

Passport Pals

Canada

Instructor Notes

General Notes

- Canada is a country in the northern part of North America. It is the 2nd largest country by landmass. Canada is border by the U.S. which makes up the world's longest border.
- About 35 million people live in Canada (37th) making it sparsely populated. The majority of its land territory is dominated by forests and the Rocky Mountains.
- Ottawa is the capital city of Canada - chosen by Queen Victoria in 1857.
- Canada has 10 provinces: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Newfoundland/Labrador.

Flag

- The national flag of Canada consists of a red field with a white square at its center holding an 11-point maple leaf; however, the number of points on the leaf has no special significance.

Canada vs. US Size

- Canada's land area is about 3,855,000 square miles making it the 2nd largest county by landmass.
- The area of the US is 3,797,000 square miles by comparison making the United States slightly smaller than Canada. The US is the 3rd largest country by landmass.

Currency

- The Canadian Dollar is the official unit of currency in Canada.
- 1 CAD = \$0.80 USD

Landmarks

- **Northern Lights:** The northern lights are an aurora, which is a natural light display in the sky. Auroras are caused by electrons from solar winds that are attracted by magnetic fields. The electrons mix with the cold atmosphere gases creating the lights that we see.
- **Niagara Falls:** The Niagara Falls are located on the border of Ontario, Canada and New York, USA.
 - The Niagara Falls are made up of 3 waterfalls, the American Falls, the Bridal Veil Falls and the Horseshoe Falls.
 - It is illegal (and not very smart) to go over the Niagara Falls.
 - The Niagara Falls State Park is the oldest state park in the United States (1885).
 - The first tightrope walker to cross the Niagara Falls did so in 1859. (The Great Blondin; Charles Blondin; Emile Blondin; Jean-Francois Gravelet)
- **Banff National Park:** Banff National Park is Canada's oldest national park, established in 1885 in the Rocky Mountains.

Culture

- **Ice Hockey:** The contemporary sport of ice hockey was developed in Canada, most notably in Montreal, where the first indoor hockey game was played on March 3, 1875.
- **Monsters:** Home to Bigfoot & Ogopogo
- **Celebrities:** Justin Bieber, Ryan Gosling, Ryan Reynolds, Drake, Seth Rogan, Jim Carey, Celine Dion, Michael J Fox, William Shatner...

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Crafts & Activities

Canadian Arts & Crafts

- DIY Table Top Hockey
- Northern Lights Art
- Maple Syrup Snow Candy
- DIY Ice Fishing Game
- Maple Leaf Rubbing
- Crafts involving native animals of Canada.



STEM Activities

- Give students materials to make their own igloos.
- Allow students to construct their own inuksuk.



Canadian Cuisine

Canadian food has been shaped and impacted by continual waves of immigration from Europe & Asia. The native people of Canada lived off of wild game.

- **Beaver Tails:** A Beaver Tail is fried dough similar to what we know as an elephant ear, a donut, or even a funnel cake.
- **Maple Syrup:** Canada is the world's largest supplier of maple syrup and is responsible for 70% of the world's maple syrup.
- **Poutine:** French fries topped with cheese curds and gravy.
- **Smoked Salmon:** salmon is an abundant natural resource for Canadians living in the northern and arctic regions and has become a staple in Canadian cuisine.
- **Snacks for Kids:**
 - Maple Leaf Cookies
 - Beaver Tails
 - Pique
 - Maple Syrup Snow Candy

Maple Cookies



Maple Syrup Snow Candy



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How Big is Canada Compared to the US?

- Canada's land area is about 3,855,000 square miles making it the 2th largest country by landmass.
- The area of the US is 3,797,000 square miles by comparison making the United States slightly smaller than Canada. The US is the 3rd largest country by landmass.
- Canada's land size (2nd) isn't proportional to its population (37th). Why?

The majority of its land territory is dominated by forests and the Rocky Mountains.



