ACROSS THE REGION

Periodically step back and look at the region as a whole.



Where are the countries in relation to one another?



What landforms, waterways, climates, or ecosystems cross the region?



What geographic features connect or separate countries?



What similarities and differences do you notice?



What helps define this as a geographic region?



REGIONAL READING

Regional anthologies make it easy to read from several countries in the same part of the world.

Africa

African Tales: A Barefoot Collection • *Tales from Africa*
Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales

Asia

Asian Children's Favorite Stories • *Our Folktales*
Folk Tales from Asia for Children Everywhere

Middle East

Arab Folktales • *Arab Fairy Tale Feasts*

Europe

Hidden Tales from Eastern Europe
Folktales of Eastern Europe
The House of the Cats and Other Tales from Europe

Americas & Caribbean

Tales Our Abuelitas Told • *The Sea-Ringed World*
Caribbean Folk Tales

Oceania & Pacific

Pacific Island Legends
Tales from the South Pacific Islands

WANT TO GO DEEPER?

Use the worksheet that fits what you want to learn.



Comparing Two Places in One Country



Mapping Movement



Mapping Geographic Features and Movement



Connecting a Book to Place, Time, and Culture