

UNIT 3

Continents of the world



Learning objectives



Students can :

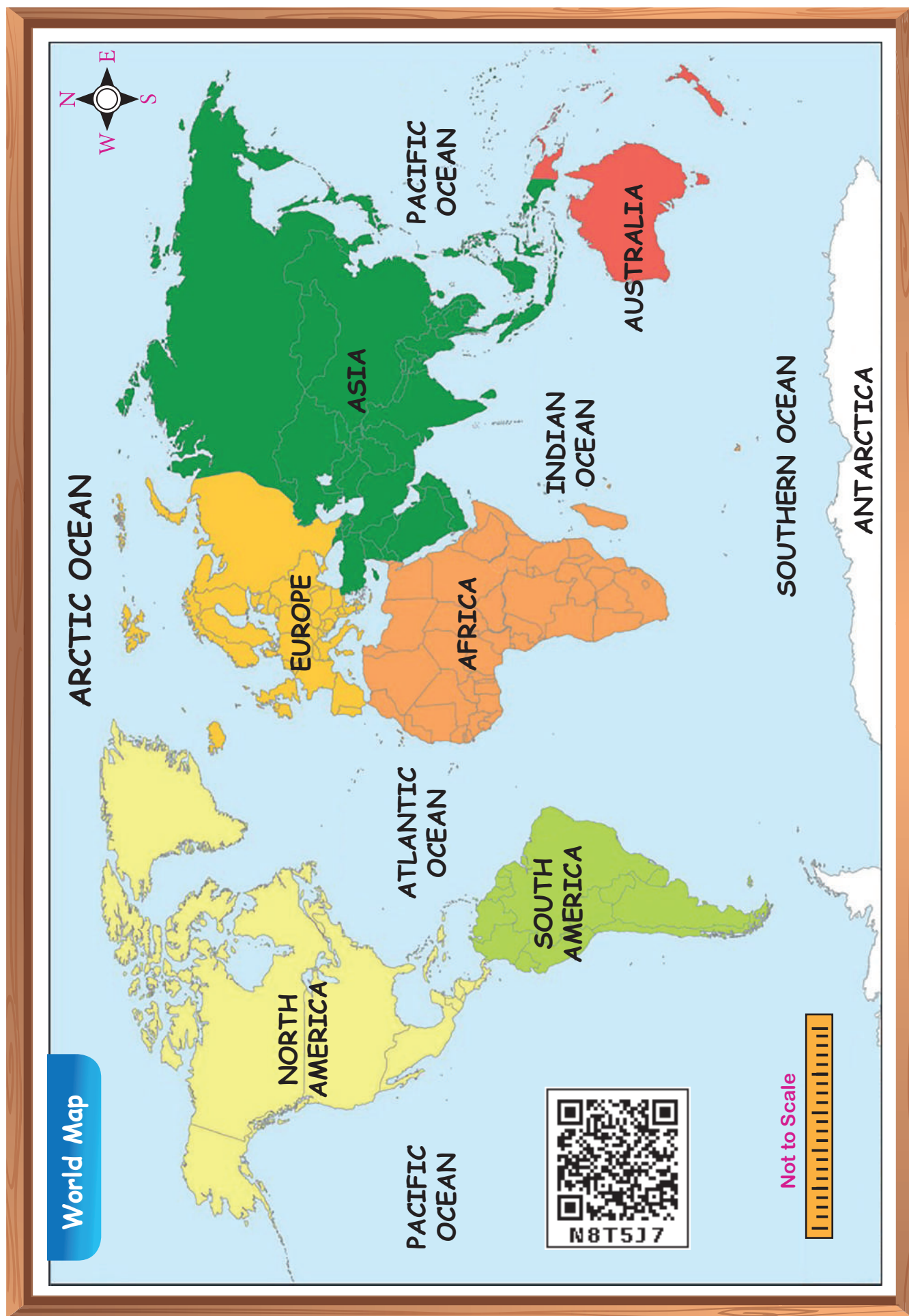
- ❖ describe the key features of each continent.
- ❖ know about some countries in each continent.



Z5I4X2

Introduction

Where do we all live? We all live on the **Earth**. Earth is our home. The total land on the earth is formed of **seven continents** of various sizes. Some are connected to each other while others are not. Each continent has different number of countries. The seven continents of the world are: **Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia.**



Asia

Asia is the world's largest continent in size and population. The world's two most populous countries, **China** and **India** are in Asia. The Mount Everest which is in the Himalayas, is the highest point on the earth. It is located in Asia. Asia is the birth place of great ancient civilisations: **Indus civilisation**, **Chinese civilisation** and **Mesopotamian civilisation**.

Himalayas



The Great Wall of China



The Great Wall of China is the only man made structure that can be seen from space.



Millions of years ago, the seven continents of the world were joined together as a single huge landmass called **Pangaea**. But it slowly broke apart and separated as seven continents.

Some other countries in Asian continent are **Japan**, **Singapore**, **Malaysia**, **Saudi Arabia**, **Sri Lanka**, **Nepal**, **Pakistan**, **Maldives**, **Philippines**, **Afghanistan**, **Thailand** and **Indonesia**. Now let us learn more about our country which is the part of Asia.

India

India is our country. India is known as the Land of **unity in diversity** as people from different religions, languages, cultures live together. India has 28 states and 9 union territories. New Delhi is the capital of India. India has several historical monuments. **Taj Mahal** is one such monument. It is situated in Agra on the bank of river Yamuna. Taj Mahal is built completely using white marble stones. This most beautiful monument is recognised as one of the seven wonders of the world.

Taj Mahal



Sanchi Stupa



GangaiKonda Cholapuram



St George Fort



Other historic monuments in India include **India gate** in Delhi, **Sanchi Stupa** near Bhopal, **Gateway of India** in Mumbai, **St George fort** and **GangaiKonda Cholapuram** in Tamil Nadu,

Gateway of India



India gate



ACTIVITY

Let us Paste



Collect and paste pictures of seven wonders of the world.

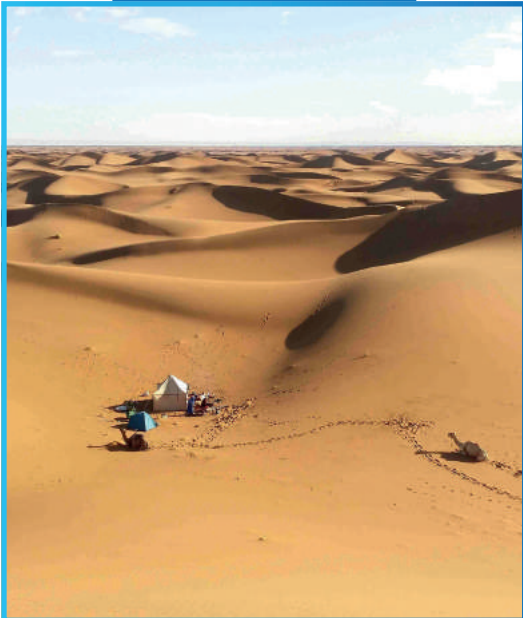
Africa

Africa is the second largest continent of the world. The world's longest river the **Nile** and the world's largest desert the **Sahara**, both are situated in Africa.

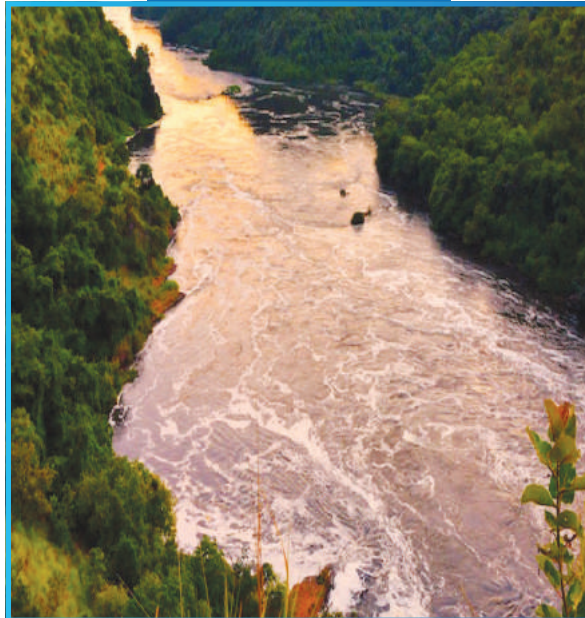
More than 50% of the world's **gold** and **diamonds** come from the mineral rich continent of Africa.

Some of the countries in African continent are: **Sudan, Libya, Egypt, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and Guinea.**

Sahara



Nile River



The continent was uninhabitable (Not fit for habitation) and remained unknown for thousands of years, earning the name **Dark Continent.**

North America

North America is entirely within the Northern Hemisphere. North America is the third largest continent by area, following Asia and Africa.

The largest fresh water lake, **Lake Superior** is located in this continent. The **Mississippi - Missouri**, is the fourth longest river in the world, located in North America. The world largest mountain range **Rockies** are located in North America.

Some of the countries in North American continent are: **Canada, Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras, Cuba, Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica** and **United States of America**.

New York (America)



Ottawa (Canada)



North America is the only continent in the world that has **all climatic types**.

South America

South America is located mostly in the Southern Hemisphere and a small portion in the Northern Hemisphere. **Amazon** is not only the largest river, but also the second longest river in the world. It is flowing in South America. **Brazil**, a country in South America, is one of the largest coffee producer in the world. **The Andes** are the world's longest continuous mountain ranges located in South America. They are also the second highest mountain ranges in the world. **Andes** are example of fold mountain. **Mt. Aconcagua** is the highest peak in the **Andes**. One of the highest volcanoes of the world, **Mt. Cotopaxi** is found in this continent.

Some of the countries in South American continent are **Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay** and **Venezuela**.

Andes



Mt. Cotopaxi



The **Amazon rainforest** covers most of the Amazon Basin in South America.

Antarctica

Antarctica is the coldest continent on Earth. It is also called the White Continent or the Frozen Continent.

Antarctica experiences half a year of sun light and half a year of complete darkness. Penguins are found in Antarctica.

There are many research stations from different countries in Antarctica.

Penguins in Antarctica.



Bharati and **Maitri** are the active Indian research stations in Antarctica. India's first research station **Dakshin Gangotri** is used as a supply base.










ACTIVITY
 Let us write



● Write the name of the country and its continent in the table below.

Country	Continent

Europe

Europe and **Asia** are parts of the same major landmass called **Eurasia**. Europe is separated from Asia by the Ural mountains and the Caspian Sea. The world's smallest country, the **Vatican City**, is in Europe. **Volga** is the longest river in Europe. Europe is considered a desertless continent.



Some of the countries in European continent are: **France, Spain, United Kingdom, Germany, Norway, Austria, Greece, Spain, Portugal and Italy.**



Finland, in Europe, is called the '**Land of Lakes**' because melting ice sheets have created a lot of lakes here.

Vatican City (Italy)



London (England)



Russia, the country stretches over a vast expanse of Eastern Europe and Northern Asia.



Ukraine's Steppe region is called the **Bread Basket of Europe** because it produces a large amount of wheat.

Think



Which state is called the **Bread Basket of India**?

Australia

Australia is the Island continent covered by a single country with unique landscapes and natural wonders. Australia is also called smallest continent. **The Great Barrier Reef**, the pride and joy of Australia is the world's largest barrier reef system and it is made up of over 2,500 individual reefs and visible from space. Australia includes the islands of **Tasmania** and **numerous small islands**.

The Great Barrier Reef



Kangaroo



Glossary

Civilisation : A society in an advanced state of social development.

Island : Land surrounded by water.

Monument : A building that is of historical importance and preserved as public property.



Recap

- The total land on the earth is formed of **seven continents** of various sizes.
- The names of the seven continents of the world are: **Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia.**

EVALUATION



I. Choose the correct answer.

- There are _____ continents in the world.
a) Five b) Seven c) Nine
- The largest continents is _____.
a) Africa b) Asia c) North America
- _____ is the longest river in the world.
a) Kaveri b) Ganga c) Nile
- Lake Superior is located in _____.
a) North America b) Australia c) Europe
- Penguins are found in _____ continent.
a) Asia b) Antarctica c) Africa



II. Match the following.

1	Asia	Vatican city
2	Africa	Amazon rainforest
3	Europe	Sahara desert
4	South America	Kangaroo
5	Australia	Biggest continent

III. Write True or False.

- Asia is the third largest continent. ()
- India has one of the seven wonders of the world. ()
- Brazil is one of the largest coffee producer in the world. ()
- The great barrier reef is in India. ()
- Antarctica has half year of light. ()

IV. Answer the following.

1. Name the continents of the world.
2. Where is the Taj Mahal located ?
3. Describe North America's important features.
4. Which continent is called the Frozen continent?
5. Where is the Great Barrier Reef located?

V. Answer the following in detail.

1. Write about any two continents.
2. Write a note on the monuments of India.
3. Give a detail study of Australia.



**FUN WITH
ACTIVITY**



PROJECT



Stick the flags of any five countries.

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