

Geography

Canada

SAMPLE





About the Course

Explore each region of Canada, its geological features, cultural geography, symbols, and varied ecosystems. Along the way, students practice their mapping skills by making models and drawing places local to them, such as their neighborhood.



Placement & Combining Tips

This course progresses chronologically over two years, studying half of Canada's provinces and territories each year. This course is intended as a precursor to Grade 3; however, the levels may be reversed in order to combine students. Students who did not take Geography Foundations may wish to incorporate those lessons into the afternoons.



Scheduling

GRADE	SCHEDULE INFO.	BOOKS
2	Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) 2 times/week 20 min	Making Your Own Maps The Kids Book of Canada My Canada: An Illustrated Atlas Canada Wild: Animals Found Nowhere Else on Earth Our Canadian Flag

Sample Weekly View

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)				
Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)		Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)		



Planning & Prep

Permission to print for non-commercial use. See Alveary group use policy to use lessons in a group context.

LINKS: Click text or scan the QR code in the top corner of the lesson plan pages to view online resources associated with the lessons.

Responsibility for previewing all links rests with the teacher. All links were checked at the time of publication; however, websites change frequently and may contain objectionable content. Please report broken links by contacting us through our website.



Books & Resources

For book rationales and purchase options, click the Book List link or scan the QR code below.

∞ [View Book List Details](#)

Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)



Making Your Own Maps



The Kids Book of Canada



My Canada: An Illustrated Atlas



Canada Wild: Animals Found Nowhere Else on Earth



Our Canadian Flag



Supplies

For supply list details and basic supplies helpful to have on hand, click the links or scan the QR code below.

∞ [View Basic Supplies](#)

∞ [View Supply List Details](#)

Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)



Globe



Wall World Map



Magnetic Compass



Kinetic Sand



Household Items - Geography: Grade 2



Quick Links

Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)

∞ [Extra Helpings](#)

∞ [Blank Outline Maps of Canada, Provinces, and Territories](#)

∞ [Foundations \(See Section 16: Geography\)](#)

Click THIS text
or scan the QR
code for links.



Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)

How To Teach



Overview

The steps below are generally true for most geography lessons. Sometimes several lessons might build together or focus on a particular area (like Map Work).



Introduce

Through questions, observations, an activity, or recalling the last lesson, introduce the topic for the day.



Map Questions

Answer questions on the map or on making your own maps.



Read

Read the day's passage out loud or have the student read independently.



Narrate

Have students retell the passage either orally or in writing. They may want to use maps or pictures to tell back.



Map Work

The lesson may contain more map work as students make their own maps or add to ongoing maps.

Geography: Grade 2 (Canada)

Click [THIS text](#) or scan the QR code for links.



Term 1

WEEK 1 20m Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) - Lesson 1

Introduction

Materials: Atlas, Globe or Wall Map showing North America, My Canada, geography journal

PREP: Print Blank World Map, Blank North America Map, Blank Outline Map of Canada.

- ∞ Map Link: Blank World Map
- ∞ Map Link: Blank North America Map
- ∞ Map Link: Blank Outline Map of Canada (download the first option under "Maps of Canada")

→ INTRO

In geography this year, we will begin a two-year journey across Canada. Geography is learning about different places around the world. All kinds of maps are used to help us in the study of geography—globes, wall maps, and atlases.

→ MAP QUESTIONS

Map Resource: Atlas, Globe, or Wall Map showing North America

1. Find North America.
2. Find the equator. Is Canada north or south of the equator?
3. What is to the west of Canada? (Pacific Ocean) To the east? (Atlantic Ocean) To the north? (Arctic Ocean) To the south? (United States of America)

→ MAP WORK

Add the Blank World Map (referred to moving forward as "My World Map"), the Blank North America Map (referred to moving forward as "My North America Map"), and the Blank Outline Map of Canada (referred to moving forward as "My Canada Map") to your geography journal.

Map Resource: My World Map

1. Add the title "My World Map."
2. Colour in Canada.

Map Resource: My North America Map

1. Add title "My North America Map."
2. Label the borders of Canada. (Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Arctic Ocean, United States of America)
3. Label any other countries of interest, using a North American map or atlas as a reference (Greenland, Mexico, etc.).

→ READ & NARRATE

My Canada

"Oh, Canada" - "polar bears."

- Which of these facts were new to you? What are you most excited to learn about Canada? The parent/teacher or the student (depending on ability) could write these down in the geography journal.

• TAKE A GEOGRAPHY WALK

Near the beginning of term 2, we will have some lessons about how water moves. Depending on where you live, it may rain often or not much at all. Please start to take notes on where the water goes when it rains. Look for where it goes near your home, and even see if you can follow it in your neighbourhood. The notes can go in your nature or geography journal.

WEEK 1 20m Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) - Lesson 2

Canada

Materials: My Canada; The Kids Book of Canada; geography journal

PREP: Print the flag of Canada and Canada's Coat of Arms.

- ∞ Image Link: Colouring Book of Flags: Canada
- ∞ Image Link: Canada's Coat of Arms

• EXTRA HELPING

Watch the Heritage Minute about the naming of Canada

- ∞ Video Link: Heritage Minutes: Jacques Cartier (1:00)



Term 1

→ INTRO

Let's look at the whole map of Canada at the beginning of My Canada. What do you notice?

→ MAP QUESTIONS

1. Run your finger along the southern border of Canada. Most of Canada's population lives near this border. Can you name some of the cities you see there?
2. Locate the capital city of Canada (Ottawa). Discuss what it means to be a capital city, and give some examples of other capital cities around the world.
3. Locate your province or territory. How close do you live to the southern border? How close do you live to the capital city of Ottawa? Could you drive there, or would you have to fly?
4. Looking at the map, point out places you've visited or places where your family and friends live.

→ MAP WORK

☐ Map Resource: My Canada Map

1. Add title "My Canada Map."
2. Add Ottawa (with a star inside a circle) to the map and label it.

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

The Kids Book of Canada
p.4 "Canada's name" - "February 15, 1965."

- Facts about countries can change over time. Look up the current population of Canada and compare it to the number in the "Quick Facts" box. What might be some reasons that the population of Canada is getting bigger?

→ MAP WORK

1. Colour the flag of Canada and add it to your geography journal.
2. Colour Canada's Coat of Arms and add it to your geography journal. Spend some time looking at all the figures there. Did you know Canada's Coat of Arms has a unicorn?

WEEK 2 ☐ 20m Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) - Lesson 3

Compass

☐ Materials: compass, paper, tape

→ DISCUSS

There are naturally occurring magnetic rocks called magnetite, but modern compasses use a magnetized needle. Both magnetite and a modern magnetic needle, when allowed to move freely, will swing to point north. Today, we will use a compass to find direction in your classroom or room in your home.

→ DEMONSTRATE

1. Place the compass in the middle of the room and allow it to stop moving.
2. The needle will be pointing north. You must move the N sign on the compass to line up with the point of the needle.
3. On a piece of paper, write N for north and tape it to the wall that the compass is pointing to.
4. When you face north, east will be on your right, west on your left, and south directly behind you.
5. Using these directions, make more sheets with E, W, and S on them and tape them to your walls.

→ PLAY



Term 1

Using the directions on the walls, take turns with another student or teacher, following directions such as "take 3 steps east" or "take 2 giant steps south." You can even make it into a Mother May I game.

WEEK 2 ☐ 20m Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) - Lesson 4

Compass Rose

☐ Materials: compass, chalk

→ DISCUSS

During the last lesson, we found direction inside, and today we will find direction outside and create a compass rose.

→ DEMONSTRATE

1. Draw a large circle on a paved area. Place the compass in the middle and allow it to stop moving.
2. The needle will be pointing north. You must move the N sign on the compass to line up with the point of the needle.
3. Draw a line from the N side of the compass straight to the edge of the circle, and mark it with an N.
4. Do the same thing with E, W, and S.
5. Today, we will add more directions to the compass rose. Halfway between the N and the E, you will write a NE, which stands for northeast, on the circle. Halfway between N and W, you will write NW, which stands for northwest. Continue by adding a SE between S and E, for southeast, and add SW between S and W, for southwest.
6. You will notice that it is easier to give more accurate directions because you have more to refer to.

→ PLAY

1. Using the directions on the compass rose, take turns with another student or teacher, following directions such as "take 3 steps northeast" or "take 2 giant steps southwest." This can be played like Mother May I.
2. Another game you can play is to give directions to an object, like a tree, outside by saying things like "take 5 steps west, and then 2 steps northwest. What is there?"

WEEK 3 ☐ 20m Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) - Lesson 5

Compass Rose and Map Key

☐ Materials: Making Your Own Maps

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

p.4-7 "You've moved" - "these tools!"

→ MAP QUESTIONS

☐ Map Resource: Making Your Own Maps, various pages

1. Can you find the compass rose on p.7? Which directions are on it?
2. Locate the keys on p.5 and 7. What symbols do they use? How are they the same or different?
3. Look at the keys on maps on p.15,16,19, 21. How are they the same or different?

WEEK 3 ☐ 20m Geography: Grade 2 (Canada) - Lesson 6

Physical Geography & Biomes

☐ Materials: The Kids Book of Canada

→ INTRO

As we will see, there are lots of different types of maps, and maps can show many different types of information. The map in My Canada we've been looking at for the past few weeks is a political map: it gives information about borders, boundaries, capital cities, and names. But it

● TAKE A GEOGRAPHY WALK

Go for a walk in your neighbourhood. What grows near you? What type of vegetation (trees, bushes, flowers, etc.) grows near you? What is the climate like right now? You could add this information to your Outdoor Work notebook.



Term 1

doesn't tell us much about what the land is like, what the temperature is, or what animals and plants we might find.

→ **READ & NARRATE**

p.5 "Taiga landscape" - "in the valleys."

→ **MAP QUESTIONS**

1. How many different biomes can be found in Canada? (If you haven't studied biomes before, spend some extra time reading the descriptions in the book, or do some additional research about the characteristics of each.)
2. What biome do you live in? What is the climate like throughout the year, and what is it like right now? What plants and animals are found in your area?
3. How has the mapmaker chosen to represent what can be found in Canada? What images do you see? (When a map shows the landforms, natural regions, climate, and biomes of an area, it is an example of physical geography.)

SAMPLE