

The Best Preparation for Building Academic Reading Skills and Vocabulary

The Reading Key series is designed to help students to understand American school textbooks and to develop background knowledge in a wide variety of academic topics. This series also provides learners with the opportunity to enhance their reading comprehension skills and vocabulary.

- **Reading Key <Basic 1–4>** is a four-book series designed for beginning learners.
- **Reading Key <Volume 1–3>** is a three-book series designed for beginner to intermediate learners.
- **Reading Key <Volume 4–6>** is a three-book series designed for intermediate to high-intermediate learners.
- **Reading Key <Volume 7–9>** is a three-book series designed for high-intermediate learners.

Features

- A wide variety of topics that cover American school subjects
- Intensive practice for reading skill development
- Building vocabulary through school subjects and themed texts
- Graphic organizers for each passage
- Captivating pictures and illustrations related to the topics

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Component

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Syllabus Vol. 4

Subject	Topic & Area	Title
Social Studies ★ History and Geography	World Geography & Culture World Geography & Culture Our Earth and Resources Our Earth and Resources	Countries in the World The World's Best Earth Is Our Home Recycle, Reuse, and Reduce
Science	A World of Animals Our Earth Health Health	A World of Animals: Bears Earthquakes The Food Pyramid Staying Healthy
Language ★ Mathematics ★ Visual Arts ★ Music	Language Arts Computation Visual Arts A World of Music	Where Is It? Addition and Subtraction Sculptures A World of Instruments

Unit

01

Countries in the World

Reading Focus

- What are some big countries?
- What are some small countries?
- Which countries have many people?



Key Words

The World's Biggest Countries

the 1st



Russia

the 2nd



Canada

the 3rd



the United States

the 4th



China

the 5th



Brazil

The World's Smallest Countries

the 1st



Vatican City



the 2nd



Monaco

Power Verbs



be located

Vatican City **is located** in Rome.



live in

1.44 billion people **live in** China.



follow

You should **follow** the law.

Word Families: Words for Countries



population

100

hundred

1,000

thousand

1,000,000

million

1,000,000,000

billion



(national) flag



national anthem



law

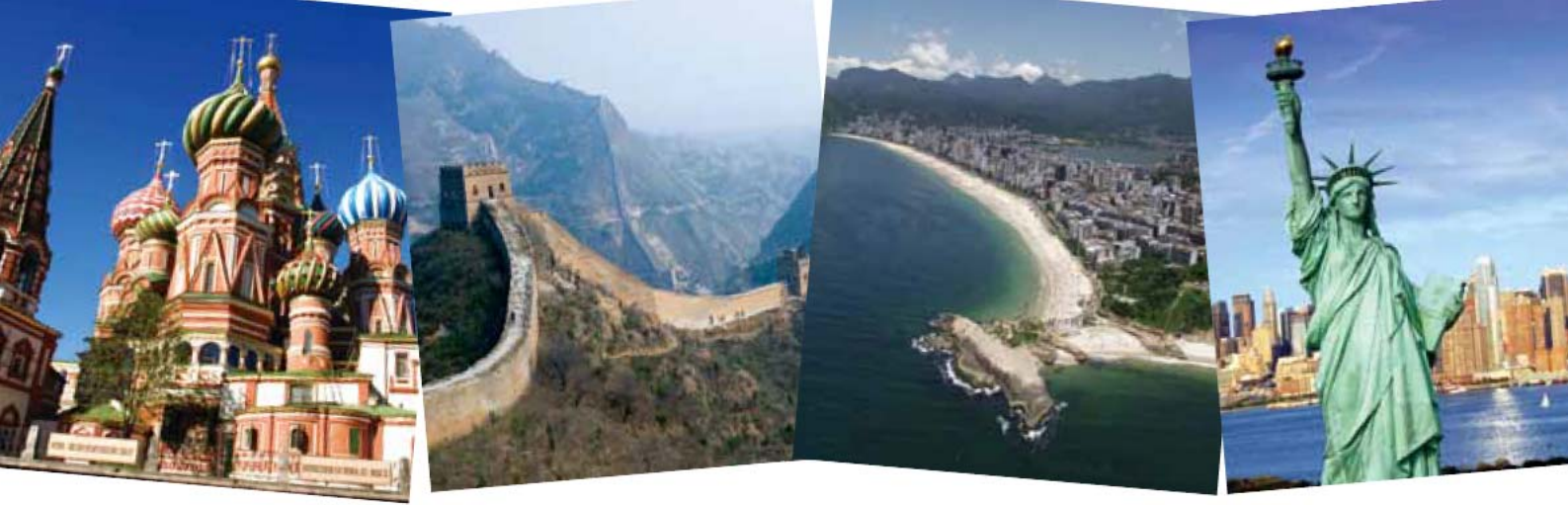
country



language



culture



01 Countries in the World



How many countries are there in the world?

There are 193 countries in the world.

Some are big. Some are small.

Russia is the biggest country in the world.

Canada is the second biggest country in the world.

The United States is the third biggest country in the world.

And China and Brazil are the fourth and fifth biggest countries.

What is the smallest country in the world?

It is Vatican City.

It is located inside the city of Rome, Italy.

It is no bigger than a city block.

It has a tiny population, too.

Only about 1,000 people live in Vatican City.



▲ Vatican City is no bigger than a city block.

Which country has the biggest population?

India has the biggest population in the world.

About 1.45 billion people live in India.

China has more than 1.44 billion people.

The United States has more than 342 million people.



1.45 billion!

▲ India has the biggest population in the world.

Every country has its own flag.
It has a national anthem, too.
People in a country follow the same laws.
They speak the same language.
And they have the same culture.



▲ Every country has its own culture.

Check Understanding

1 Which country does each picture show?



2 What is the biggest country in the world?

- a** Canada **b** China **c** Russia

3 What is the smallest country in the world?

- a** Rome **b** Vatican City **c** Brazil

4 Which country has the biggest population in the world?

- a** the United States **b** India **c** China

• Answer the questions below.

1 What are the five biggest countries in the world?

⇒ They are _____, _____, the _____, China, and _____.

2 What is the smallest country in the world?

⇒ _____ is the _____ country in the world.



A Look, Read, and Write.

Look at the pictures. Write the correct words.



billion countries flag located



▶ There are 193 _____ in the world.



▶ Vatican City is _____ inside Rome.



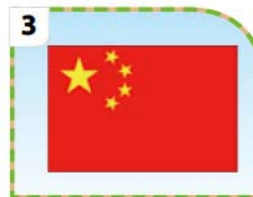
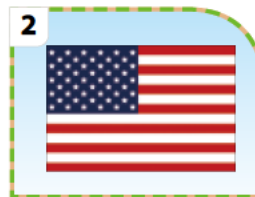
▶ About 1.44 _____ people live in China.



▶ Every country has its own _____.

B The First or Second?

Draw a circle around the right words and then write the words.



1 Canada is the _____ biggest country in the world.
first second

2 The United States is the _____ biggest country in the world.
second third

3 China is the _____ biggest country in the world.
fourth fifth

4 Brazil is the _____ biggest country in the world.
fourth fifth



Unit

02

The World's Best



Reading Focus

- What is the world's tallest mountain?
- What is the world's longest river?
- What is the world's largest desert?

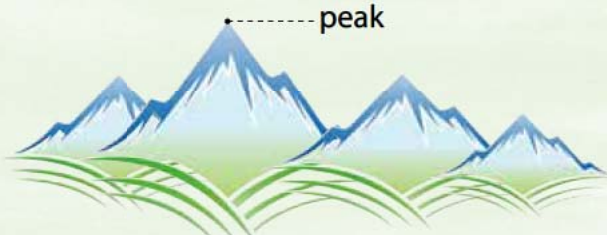


Key Words

Land



mountain



mountain range

Water



the Nile River



the Amazon River



the Mediterranean Sea



waterfall

Desert



the Sahara Desert



the Arabian Desert



the Gobi Desert

Power Verbs



rise

That mountain **rises** high.



stretch

The Andes **stretch** very long.



flow

The river **flows** to the sea.



fall

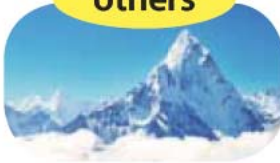
The waterfall **falls** 807m.

Word Families

some



others



Some are low.
Others are high.

one



another



The Sahara is **one** huge desert.
The Gobi is **another** huge desert.

the Himalayas

the Alps

Mountain
Ranges

the Andes

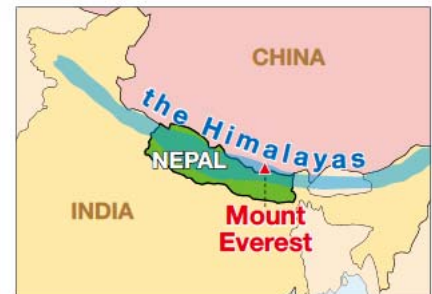
the Rockies

02 The World's Best

04

There are many mountains around the world.
Some are low. Others are high.

Mount Everest is the world's tallest mountain.
It rises 8,850 meters high.
It is located in the Himalayas on the
border of Nepal and China.
People call it "The Top of the World."



The Andes Mountains are the world's longest mountain range.
They stretch 7,000km long.
They are located in South America.

In Europe, there are the Alps.
Mont Blanc is the highest peak in the Alps.

The world's longest river is the Nile River.
It is in Africa.

It flows into the Mediterranean Sea.
The Amazon River is another huge river.
It is in South America.
It flows across Brazil to the Atlantic Ocean.



▲ the Amazon River

The world's largest desert is the Sahara in Africa.
Next is the Arabian Desert in the Middle East.

© COSMOS CULTURE LTD. The Gobi Desert in Asia is another huge desert.

The world's highest waterfall is Angel Falls.
It falls 807m.
It is in Venezuela in South America.



► Angel Falls

Check Understanding

1 What does each picture show?



2 What is called "The Top of the World"?

- a** Mount Everest **b** Mont Blanc **c** the Andes

3 What is the highest peak in the Alps?

- a** Andes Mountains **b** Mont Blanc **c** Himalayas

4 The largest desert in the world is _____.

- a** the Gobi Desert **b** the Sahara Desert **c** the Arabian Desert

• Answer the questions below.

1 Where are the Andes Mountains?

⇒ They are in _____.

2 What is the world's highest waterfall?

⇒ It is _____ in _____, South America.



A Look, Read, and Write.

Look at the pictures. Write the correct words.



peak

huge

Himalayas

border



1

▶ Mount Everest is in the _____.



2

▶ The Himalayas are on the _____ of Nepal and China.



3

▶ Mont Blanc is the highest _____ in the Alps.



4

▶ The Amazon River is another _____ river.

B Rise or Stretch?

Draw a circle around the right words and then write the words.



1



2



3



4

1 Mount Everest _____ high.
rises stretches

2 The Andes Mountains _____ very long.
rise stretch

3 The Nile River _____ into the Mediterranean Sea.
falls flows

4 Angel Falls _____ 807m.
falls flows

