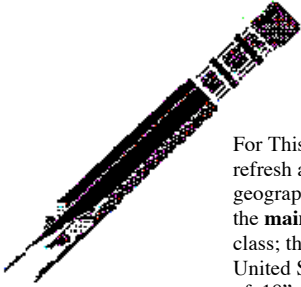


BIG USA Map Project



U.S. Geography

For This Project, you will have the opportunity to refresh and increase your knowledge of the geography of the United States. To prepare you for the **main project**, we will do some “practice maps” in class; the main project will be a BIG map of the United States that you will draw yourself [on a sheet of 18”x 24” map drawing paper that will be provided for you].



Requirements:

- Your map must be hand drawn by you [make it nice and big!]
- Your map should show all the items on the list [minimum-see the back side]. It may include more items on of your choice to make it more complete.
- Your map should be neatly drawn and *color coded* by the regions of the US, but you can include symbols for the physical features and the land & water areas which surround the United States.
- Your map should also include a title, border, key [include all symbols used], and a compass rose.
- Your map should be used to help you prepare for the test on US geography which will complete the introductory unit for this year.
- See the list on the back of this sheet for the items you need to include on your map

Grading:

Completeness, accuracy, and appearance are the major considerations for the grading this map. You will receive a Map Score Sheet that will be used for grading your map so that you will be able to make sure your map “makes the grade”!

Points:

Since this is a major project to be worked on both in class and at home, it will be worth 200 points. It is possible for a truly superior map to receive more than the maximum points possible.

TEST DAY WILL BE: Sept. 20th
BIG USA Map is due: Sept. 19th

Tests:

The test will cover the following information:

1. The fifty states (names spelled correctly)
2. State postal abbreviations.
3. The region the state is located in.
4. All state capitals.
5. Major geographic feature (rivers, mts. lakes, etc.)



Include the following items [minimum] in your map of the United States:

Political Information:

1. the fifty states and postal abbreviations
2. capital cities [located] of each state
3. the thirty largest cities of the US [a list will be available in class]
4. the countries which border the US

Major Physical Features

1. the major rivers and their tributaries, **including:**

- Mississippi River, and the Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Tennessee, Platte,
- Columbia River
- Snake River
- Colorado River (Calif.)
- Sacramento & San Joaquin Rivers
- Rivers of the East Coast; Potomac, Hudson, Mohawk, Connecticut, Susquehanna, Delaware.
- St. Lawrence River
- Humboldt River
- Yukon River
- Rio Grande
- Willamette River

2. the major mountain ranges, **including:**

- Appalachian Mountains
 - Sierra Nevada Mountains
 - Olympic Mountains
 - Alaska Range
 - Rocky Mountains
 - Cascade Mountains
 - Coastal Ranges [CA]
 - Brooks Range
- *also, major individual mountains of your choice [Rainier, McKinley, Pike's Peak, Mt. St. Helens, etc.]

3. the major bodies of water, **including:**

- Pacific Ocean
- Gulf of Mexico
- Great Salt Lake
- Bering Strait
- Salton Sea
- Okefenokee Swamp
- Gulf of Alaska
- Chesapeake Bay
- Atlantic Ocean
- Great Lakes [also 5 individual names]
- Gulf of Alaska
- Puget Sound
- Lake Okeechobee
- The Everglades
- Cook Inlet
- Bering Sea

4. assorted landforms **including:**

- The Grand Canyon
- Cape Flattery
- Kodiak Island
- Long Island
- Mojave Desert
- Great Plains
- Cape Cod
- Point Conception
- Aleutian Islands
- Whidbey Island
- Great Basin
- Death Valley
- Cape Canaveral
- Bahama Islands
- Florida Keys [Key West]

Top 25 U.S. Cities by Population

1.	New York City, New York	8,104,079
2.	Los Angeles, California	3,845,541
3.	Chicago, Illinois	2,862,244
4.	Houston, Texas	2,012,626
5.	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1,470,151
6.	Phoenix, Arizona	1,418,041
7.	San Diego, California	1,263,756
8.	San Antonio, Texas	1,236,249
9.	Dallas, Texas	1,210,393
10.	San Jose, California	904,522
11.	Detroit, Michigan	900,198
12.	Indianapolis, Indiana	784,242
13.	Jacksonville, Florida	777,704
14.	San Francisco, California	744,230
15.	Columbus, Ohio	730,008
16.	Austin, Texas	681,804
17.	Memphis, Tennessee	671,929
18.	Baltimore, Maryland	636,251
19.	Fort Worth, Texas	603,337
20.	Charlotte, North Carolina	594,359
21.	El Paso, Texas	592,099
22.	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	583,624
23.	Seattle, Washington	571,480
24.	Boston, Massachusetts	569,165
25.	Denver Colorado	556,835

BIG US Map Scoring Guide

Name _____

Period ____ Date _____

1. Title 0 ... 2 ... 4 ... 6 ... 8 ... 9 ... 10

- Largest Print on the map
- Legible, neat, easy-to read
- Not abbreviated, clear description of map content
- Centered in an appropriate location
- All writing and coloring is contained within the border

Self	Teacher	Peer
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Border 0 ... 2 ... 4 ... 6 ... 8 ... 9 ... 10

- Drawn with a straight-edge or ruler, corners meet w/ no overlap
- In black ink, not pencil!!
- Not more than two (2) inches from the edge of paper
- All writing and coloring is contained within the border

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Key/Legend 0 ... 2 ... 4 ... 6 ... 8 ... 10 ... 12 ... 14 ... 16 ... 18 ... 20

- Identify symbols that represent: national capital, state capitals, cities, rivers, lakes, mountain ranges, individual mountains, swamps, deserts, etc.
- Appropriate symbols and coloring used
- Contains the “Regions of the U.S.” and their coloring
- Neat appearance, no pencil marks, font, colored well, etc.
- Enclosed in a bordered box in the right bottom quadrant of the map (SE Corner)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. Compass 0 ... 2 ... 4 ... 6 ... 8 ... 9 ... 10

- Includes a cardinal and intermediate points
- Neatly drawn in the southeast corner of the map

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Location

A. Political 0 ... 5 ... 10 ... 15 ... 20 ... 25 ... 30 ... 35 ... 40 ... 45 ... 50

- All 50 states (correctly spelled, location, appropriate symbols)
- All 50 state capitals and the national capital
- The 30 largest cities
- Countries that border the United States

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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B. Physical 0 ... 5 ... 10 ... 15 ... 20 ... 25 ... 30 ... 35 ... 40 ... 45 ... 50

- Rivers (assigned rivers are accurately drawn and placed)
- Mountain ranges and individual mountains
- All bodies of water
- All landforms

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Appearance 0 ... 5 ... 10 ... 15 ... 20 ... 25 ... 30 ... 35 ... 40 ... 45 ... 50

- Professional looking (let’s submit it to Rand-McNally Publishing!)
- Little or no distortion and in proper scale
- ALL LABELS are clearly labeled and uniform
- Uses the 18” x 24” paper that was provided

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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/200

CAUTION: IF YOU LOSE THIS RUBRIC IT WILL COST 25 POINTS TO GET ANOTHER ONE FROM THE TEACHER