

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

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WORLD GEOGRAPHY



Baily Lighthouse, County Dublin, Ireland

Some human interaction with the environment involves risk. Since humans have set sail upon the oceans, navigating rocky outcrops and dangerous shorelines in the dark of night and in thick fog has been extremely dangerous. Lighthouses, like this one in Ireland dating to 1814, have been built for thousands of years to warn mariners of hazards. Today GPS and other electronic devices have reduced the need for lighthouses. In the United States, however, many of the country's 1,000 or so lights remain active and serve as backup navigation aids for mariners.

Your Turn!

What steps do people in your community take to decrease the impact of the environment on their lives? What actions do they take to decrease their impact on the environment?

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READING

Analyze Informational Text

Reading nonfiction texts, like a magazine article or your textbook, is not the same as reading a fictional story or novel. The purpose of reading nonfiction is to acquire new information. It's something that you, and the adults around you, do all the time.

Process What You Read When you read informational text, it helps to know what to look for and what questions to ask yourself as you read. Use the chart below as a guide when you read.

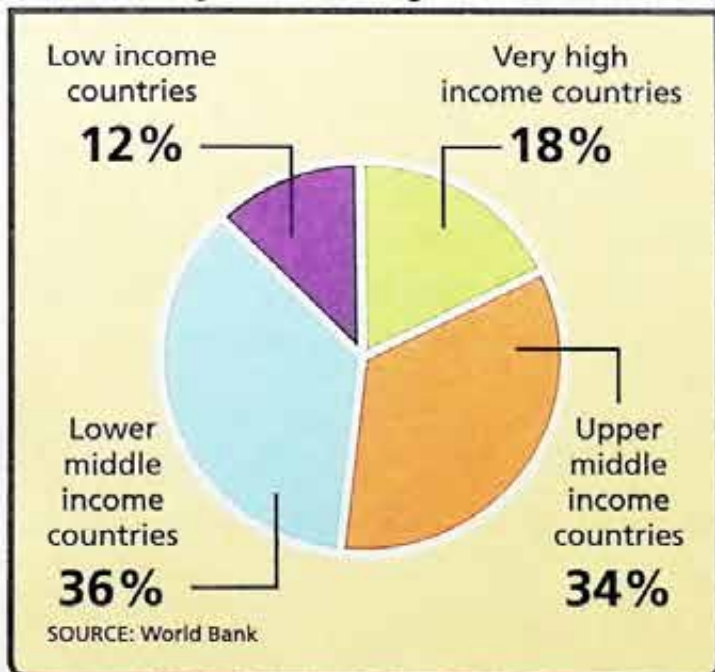
	Look for	Questions to Ask	For More Help
Central Ideas and Details	• Central ideas or claims • Supporting details or evidence	• What is the subject or main point of this text? • What details support the main point? • What inferences do you need to make? • How does the author develop a few central ideas throughout a text?	 Skills Tutorial • Identify Main Ideas and Details • Draw Inferences • Summarize
Word Choice	• Unfamiliar words and phrases • Words and phrases that produce a certain effect on a reader	• What inferences about word meaning can you make from the context? • What tone and mood are created by word choice? • What alternate word choices might the author have made?	 Skills Tutorial • Draw Inferences
Text Structure	• Ways the author has organized the text • Ways sentences and paragraphs work together to build ideas • Clue words signaling a particular structure	• Does the text have a specific structure? • For instance, is it structured by sequence or chronology? By comparisons and contrasts? By causes and effects?	 Skills Tutorial • Identify Evidence • Analyze Cause and Effect • Sequence • Compare and Contrast

Analyze Visuals

Another key component of understanding informational texts is being able to understand any visuals that go with written text, like the maps, graphs, charts, and photos. Study the chart and the example to help you analyze some common types of visuals in your social studies text.

	Look for	For More Help
Maps	• Read the title. • Read the key. • Study the locator globe, scale bar, and compass rose. • Apply the key and labels to the map.	 Skills Tutorial • Use Parts of a Map • Read Physical Maps • Read Political Maps • Read Special-Purpose Maps
Graphs and Tables	• Read the title. • Use labels and key. • Look for patterns or changes over time.	 Skills Tutorial • Read Charts, Graphs, and Tables • Create Charts and Maps
Photographs	• Identify the content. • Note emotions. • Read captions or credits. • Study the image's purpose. • Consider context. • Respond.	 Skills Tutorial • Analyze Images • Analyze Political Cartoons

World Population by Income



- ① What is the title of the circle graph?
- ② Read the labels. What does each segment of the graph show?
- ③ How does the size of the four different income groups compare?
- ④ What conclusion can you draw from this data?

Introduction to Geography

GO ONLINE
to access your
digital course



VIDEO



AUDIO



ETEXT



INTERACTIVE



WRITING



GAMES



WORKSHEET



ASSESSMENT

Dig deep into the subject of

GEOGRAPHY. Learn about our planet, its physical features, how people adapt to and change them, and the societies and cultures they create.

Explore

The Essential Question

How much does geography affect people's lives?

We live in a world shaped by geographic forces. Our land, our water, our climates, and the resources we can use all depend on these forces. People's cultures, including their governments and ways of working, also shape geography.

▼ Seattle, Washington,
with Mount Rainier in
the background

Watch

 **NBC LEARN**



BOUNCE
TO ACTIVATE



VIDEO

Above the Forest Canopy

Meet Elizabeth Burakowski,
a geographer investigating
the impact of forest growth
on climate.

Read

about the physical and human
geography of our world.

Lesson 1	Geography Basics
Lesson 2	Our Planet, Earth
Lesson 3	Climates and Ecosystems
Lesson 4	People and the Environment
Lesson 5	Culture and Society
Lesson 6	Economics Basics
Lesson 7	Trade and Development
Geographic Sources	Economic Data Sources
Lesson 8	Government
Lesson 9	Citizenship
Lesson 10	History Basics

Balancing Development and the Environment

Quest KICK OFF

Governments promote economic development projects hoping to create jobs for their people. If they succeed, people will be better off. But economic development can harm the environment. Which is more important?

Can economic development justify its impact on the environment?

Explore the Essential Question “How much does geography affect people’s lives?” in this Quest.

▼ A building under construction

1 Ask Questions

Why are both economic development and preserving the environment important? Write your questions about these goals in your  Active Journal.

2 Investigate

As you read the lessons in this topic, look for **Quest CONNECTIONS** about choices made to boost development and examples of the human impact on the environment. Record information in your  Active Journal.

3 Conduct Research

Find valid and relevant sources of information on economic development plans in your city or state and their possible environmental impact. Record what you find in your  Active Journal.

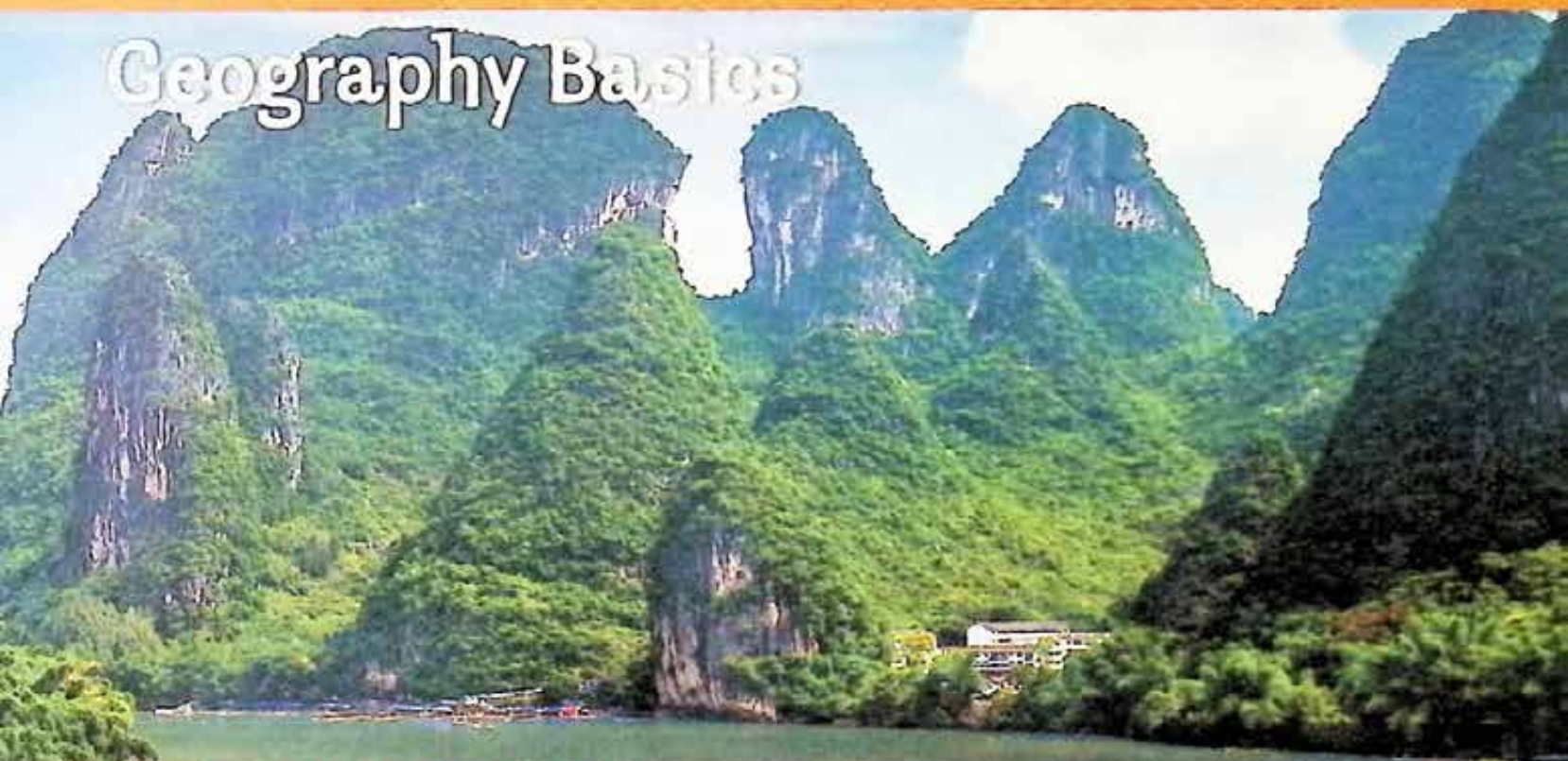
Quest FINDINGS

4 Write a Blog Post

Are the benefits of the development worth the costs to the environment? Write a blog post that expresses your views on the issue.

LESSON 1

Geography Basics



GET READY TO READ

START UP

Study the photo of an area in China. What does it suggest about the ways geographic features can shape life on Earth?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- How can we locate points on Earth's surface?
- How can we use the five themes of geography?
- What are the best ways to show Earth's surface?
- How can we understand what maps show?
- What are the different kinds of maps?

TAKE NOTES

Literacy Skills: Summarize

Use the graphic organizer in your  Active Journal to take notes as you read the lesson.

PRACTICE VOCABULARY

Use the vocabulary activity in your  Active Journal to practice the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary

geography
cardinal direction
intermediate
direction
latitude
longitude
scale
distortion
projection

Academic Vocabulary

interaction
pattern

Geography is the study of the human and nonhuman features of Earth, our home planet. Geographers try to answer two basic questions: Where are things located? Why are they there? To answer these questions, geographers study oceans, plant life, landforms, countries, and cities. Geographers also study how Earth and its people affect each other.

Describing Locations

When someone asks you what happened yesterday, you respond easily by retelling the day's events. You don't stop to consider that the idea of yesterday is a human invention, one of the ideas that we use to measure when events take place. Geographers use human inventions to discuss where things are located on Earth. One of those inventions is the concept of direction. Another is the imaginary lines geographers draw on Earth to locate objects precisely.

Directions In order to study Earth, geographers need to measure it and locate points on its surface. One way to do this is with directions.