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# CELEBRATE BASIC SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS

Basic does not mean boring! There certainly is nothing dull about:

- finding out what makes groups and societies tick
- tracking down some of the world's great towers and walls, castles and halls
- understanding why some people play music to snakes
- being able to brag that you know the location of Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
- getting a look inside the WTO, ILO and IMF (and knowing what they are!)
- searching for reasons people celebrate all over the world
- thinking about how French food got to Russia.

These are just some of the adventures students can explore as they celebrate basic social studies skills. The idea of celebrating the basics is just what it sounds like – enjoying and getting good at knowing about the workings of societies and cultures around the world. Each page invites learners to try a high-interest, appealing exercise that will sharpen or review one specific global studies skill. This is no ordinary fill-in-the-blanks way to learn. These exercises are fun and surprising. Students will do the useful work of practising social studies skills while they enjoy characters of many cultures who lead them to explore social and cultural concepts. They will examine the ways groups and societies work – from the local neighbourhood to the other side of the globe.

The pages in this book can be used in many ways:

- for individual students to sharpen a particular skill
- with a small group needing to relearn or strengthen a skill
- as an instructional tool for teaching a skill to any size group
- by students working on their own
- by students working under the direction of an adult.

**Each page may be used to introduce a new skill, to reinforce a skill or even to assess a student's performance of a skill.** And, there's more than just the great student activities! You will also find an appendix of resources helpful for students and teachers – including a ready-to-use test for assessing global studies skills.

The pages are written with the assumption that an adult will be available to assist the student with their learning and practise. Also, students will need access to social studies resources such as maps and globes, atlases, Internet reference sources and encyclopedias.

As your students take on the challenges of these adventures with global studies, they will grow. And as you watch them check off the basic social studies skills they've strengthened, you can celebrate with them!

## **The Skills Test** (pages 54–57)

Use the skills test as a pretest or a post-test. This will help you check the students' mastery of basic social studies skills in the area of global studies, and prepare them for success on tests of standards, instructional goals or other individual achievement.



# SKILLS CHECKLIST FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

✓	SKILL	PAGE(S)
	Recognise nations and their locations in each of the continental regions	8–11
	Recognise political dependencies and their governing nations	12–13
	Show understanding of social and cultural concepts and terms	14–15, 24
	Identify different social groups and their functions	16–18
	Identify roles played by individuals in social groups	17
	Identify authority in groups; describe the reasons and responsibilities for the authority	18
	Show understanding of the need for rules and laws in groups	19
	Identify social institutions; recognise their function and purpose	20–21
	Identify different expressions of culture (cultural traits and patterns)	22–24, 44–45
	Identify different subcultures within a culture; describe traits specific to that subculture	23
	Show understanding of ways culture is gained and transmitted; identify factors that influence the development of culture	25, 36–37, 44–45
	Recognise major cities of the world, their location and some of their cultural features	26–27
	Recognise the characteristics of different kinds of political systems	28
	Recognise the characteristics of different economic systems	29
	Show understanding of the concept of a country's GDP and GDP per capita	30–31
	Identify some of the major institutions and organisations of the world	32–33
	Identify major religions of the world and their features and beliefs	34–35
	Recognise the interaction between culture and geography	36–37, 44–45
	Identify different world language systems	38
	Identify some of the major human-constructed cultural features of the world	39–41
	Recognise some major cultural traditions and holidays	42–45
	Explain examples of cultural interactions	44–45
	Identify ways the technology influences culture	44–45, 48
	Show understanding of world population distribution	46–47
	Recognise some of the current issues and problems facing the world community	48
	Recognise ways that world cultures are interconnected	48

# WISE ABOUT THE WORLD

Use your 'world wisdom' to answer questions for these world travellers.  
Answer each question *yes* or *no*.



- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| _____ 1. Can Marika drive from Thailand to Brunei?   | _____ 8. Maria hopes to see the Suez Canal. Will she see it from Lebanon?          | _____ 16. Will William have a Mediterranean vacation in the country of Georgia?        |
| _____ 2. Can Jasmine see the Adriatic Sea from Croatia?  | _____ 9. Can Arianna cross a border between Brazil and Ecuador?                    | _____ 17. Kim is visiting a country that borders Morocco. Could it be Zimbabwe?        |
| _____ 3. Is Angelo likely to find a tropical climate in Botswana?                              | _____ 10. Can Angelica get from Italy to Switzerland by travelling north-west?     | _____ 18. Pierre is standing on the border of Latvia. Could he be looking into Russia? |
| _____ 4. Tasha wants to travel to a country north of Ukraine. Is Estonia a good choice?        | _____ 11. Will Vic find that Iceland is entirely north of the Arctic Circle?       | _____ 19. Louis is travelling south from Honduras. Might his route take him to Panama? |
| _____ 5. Nikko wants to visit a country in the Western Hemisphere. Should he head for Somalia? | _____ 12. Can Peter drive from India to Sri Lanka by car?                          | _____ 20. Erik wants to be on the ocean. Should he go to Uzbekistan?                   |
| _____ 6. Can Ari get to France from Liechtenstein without passing through any other countries? | _____ 13. Kylie wants to lie on a Caribbean beach. Should she visit Belize?        | _____ 21. Can Lucas get from Mexico to El Salvador by boat?                            |
| _____ 7. Can Eduardo be on the equator when he visits Peru and Uganda?                         | _____ 14. Lucio wants to visit the Philippines. Will he be on the Indian Ocean?    |  |
|  | _____ 15. Aki wants to cross the International Date Line. Can he do that in China? |  |

Use with page 9.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one or more countries for each answer.

22. Which are island countries?

- a. Andorra      c. Algeria  
b. Albania      d. Antigua & Barbuda

23. Which touch the Atlantic Ocean?

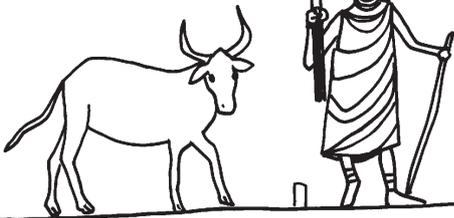
- a. Cuba      c. Chad  
b. Belarus      d. Benin

24. Which are south of the Tropic of Cancer?

- a. Switzerland      c. Trinidad & Tobago  
b. St Lucia      d. Tajikistan

25. Which is closest to New Zealand?

- a. Swaziland      c. South Africa  
b. Solomon Islands      d. North Korea



26. Which shares a border with Brazil?

- a. Samoa      c. Suriname  
b. Senegal      d. Sudan

27. Which does not border any of the others?

- a. Scotland      c. Spain  
b. Portugal      d. France

28. Which lies east of India?

- a. Moldova      c. Madagascar  
b. Morocco      d. Myanmar

29. Which borders the Red Sea?

- a. Egypt      c. Guinea  
b. Turkey      d. Hungary



30. Which is NOT in Africa?

- a. Eritrea      c. Maldives  
b. Libya      d. Ghana

31. Which shares a border with Pakistan?

- a. Ireland      c. Indonesia  
b. Italy      d. Iran

32. Which is on the Mediterranean Sea?

- a. Nigeria      c. New Zealand  
b. Poland      d. Israel

33. Which is on the Tropic of Cancer?

- a. Vanuatu      c. United Arab Emirates  
b. West Sahara      d. Bangladesh

34. Which is closest to Italy?

- a. Malta      c. Northern Ireland  
b. Norway      d. Vatican City

Use with page 8.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# WHERE IN THE WORLD?

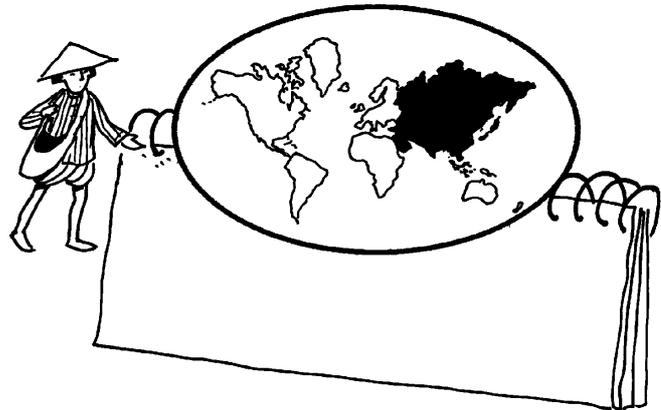
Where in the world is Djibouti? And where, on earth, is Togo? If you don't know, track down a world atlas and find out!

Write the names of the continents (or regions) shown in each map on these two pages (10 and 11). You can choose between North America, South America, Asia, Europe, Africa, and Australia and Oceania. Write the number of each country into the correct box to match its continent (or region) location.

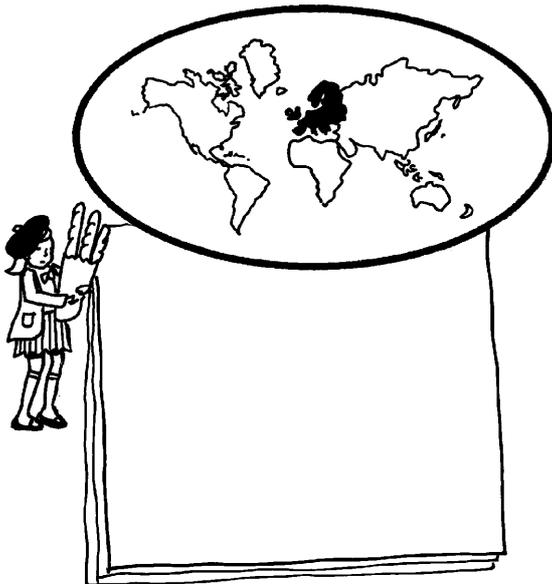
A. \_\_\_\_\_



B. \_\_\_\_\_



C. \_\_\_\_\_



1. Afghanistan
2. Angola
3. Argentina
4. Austria
5. Bangladesh
6. Belgium
7. Bulgaria
8. Chile
9. Colombia
10. Congo
11. Costa Rica
12. Denmark
13. El Salvador
14. Ethiopia
15. Fiji

Use with page 11.

Name \_\_\_\_\_