

Teach Us Geography

# MAPS AND ATLAS WORK



*The World Loves Geography!*



## MAPS AND ATLAS WORK

Atlases are used a lot in Geography. They give us a lot of very important information such as:-

WHERE PLACES ARE IN THE WORLD

WHAT THE LANDSCAPE IS LIKE

THE SHAPE OF COUNTRIES AND ISLANDS

ABOUT CLIMATE AND POPULATION

Atlases show information on two main types of map. These are:-

### **PHYSICAL MAPS**



These show us natural things such as lakes, mountains and rivers.

### **POLITICAL MAPS**



These show us man made things such as borders, capital cities and countries.

## **LINEs OF LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE**

All maps in the atlases you are going to use are criss-crossed with thin blue lines. These lines are known as lines of **LATITUDE** and **LONGITUDE**.

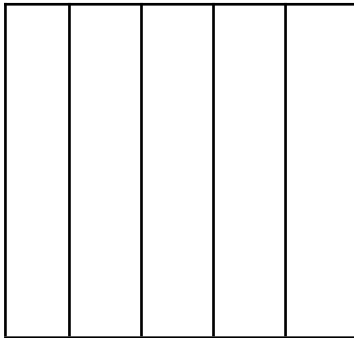
### **LINEs OF LATITUDE**

These are lines which cross the map from side to side.



### **LINEs OF LONGITUDE**

These are lines which cross the map from top to bottom.



Each line of latitude and longitude has its own number.

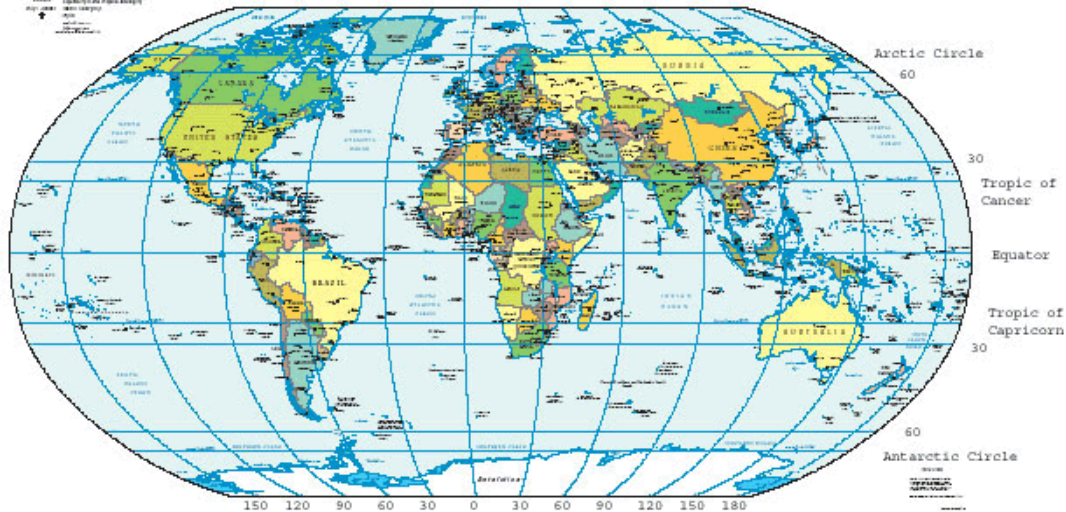
### **IMPORTANT LINEs OF LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE TO REMEMBER**

The line of **LATITUDE** 0 degrees is called the **EQUATOR**.

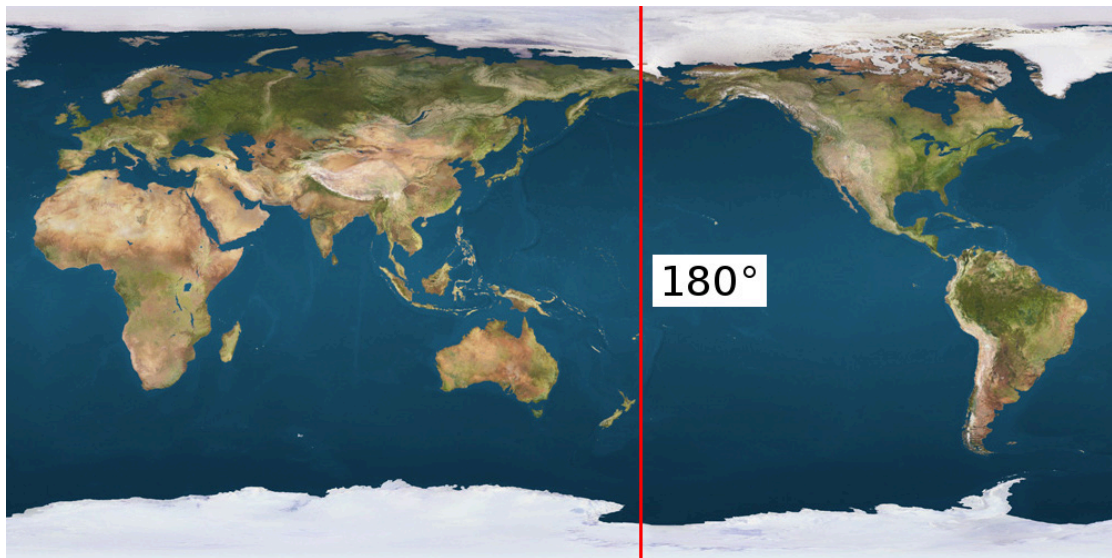
The line of **LONGITUDE** 0 degrees is called the **GREENWICH MERIDIAN**.

These are shown on the map on the next page.

Political Map of the World, June 2003



A very interesting line of LONGITUDE is called the INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE. It is found in the PACIFIC OCEAN at 180 LONGITUDE.



### The International Date Line

Here's how the International Date Line works. Let's say you fly from the United States to Japan. Let's suppose you leave the United States on Tuesday morning. Since you're travelling west the time advances slowly thanks to time zones and the speed at which your airplane flies, but once you cross the International Date Line, it's suddenly Wednesday.

On the reverse trip home you fly from Japan to the United States. You leave Japan on Monday morning but as you cross the Pacific Ocean, the day gets later quickly as you cross time

zones. Once you cross the International Date Line, the day changes to Sunday.

**What do you think would happen if you spent your whole life in a boat crossing the International Date Line every day! Discuss this with your class.**

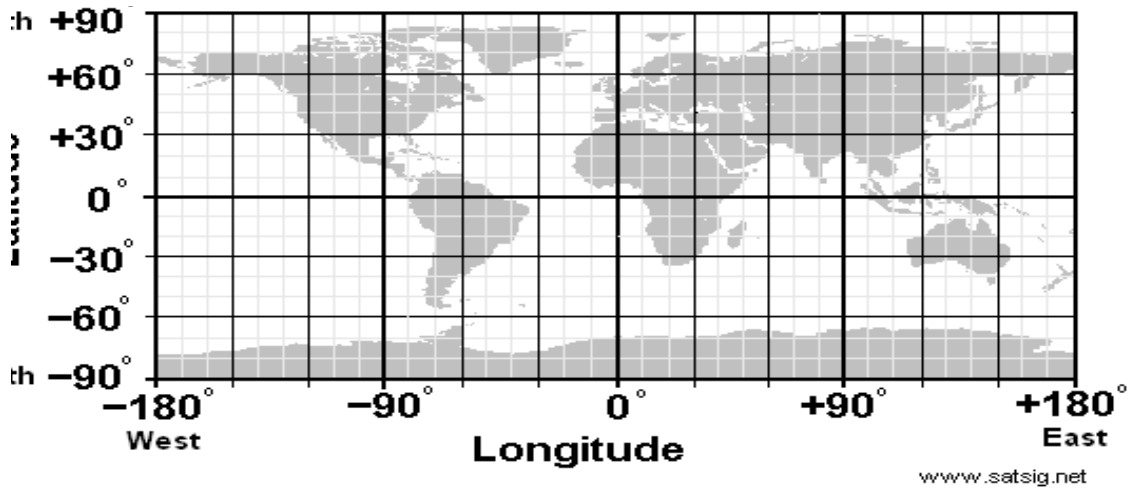


### **HOW DO YOU FIND PLACES ON A MAP USING LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE?**

When looking at an atlas and trying to find somewhere, it is best to use the atlas index. This is usually found at the back of the atlas and everywhere is listed alphabetically. Every place in the world will be listed using numbers and letters. These letters and numbers are the lines of latitude and longitude where you will find these places.

**Lines of LATITUDE are numbered according to how many degrees north and south of the Equator they are**

**Lines of LONGITUDE are numbered according to many degrees east or west of the Greenwich Meridian they are.**



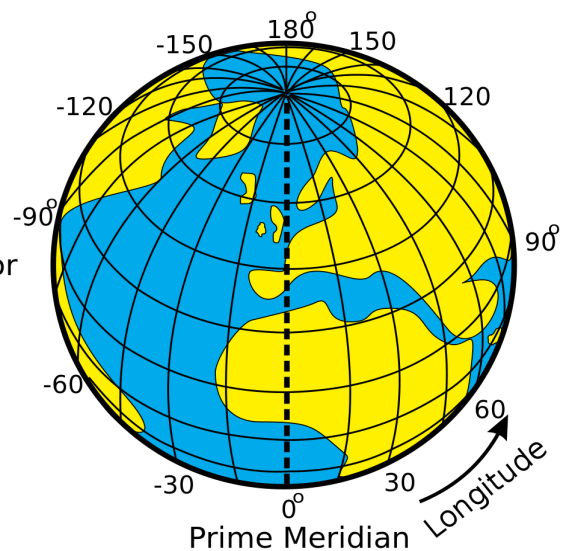
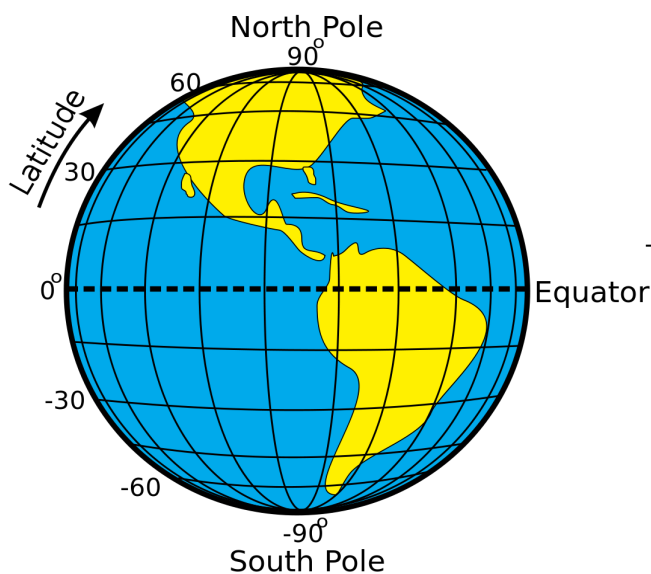
Point **A** on the map above is at 30 N and 60 E. This means 30 degrees north of the Equator and 60 degrees East of the Greenwich Meridian.

**ACTIVITY:-**

1. From the map, write in your jotter the lines of latitude and longitude for the letters **B, C, D, E, and F**.

2. Log into

<http://www.kidsgeo.com/geographygames/latitude-longitude-map-game.php> and play the game to practice your latitude and longitude.



### **MAKING YOUR OWN MAPS**

You are now going to produce two maps for your jotter. You should take your time and present them well. Your teacher will show you a special geographical way to colour them in.

#### **ACTIVITY:-**

1. The map below shows where the main **CONTINENTS** are in the world. A continent is a group of countries. You need to complete this map by doing the following things.

a) Collect a blank world map.

b) Look up pages 2 and 3 in the blue section of the Atlas. Find the following oceans:-

**PACIFIC ATLANTIC SOUTHERN INDIAN ARCTIC**

Mark them onto your map.

c) Colour your map in the way your teacher has shown you.

d) Trim your map and stick it in your jotter.

e) Write the title:- **CONTINENTS AND OCEANS** at the top.

## WORLD PHYSICAL MAP

You have now gained some basic geographical mapwork skills. These skills will be of great use to you throughout your whole time at high school. You are now going to use these skills to produce a big map of the world showing some important information. Follow the instructions on the next page.

### **ACTIVITY:-**

1. Collect a large map of the world from your teacher.
2. There have been some rivers marked on it for you. Each river has a letter marked on it. Use pages 68 and 69 of the purple section of your atlas to find out what the names of these rivers are.
3. Make a table like the one below in your jotter. Complete it by matching up the letters of the rivers on your map with their correct names.

Name of River	Letter
NILE	
MEKONG	
MISSISSIPPI	
DANUBE	
YANGTZE	
GANGES	
AMAZON	
RHINE	

4. There are some shaded blobs on your map. These are the world's biggest mountain ranges. You need to look them up on pages 68-69 of your atlas and write their names onto your map. Choose from:- **ROCKY MOUNTAINS**      **THE ANDES**  
**THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS**      **THE HIMALAYAS**  
**THE ETHIOPIAN HIGHLANDS**

5. You are now going to find out the names of some of the worlds biggest or most well known islands. The names of the islands you need to find are in the table below. This time you need to look them up on pages 68-69 of your atlas and write their names onto your map in the correct place. If the name is

too big for your map, just write the number of the island on the map in the correct place.

Number	Island
1	Baffin Island
2	Cuba
3	Falkland Islands
4	Greenland
5	Hawaiian Islands
6	Iceland
7	Japan
8	Madagascar
9	New Guinea
10	New Zealand
11	Sri Lanka
12	Sumatra



