

# Lesson 1 The world's oceans and continents

## Learning objectives

### Children learn:

- the names of the continents;
- the names of the oceans;
- the difficulties of representing the globe on a map.

## Success criteria

### Children should be able to:

- name and locate the seven continents and five oceans.

## Programmes of study

Develop knowledge about the world.

## Skills and processes

### Locational knowledge:

- Name and locate the seven continents and five oceans.

### Human and physical geography:

- Recognise the Equator and North and South Poles.

### Geographical skills and fieldwork:

- Use a globe to identify continents and oceans.

## Prior learning

It might be helpful to have a discussion with the children about the Earth on which they live. Children should realise that they live on a spherical planet.

## Vocabulary

Land, sea, ocean, continent, globe, world, Earth

## Resources

- IWB
- Globe
- Atlas
- Desk mat
- Footballs
- Sheets of paper (one per group)
- Orange and knife (one for teacher)
- **Activity Sheet:** *The world's oceans and continents*
- 'Continents and Oceans':  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgmZYslTBLk>

## Cross-curricular links

Science

## Differentiation

To extend their learning further some children may use an online quiz such as:

- 'Maps of the Seven Continents' online quiz - [www.softschools.com/social\\_studies/continents/map.jsp](http://www.softschools.com/social_studies/continents/map.jsp)
- Some children may require help to complete the mapwork with the Teaching Assistant (TA).

## Assessment evidence

### Children can:

- Identify, locate and name the seven continents and five oceans.

## Advance preparation

- Organise a photograph or video clip of Earth in Space (Google 'Earth in Space').
- For the activity part of the lesson you will need a football (or one per group) with a sheet of paper and a large orange (with sharp knife and wipes).
- Make flashcards (seven continents and five oceans)
- You should make a desk mat for each table showing the oceans and continents (blank map on one side Appendix 6) and with names on the reverse (Activity sheet page10)

## Starter

Begin the lesson by showing 'Earth in Space' images (or a video clip) and asking the children about their observations, they should confirm the following:

- The earth is spherical.
- Swirls of cloud, oceans/seas and land areas, and recognise areas of ice.

Using the globe and the photos/video can the children recognise any of the shapes of the land areas and oceans?

Talk about the North and South Poles and the equator.

Share the Learning objective and the Success criteria with the children.

## Introduction

Ask the children what sort of words they will need to describe the world its oceans and continents. Ask them to write them on paper or small whiteboards and hold them up.

## Learning activity 1

### The difficulty of representing the globe accurately on a flat piece of paper or screen.

This is probably best done as a demonstration, remove the skin from an orange and try to lay it flat. Ask the children:

*Do you think the skin of the orange will make a rectangle when it is cut from the fruit?*

*Why do you think it is so difficult to lay the skin of the orange out flat?*

As a group activity ask the children to try to wrap a football in a flat sheet of paper. Ask the children:

*Why can you not do this without folding the paper?*

Explain to the children that the aim of these activities is to show how difficult it is to represent the oceans and continents accurately on a sheet of paper.

As an example show Antarctica on the desk mat or **Activity sheet:** *The world's oceans and continents* and then its real shape on the globe.

## Learning activity 2

### The continents

Explain to the children that the Earth's land masses are identified as seven continents.

Ask the children whether anyone knows the names of any of the continents.

Using the globe, IWB and an atlas, show the children the seven continents, North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Antarctica and Australasia.

Ask the children to check with a learning partner that they can identify and name the continents on the desk mats **Activity Sheet: The world's oceans and continents.** (They can use the blank side and then check on the side with names.)

Explain to the children that the water areas of the earth are classified into five major deep oceans.

Ask the children whether anyone knows the names of any of the oceans:

- Arctic
- Atlantic
- Pacific
- Indian
- Southern Ocean.

Ask the children to check with a learning partner that they can identify and name the oceans on the desk mats. (They can use the blank side and then check on the side with names.)

Ask: *Which is the odd ocean out?*  
(Answer: The Arctic as it is ice-covered.)

## Plenary

Use the flashcards to ask children questions (or make it into a quiz):

- Which continents are found either side of the ..... ocean?
- Which ocean is found between continent... and this continent?

End the lesson by showing 'Continents and Oceans'  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgmZYsITBLk>

*What do the children feel about living on such a planet?*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# The world's oceans and continents

