

Pruquest

Social Studies

4



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Pruuest

# Social Studies



4

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1. © Government of India, Copyright 2020.
2. Based upon Survey of India maps with the permission of the Surveyor General of India.
3. The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line.
4. The interstate boundaries amongst Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya shown on this map are as interpreted from the "North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971", but have yet to be verified.
5. The state boundaries between Uttarakhand & Uttar Pradesh, Bihar & Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh & Madhya Pradesh have not been verified by the Governments concerned.
6. The administrative headquarters of Chandigarh, Haryana and Punjab are at Chandigarh.
7. The administrative headquarters of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are at Hyderabad.
8. The external boundaries and coastlines of India on the maps agree with the Record/Master copy certified by the Surveyor General, Map Publication, Survey of India, vide their letter no.TB. 575/62-A-3/A, Dated 14/01/2020.
9. Maps are not to scale.

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# PREFACE

“Education is the most powerful weapon which can be used to change the world.”  
– Nelson Mandela

Keeping ourselves true to PruQuest’s guiding vision, **PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** has been created with an attempt to make children aware of their relationship with their surroundings, and prepare them to be responsible and active citizens. The process of this self-discovery spans across home, school, neighbourhood, people, city, country and the world. **PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** is an endeavour to bring the best pedagogic practices, conforming to the vision of the **National Curriculum Framework**.

**PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** provides a platform to develop skill sets pertaining to the theory of **multiple intelligences**. Based on the feedback from educators, academicians and parents, we have designed the exercises catering to scholastic and co-scholastic skills.

At PruQuest, we realise that the purpose of social studies is to enable children to understand, participate in and make informed decisions about the world. We have followed a combination of learning methodologies that will ensure ‘**no-rote learning**’, **learning driven by HOTS** and **life-long learning** experience through books. The pedagogic methodologies followed in this series are:

- **Experiential Learning Method**
- **Visual, Auditory and Kinaesthetic (VAK) Learning Style Model**
- **Thinking Classroom Pedagogy**
- **Multidisciplinary Approach**

The textbooks have been created to ensure learning through interactive discussions and hands-on activities. **PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** caters to the **expanding horizons** of children and aims to extend learning beyond classrooms, and guide children to interpret, reason, think critically, ask questions, classify, analyse, apply, make decisions and solve problems. We want all children to come to school with the thought that **learning is fun!**

The approach of the textbooks is **child-centric** and **experiential**, and engages children through a diverse range of picture cartoons, illustrations, activities, mazes, puzzles, crosswords and projects.

In sync with the recommendations of NCERT, we have also laid importance to the inclusion of **Life Skills** in all chapters throughout the series. **PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** enhances critical thinking, socio-emotional development, interpersonal interaction and other life skills within the context of social studies. To empower children, we have chosen Life Skills in this series as per the **21st Century Life Skills Framework**.

**PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** focuses on the **three building blocks of learning: exploration, understanding and application**, and lays emphasis on the importance of becoming an active, engaged citizen through, interesting trivia/facts and discussion questions to spark inquiry and exploration skills. The elements in the textbooks help sustain the interest of children and facilitate in-depth understanding of the concepts of social studies. All elements in this series strive to develop the requisite knowledge, skills, values and provide spaces for reflection and critical thinking.

**PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** has been designed to build knowledge at an early age and encourages children to uphold the values of democracy in our country. This series encompasses the diverse aspects of society. It is built on the familiar experiences of the children to help them observe and understand the relationship between self, society and environment, and further builds the fundamental values to be a good member of the society, the country and the world.

This series helps children to develop skills in order to seek harmony in the diversity of the world around them, and also set new paths to make it a better place. The **“Multidisciplinary Approach”** of **PruQuest Social Studies Series 1–5** sets a strong foundation for diversified social studies subjects at the primary level.

# ICONS IN THIS SERIES



**Let Us Begin** section comprises warm up activities for grabbing children's attention for each chapter.



**Talking Point** are discussion questions that encourage children to enquire the concepts and develop 'extended' learning in each chapter.



**Do You Know?** gives additional interesting information related to the concepts in each chapter.



**Words of Wisdom** are linked with values and life skills.



**Let Us Explore** keeps children interested in the concept and makes them inquisitive to know more, beyond the regular classroom learning.



**Word Power** has new words to build children's vocabulary.



**Let Us Answer** has exercises that can be used for pen and paper test.



**Let Us Do** has projects and activities that can be used for activity-based assessment.



**You Have Learnt** summarises the main points of the chapter.



**Think Beyond** helps in enhancing Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS), assessing the students' comprehension and analytical ability, assisting students in developing cognitive thinking by focusing on problem-solving skills and eliciting creative and logical answers.



**Internet Links** encourage children to explore the World Wide Web (Internet).



**Life Skills** hone 'skills' for 'life' and develop the co-scholastic abilities of the children. In this book, we have covered Thinking Skills: critical thinking, decision-making, creative thinking, problem-solving; Social Skills: effective communication, interpersonal relationships; and Emotional Skills: self-awareness, dealing with stress, empathy, coping with emotions.



**Map Work** develops mapping skills in children and reinforces the concepts learnt in a chapter.



**Project Time** includes additional activities and projects.



**Teacher's Note** helps teachers build each chapter and further enhance the learning experience of the children.



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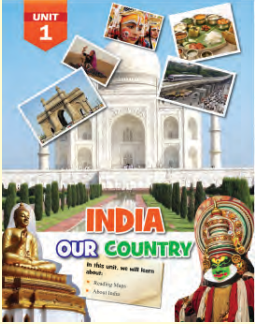
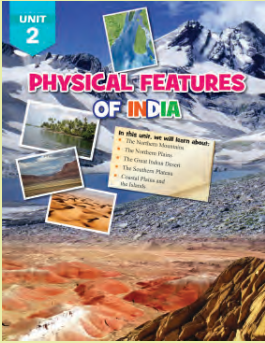
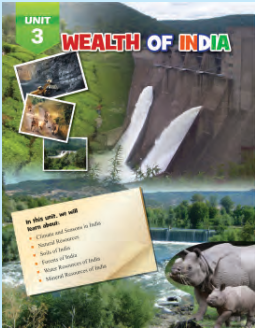
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<p>The Himalayas Life in the Northern Mountains</p> <p>River basins of India Life in the Northern Plains</p> <p>The Thar Desert Life in the Thar Desert</p> <p>The Plateau Region Life in the Peninsular Plateau</p> <p>Coastal Plains and Islands of India Life in Coastal Plains and Islands</p>	<p>Collage making Poster making</p> <p>Scrapbook making</p> <p>Letter writing Discussion and presentation</p> <p>Group activity Travelogue writing</p> <p>Poster making Chart making</p>	<p>Thinking and Environmental Skills</p> <p>Thinking Skills</p> <p>Thinking and Imagination Skills</p> <p>Thinking Skills</p> <p>Thinking Skills</p>
<p>Climate and Season Seasons in India</p> <p>Renewable or inexhaustible resources Non-renewable or exhaustible resources Conservation of natural resources</p> <p>Formation of soil Types of soils Soil conservation</p> <p>Types of forests Uses of forests Conservation of forests</p> <p>Water is a precious resource Sources of water Conservation of water</p>	<p>Collage making Group discussion</p> <p>Observation and class discussion Activity on conservation of natural resources</p> <p>Chart making on soils of India Experiment on layers of soil</p> <p>Essay writing Celebration of Van Mohotsav</p> <p>MS PowerPoint presentation Poster making</p>	<p>Data collection, Interpretation and Analytical skills</p> <p>Observation and Thinking Skills</p> <p>Thinking and Environmental Skills</p> <p>Environmental Skills</p> <p>Thinking and Environmental Skills</p>

# Detailed CONTENTS

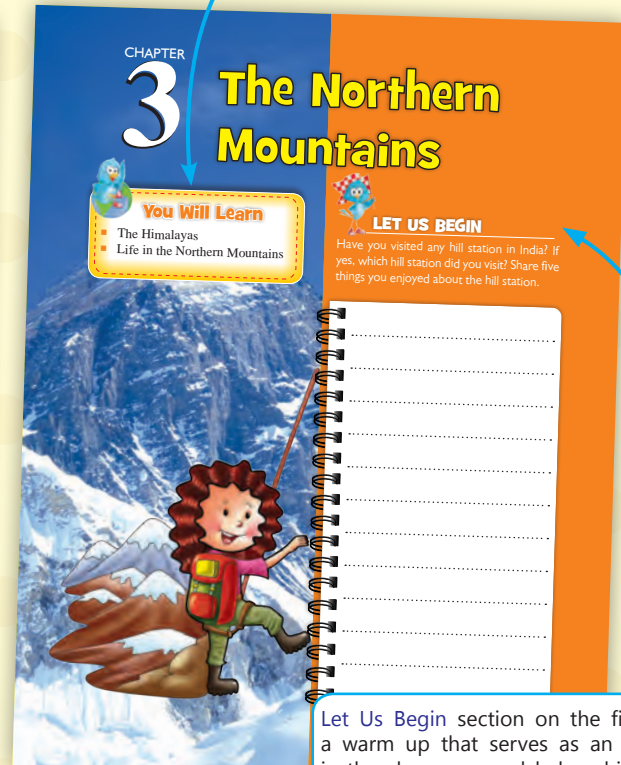
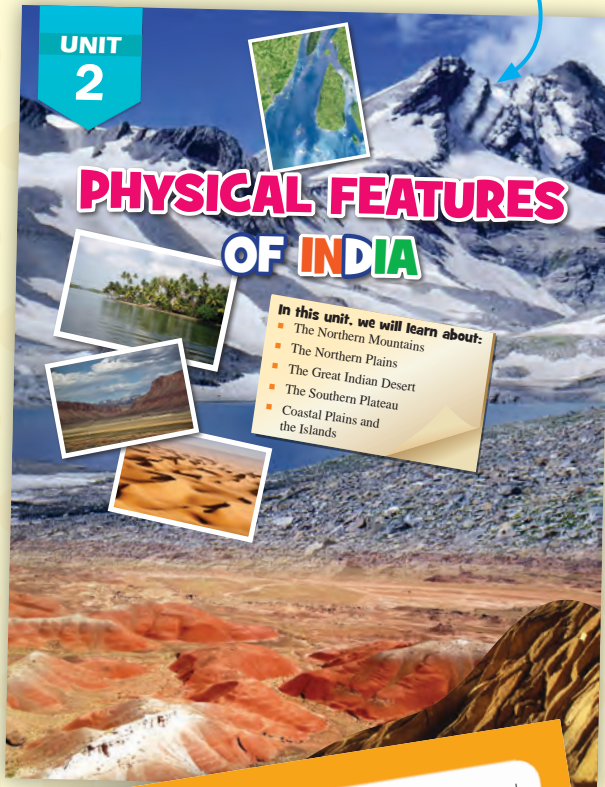
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You Will Learn	Let Us Do (Activities)	Life Skills covered in the book
Types of minerals Minerals in India Conservation of minerals	Collage making Chart making	Thinking Skills
Crops grown in India Green Revolution Livestock rearing  Growth of industries Types of industries Industries and environment  Importance of human resources Problems in the development of human resources Steps taken by the government	Scrapbook making Chart making  Diary writing Visit to a small-scale industry  Poster making Data collection on development of human resources Chart making	Thinking Skills  Thinking and Environmental Skills  Thinking and Social Skills
History of communication and transport Communicating far and near Travelling in India  Periods of history Sources of history  Indus Valley Civilisation Trade, agriculture and language	Collage making Comprehension-based activity  Diary writing Chart making  Group discussion	Social, Thinking and Emotional Skills  Thinking Skills  Thinking Skills
Understanding democracy Levels of the government  Constitution — a set of rules Fundamental Rights Fundamental Duties Directive Principles of State Policy	Group discussion Writing rules for a new game  Chart making and group discussion	Thinking Skills

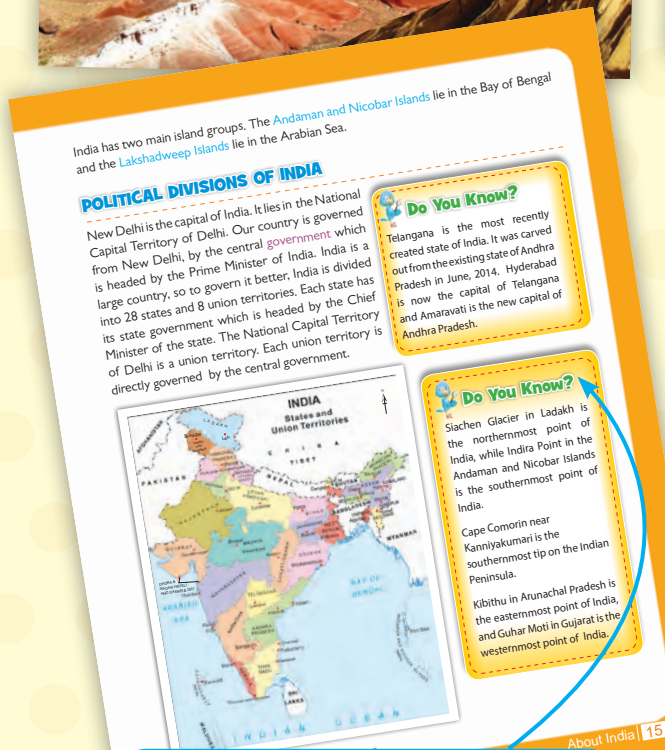
# A WALK THROUGH THE SERIES

The Unit Opener introduces the unit. Use the title, and the full page illustration to predict what children will discover in the unit.

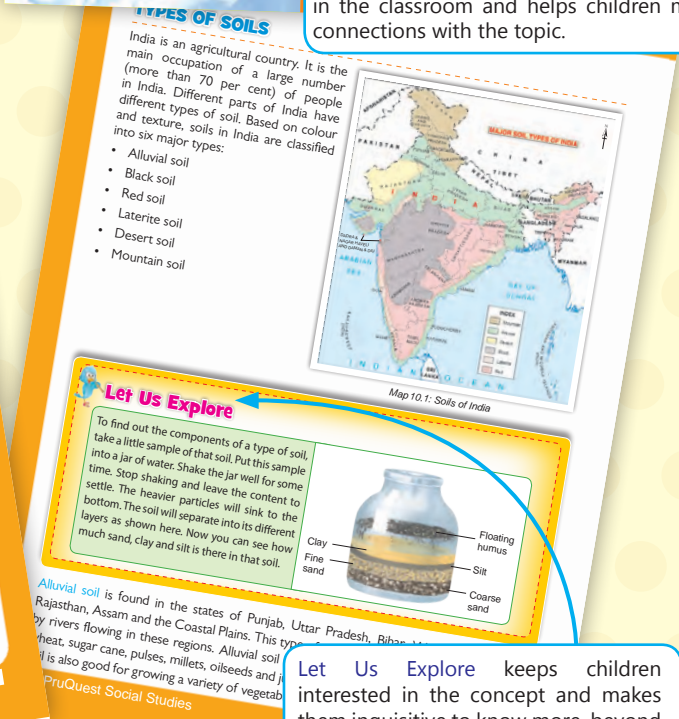
You Will Learn lists the key concepts given as sub-topics that children will be reflecting on throughout the chapter.



Let Us Begin section on the first page is a warm up that serves as an ice-breaker in the classroom and helps children make connections with the topic.



Do You Know adds additional and interesting supplementary information on various sub-topics that spark enquiries and discussions.



Let Us Explore keeps children interested in the concept and makes them inquisitive to know more, beyond the regular classroom learning.



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Let us explore Social Studies with Cheeni!



# Meet the Characters



Grandma



Grandpa



Mom



Dad



Angie



Cheeni

Cheeni is in Class 4 now. She is a big girl and helps Angie do his homework. She also reads newspaper to Grandpa and Grandma.

In Class 4, Cheeni will learn about India - Our Country, Wealth of India, Occupations in India, Our Past, Our Government and Duties. Zou lives with her young one in the bird house. Cheeni and Angie love and care for them.

Cheeni loves her country. Let us explore more with her.



Zou



Tashi



Nemo



Tara



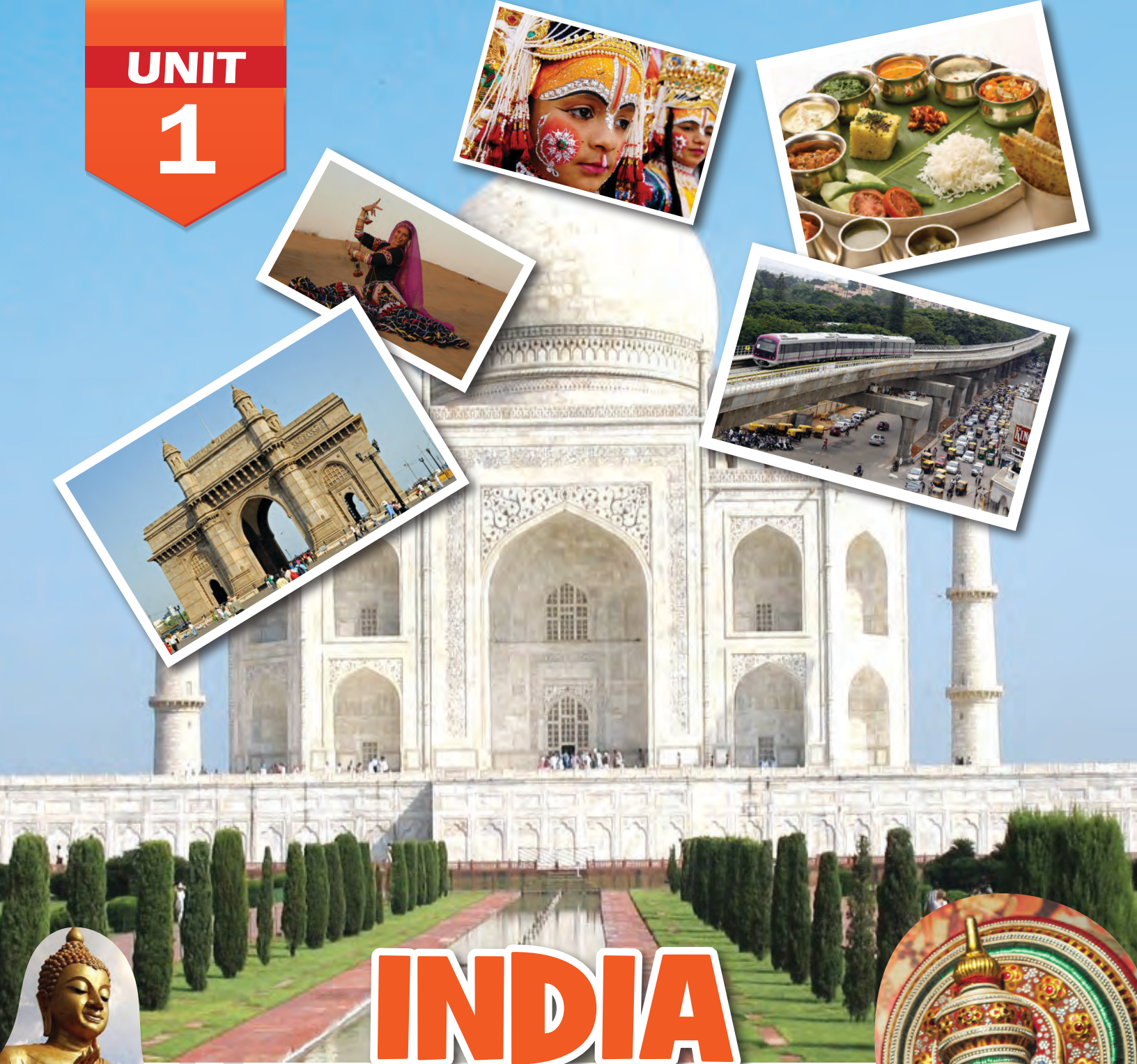
Uncle



Aunt

UNIT

1



# INDIA

## OUR COUNTRY

In this unit, we will learn about:

- Reading Maps
- About India

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# Reading Maps



## You Will Learn

- Maps and globe
- Types of maps
- How to study a map?



## LET US BEGIN

Cheeni and Angie had learnt in their previous class that maps and globes help us to find places on Earth.

Let us do a quick recap with Cheeni and Angie. Fill in the blanks.

- The Earth is shaped like an .....
- The Earth is flattened at the top and bottom. These flattened points are called .....
- The flattened point at the top of the Earth is known as ..... and the flattened point at the bottom of the Earth is known as .....
- In 1519, an explorer named Ferdinand Magellan sailed from Spain. He sailed for many years in one direction and finally returned to the same place. It proved that the Earth is ..... and not flat.
- A ..... is a drawing of the Earth on a flat surface, usually paper.
- A ..... is a model of the Earth that is quite similar to it.



## MAPS AND GLOBES

When we look at the Earth from space, it looks like a huge ball. The Earth is shaped like an orange. We are unable to see the entire Earth at the same time because of its large size.



*The Earth is shaped like an orange*



*A Globe*



*A Map*

A **globe** is a small model of the Earth. It helps us to see the different places on Earth. When we spin the globe, we can see all the places on Earth.

When we draw any part of the Earth on a flat surface such as paper, it is called a **map**. We can easily carry maps from one place to another.

While travelling to a new place, Cheeni enjoys looking at the map of the place she is travelling to. An **atlas** is a book of maps.



## TYPES OF MAPS

Maps are of different types. Each type of map shows a special type of information. **Physical maps** help to know the location and shape of various natural features on the Earth. These features include natural landforms and waterbodies such as mountains, plateaus, deserts, rivers and seas. Some maps also show human-made structures such as roads, dams, bridges and parks.



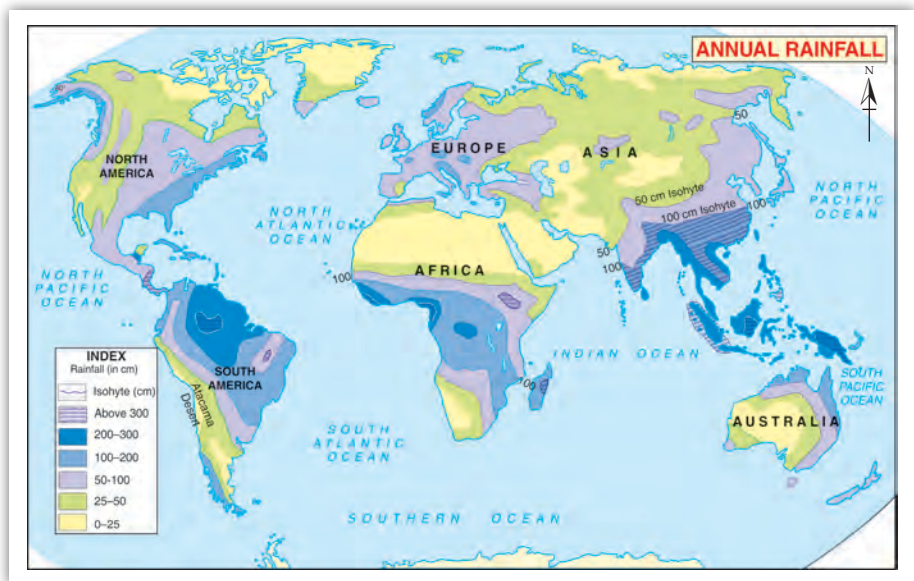
Map 1.1: Physical map of Europe

**Political maps** show the location and boundaries of countries, states, union territories, capitals and cities.



Map 1.2: Political map of Europe

Thematic maps are based on a particular theme or subject such as distribution of rainfall, crops and population.



Map 1.3: Thematic map of the world

## HOW TO STUDY A MAP

In the previous class, we have learnt how to find directions on a map with the help of a **compass rose**. The art of making maps is called **cartography**. A person who makes maps is called a **cartographer**. A map is made with the help of directions, scales, key or legend.

**Directions** are most important to find the location of a specific place. Sailors, explorers and travellers used a magnetic compass to find directions. It has a needle that always points towards the North. Later they started using maps to know directions. On a map, the top always shows the North, the bottom south, east is on the right and west on the left. On a map, directions are always shown on the top through a compass rose or a North Line (N).



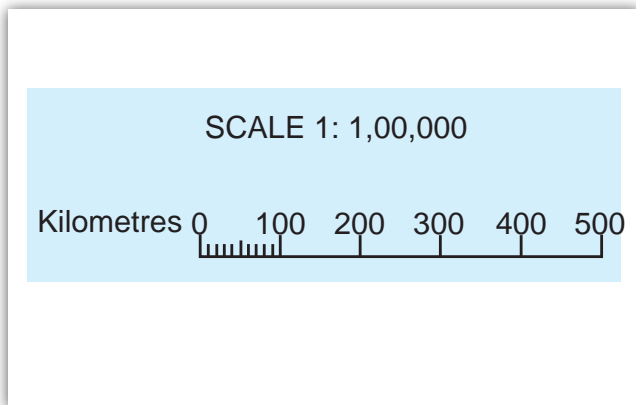
A compass rose on a map



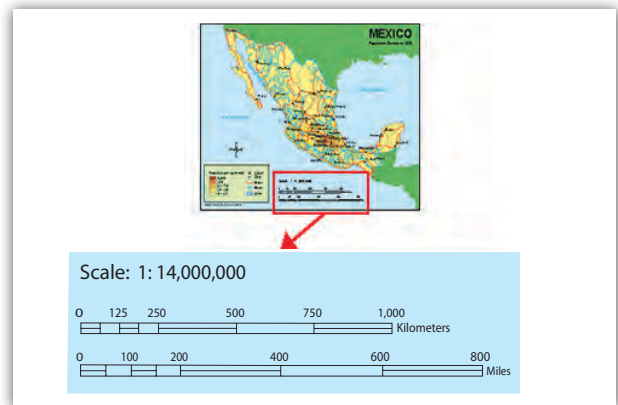
### Let Us Explore

Draw a map to show the route from your house to your school. Show the important buildings you pass through.

The actual distance between places cannot be shown or drawn on a map. So a map is always smaller than the actual size. **Scale** of a map shows the reduced distance shown on the map compared to the actual distance on the ground. It also shows how distances on the map are related to distances on the actual ground. The scale is mentioned at the bottom of the map.



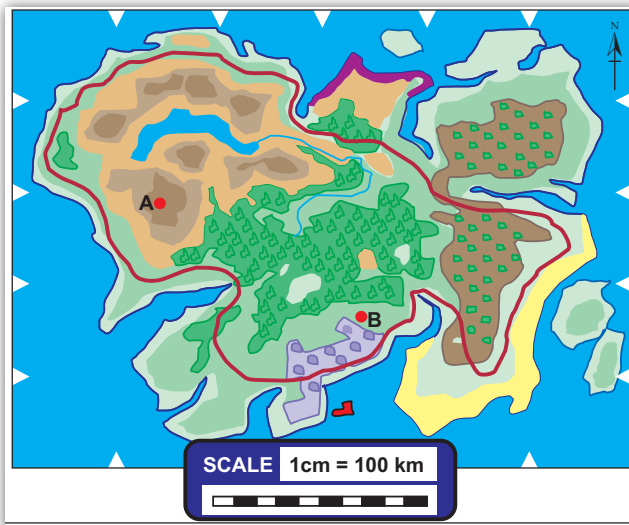
A scale where 1 cm on the map is equal to 100 km on actual surface



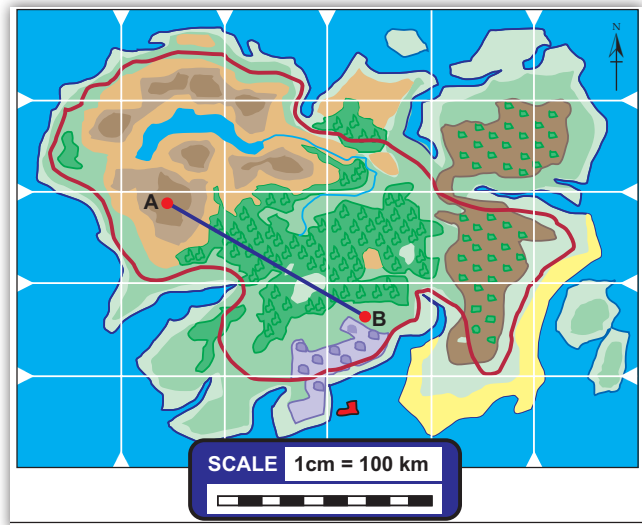
Scale shown at the bottom of a map

With the help of a scale we can calculate distance between places. **Grid** is the network of lines on a map. These lines are called latitudes and longitudes. You can see grid in picture 2.

Picture 1



Picture 2



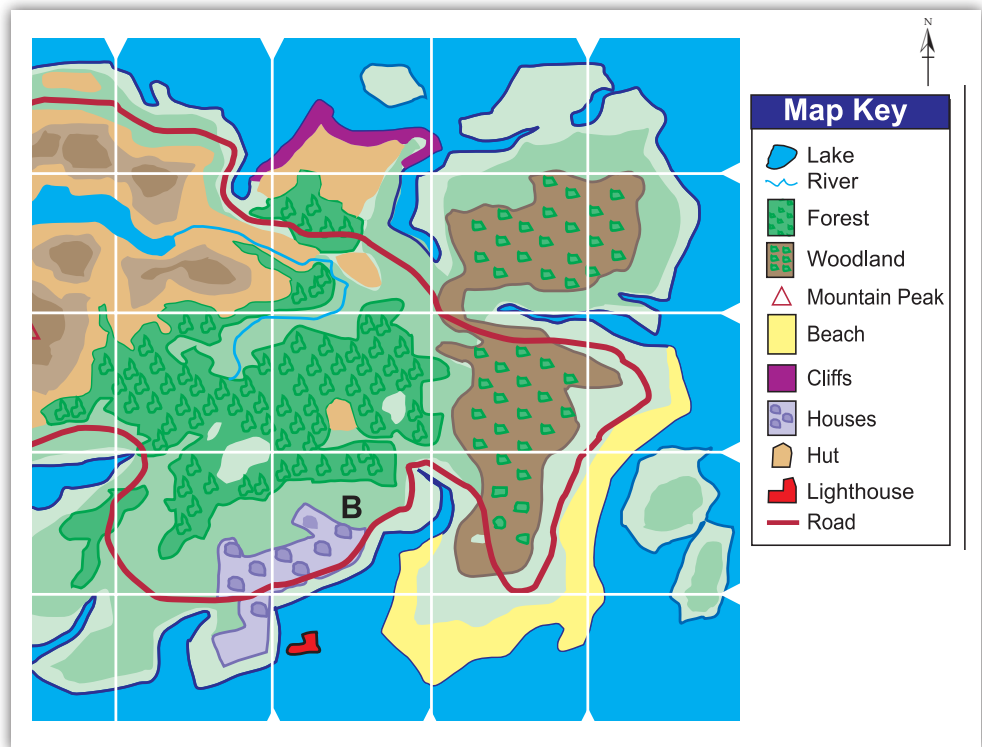
See the map given in Picture 1. Let us take A and B as two places on the map. Refer to picture 2. Draw a straight line connecting points A and B. Place the ruler along this line and measure the distance between points A and B, in centimetres.

We see that the distance between A and B on the map = 3 cm. Refer to the scale. The scale of the map is 1 cm = 100 km.

So the actual distance between A and B on the ground = Distance on the map  $\times$  100 i.e.  $3 \times 100 = 300$  km

The **colours** that we see on maps help us to identify the different physical features. Some standard colours are used to show specific features. Brown is used to show mountains, green is used to show plains, blue is used to show waterbodies, light brown is used to show plateaus and yellow is used to show deserts.

A map has limited space to show all the features.



Colours and symbols used in a map key

We use different symbols to show these features on a map. These symbols stand for different natural and human-made features shown on a map. They are known as **conventional symbols**. To know what these colours and symbols stand for, we use a **map key** or **legend** on a map. The legend or map key is shown in a box at the corner of the map. With the help of a map key we can understand any map.



## You Have Learnt

- A map is a drawing of a part of the Earth on a flat surface such as paper.
- An atlas is a book of maps.
- Physical, political and thematic are the three main types of maps.
- The features that help us to study a map are direction, scale, colour, symbols, and map key or legend.



*map: a drawing on a flat surface that shows the rivers, mountains, streets, etc., of a particular area*

*globe: a small model of the Earth*

*atlas: a book of maps*

*compass rose: a figure used to show directions*

# EXERCISES



## Let Us Answer

### A Fill in the blanks.

1. .... is a drawing of any part of the Earth on a flat surface.
2. .... maps tell us about the boundaries of countries.
3. A ..... rose shows directions on a map.
4. A ..... or ..... explains what colours and symbols show on a map.
5. The ..... shows the actual distance on the ground in relation to the distance shown on the map.

### B Write T for True and F for False.

1. A legend shows what the symbols represent on the map.
2. Mountains are marked with green on a map.
3. A globe is a flat drawing of the Earth.
4. The needle of a compass always points towards the east.
5. A book of maps is called an atlas.

### C Answer the following questions in your exercise book.

1. What is a globe?
2. What is a map?
3. What does the scale on a map show? Why do we need a scale for any map?
4. Name the different types of maps.



## Think Beyond

HOTS Question






Find out why a map is more useful than a globe.



## Let Us Do

### A Study the map of the park and complete the questions that follow.

**Map Key**

	Trash Can		Stop sign
	Picnic Table		Slide
	Swings		



1. How many picnic tables are in the park? .....
2. Draw a circle around the swings.
3. Colour the trash cans blue.
4. Draw a triangle around the stop sign.
5. How many slides are in the park? .....

**B Make a chart on the types of maps.**



**Life Skills**

**Thinking Skills**

Antarctica is covered with snow and ice for the whole year. Can humans, animals and plants live there? What problems would we face in Antarctica?



**Map Work**

Mark and label the five oceans and the seven continents on a map of the world. Colour the oceans blue and use different colours to colour the continents.



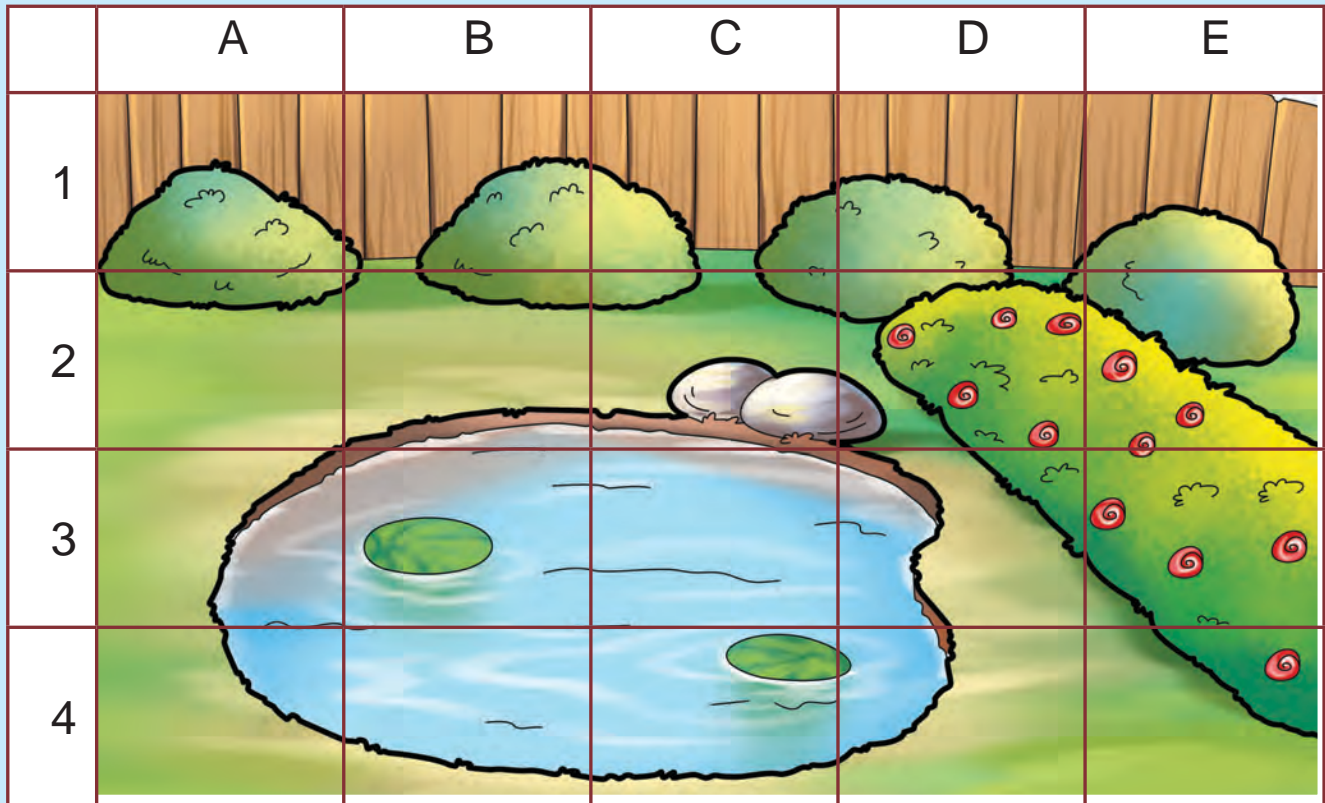
**Internet Links**

- <http://www.jrank.org/history/pages/8345/How-Do-I-Use-Globes-Maps.html>
- <http://kids.britannica.com/comptons/article-204238/maps-and-globes>
- <http://geography.mrdonn.org/mapskills.html>



## Project Time

FINDING A FAMILY TREASURE! Follow the directions given below to reach the spot where your great-grandparents hid a pot of gold coins several years ago.



### DIRECTIONS:

1. Start from square A4
2. Move 2 squares up
3. Move 4 squares right
4. Move 1 square down and mark a circle
5. Dig this square



Introduce the concept of sphere and discuss with children that a globe is a model of the spherical Earth. Make children understand that a map is a flat drawing of the Earth. We use scales and grid to locate places and determine ground distances and show them on a map. Tell children that maps show a relative position and size of landmasses and waterbodies. You may engage children with fun activities at <http://www.havefunteaching.com/worksheets/social-studies-worksheets/map-worksheets>.

# About India



## You Will Learn

- Neighbouring countries of India
- Physical features of India
- Political divisions of India



## LET US BEGIN

Do you remember the names of the neighbouring countries of India that you have learnt in the previous class? Name them.



A spiral-bound notebook page with ten horizontal dotted lines for writing.





## NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES OF INDIA

India lies in the southern part of the continent of Asia. It is the seventh largest (in area) country in the world. Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, China, Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Maldives are the neighbouring countries of India. India and some of its neighbouring countries together are known as the **Indian Subcontinent**.

## PHYSICAL FEATURES OF INDIA

The landforms and waterbodies of India form the physical features of India.

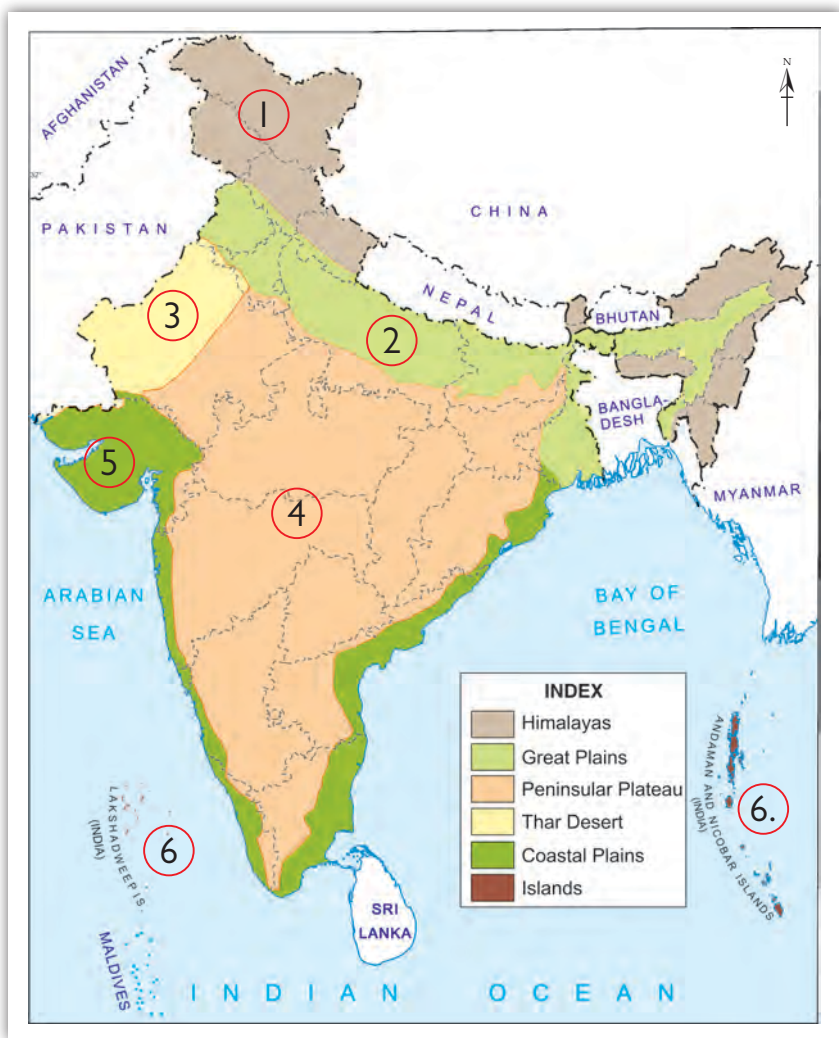
The physical features of India are:

1. The Northern Mountains
2. The Northern Plains
3. The Great Indian Desert
4. The Plateau Region
5. The Coastal Plains
6. The Islands



### Talking Point

Do you think the different types of landforms in India make it a special and interesting country? Share your thoughts with the class.



Map 2.1: Physical features of India

In the north, we have the **snow-capped** peaks of the **Northern Mountains**. They are known as the Himalayas. These mountains run from the north-west to the north-east of India like a huge arc. They protect us from the **extreme** cold winds that blow from the Central Asia. The vast flat lands to the south of the Himalayas are called the **Northern Plains**. These plains have rich **fertile** soil brought down by the rivers Ganges (or Ganga), Indus, Brahmaputra, and their tributaries.

In the western part of India, lies the **Great Indian Desert**. It is also known as the **Thar Desert**. This is a hot and dry sandy area. Very few plants like cactus and date palms grow in the Thar Desert.

The southern part of the Plateau Region is the vast **tableland** known as the **Deccan Plateau**. On the western and eastern sides of the Deccan Plateau, are the **Coastal Plains**. The Deccan Plateau is bordered by mountain ranges on the eastern and western sides. The ranges on the west are called the Western Ghats and on the east they are called the Eastern Ghats.

India has two main island groups. The **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** lie in the Bay of Bengal and the **Lakshadweep Islands** lie in the Arabian Sea.

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF INDIA

New Delhi is the capital of India. It lies in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. Our country is governed from New Delhi, by the central **government** which is headed by the Prime Minister of India. India is a large country, so to govern it better, India is divided into 28 states and 8 union territories. Each state has its state government which is headed by the Chief Minister of the state. The National Capital Territory of Delhi is a union territory. Each union territory is directly governed by the central government.



### Do You Know?

Telangana is the most recently created state of India. It was carved out from the existing state of Andhra Pradesh in June, 2014. Hyderabad is now the capital of Telangana and Amaravati is the new capital of Andhra Pradesh.



Map2.2: Political map of India



### Do You Know?

Siachen Glacier in Ladakh is the northernmost point of India, while Indira Point in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is the southernmost point of India.

Cape Comorin near Kanniyakumari is the southernmost tip on the Indian Peninsula.

Kibithu in Arunachal Pradesh is the easternmost point of India, and Guhar Moti in Gujarat is the westernmost point of India.

Let us learn about the states and union territories of India and their capitals.

STATE	CAPITAL	STATE	CAPITAL
1. Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	15. Manipur	Imphal
2. Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	16. Meghalaya	Shillong
3. Assam	Dispur	17. Mizoram	Aizawl
4. Bihar	Patna	18. Nagaland	Kohima
5. Chhattisgarh	Raipur	19. Odisha	Bhubaneswar
6. Goa	Panaji	20. Punjab	Chandigarh
7. Gujarat	Gandhinagar	21. Rajasthan	Jaipur
8. Haryana	Chandigarh	22. Sikkim	Gangtok
9. Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	23. Tamil Nadu	Chennai
10. Jharkhand	Ranchi	24. Telangana	Hyderabad
11. Karnataka	Bengaluru	25. Tripura	Agartala
12. Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	26. Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
13. Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	27. Uttarakhand	Dehradun
14. Maharashtra	Mumbai	28. West Bengal	Kolkata

UNION TERRITORY	CAPITAL	UNION TERRITORY	CAPITAL
1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	5. Lakshadweep	Kavaratti
2. Chandigarh	Chandigarh	6. Puducherry	Puducherry
3. Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu		7. Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar (S) Jammu (W)
4. National Capital Territory of Delhi	New Delhi	8. Ladakh	Leh



## Let Us Explore

Jammu and Kashmir has two capitals. Find out why this Union territory has two capitals. What must have been the problems faced by the state government in its working?



## You Have Learnt

- India is the seventh largest country in the world.
- Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, Bhutan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Maldives are the neighbouring countries of India.
- The Northern Mountains, the Northern Plains, the Great Indian Desert, the Plateau Region, the Coastal Plains and the Islands are the physical features of India.
- India is divided into 28 states and 8 union territories.



*population*: number of people living in a particular place like a country or a state

*snow-capped*: having the top covered with snow

*extreme*: anything that is too much in amount or degree of tolerance

*fertile*: rich soil or land capable of producing crops

*tableland*: a highland that has a flat top, like a table

*government*: the group of people elected or chosen to control and make decisions for a country or a state

# EXERCISES



## Let Us Answer

### A Tick (✓) and choose the correct answer and fill in the blanks.

- India is divided into ..... states and ..... union territories.  
a. 30/9                       b. 28/7   
c. 28/08                       d. 31/6
- India is the ..... largest country in the world.  
a. second                       b. seventh   
c. tenth                       d. fourth
- The ..... is surrounded by the Western Ghats in the west and Eastern Ghats in the east.  
a. Deccan Plateau                       b. Thar Desert   
c. Northern Plains                       d. Himalayas
- The Great Indian Desert is also called the ..... Desert.  
a. Sahara                       b. Thar   
c. Ganges                       d. Chandigarh
- ..... is the Capital of India.  
a. Chennai                       b. Mumbai   
c. New Delhi                       d. Kolkata

### B Write T for True and F for False.

- The Northern Mountains and the Northern Plains are the physical features of India.
- China and Afghanistan are two neighbouring countries of India.
- The Coastal Plains are an important political division of India.
- The Arabian Sea lies to the west and the Bay of Bengal lies to the east of India.
- Each union territory is governed by the central government.

### C Answer the following questions in your exercise book.

- What are the major physical features of India?
- How many states and union territories are there in India?
- Name two states and two union territories, and their capitals.
- Name two neighbouring countries of India located to the south of India.



## Think Beyond

HOTS Question

What would happen if all the snow and ice on the Himalayas melt completely as a result of global warming, and the Himalayan Rivers become seasonal rivers with most of the water flowing only in the rainy season? Think and tell the effects of this change on the Northern Plains.



## Let Us Do

- A** Draw a large map of India on a chart paper. Mark the six physical divisions of India. Collect pictures and paste (or draw) and colour the geographical features found in these physical divisions.
- B** Make a chart on the north-eastern states of India – Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. Collect pictures of people, food, festivals, tourist attractions, landforms and waterbodies of these states.



## Life Skills

Thinking & Social Skills

Name the state or the union territory where you would like to live. Give reasons for choosing this state/union territory. How can we make this place better?



## Map Work

On a political map of India, identify and mark the following:

1. Three states that lie on the western or the eastern coastline
2. Four states that neither share a border with any neighbouring country nor lie on the coastline
3. Four states that share a border with any neighbouring country
4. The capital of India, River Ganges and River Brahmaputra



Show a large physical map and a political map of India. Compare the physical map with the political map of India. Ask children to name the states in which the different physical divisions are located. Explain to the children the need for India to be divided into states and union territories. Sensitise and make children aware that there is diversity in language, culture, food and clothing in the various states of India but India is “one in spirit”.

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# UNIT 2

# PHYSICAL FEATURES OF INDIA

**In this unit, we will learn about:**

- The Northern Mountains
- The Northern Plains
- The Great Indian Desert
- The Southern Plateau
- Coastal Plains and the Islands

# 3

# The Northern Mountains



## You Will Learn

- The Himalayas
- Life in the Northern Mountains



## LET US BEGIN

Have you visited any hill station in India? If yes, which hill station did you visit? Share five things you enjoyed about the hill station.



A spiral-bound notebook page with ten horizontal lines for writing, each line consisting of a solid top line, a dotted middle line, and a solid bottom line.

A new girl has joined class 4 and Cheeni is excited to meet her. The girl's name is Bushra and she is from Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir.



Yes! My friends and I used to have a lot of fun walking up the hilly roads to school. The weather is cool and there is so much greenery.



I have visited Manali. It is a hill station in Himachal Pradesh. I went there on a vacation with my family. We had a lot of fun and played with snow.



## THE HIMALAYAS

In the previous chapter, you learnt that the Northern Mountains are an important physical feature of India. The Himalayas and the Karakoram Ranges form the Northern Mountains.

The Himalayas lie to the north of India. Mount Godwin Austen or K2 is located in the Karakoram Range. It is the second highest mountain peak in the world. The highest mountain peak in the world, Mount Everest is located in the Himalayas, in Nepal. The Himalayas cover the northern and the north-eastern parts of India. This range extends from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh.

The Himalayan Range consists of three parallel ranges:

- The Greater Himalayas or Himadri
- The Middle Himalayas or Himachal
- The Outer Himalayas or Shiwaliks



### Talking Point

Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary were the first persons to climb Mount Everest, in 1953.

## The Greater Himalayas or Himadri

The northernmost range of the Himalayas is called the Greater Himalayas or the Himadri. This range remains snow-covered throughout the year. Mount Kangchenjunga and Mount Annapurna are the two highest peaks in the Himadri Range. Mount Kangchenjunga is the third highest peak in the world. This range has thick masses of moving ice called **glaciers**. These glaciers melt and give rise to many important rivers. The Ganga, the Yamuna, the Indus and the Brahmaputra are some important rivers that flow from this range.



*A view of Kangchenjunga*



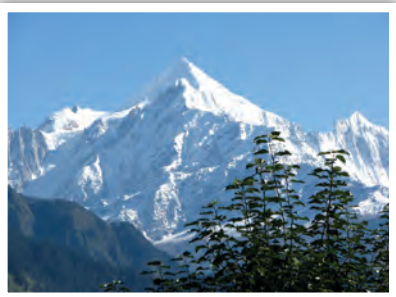
*The Karakoram Range*



*A view of Mount Everest*

## The Middle Himalayas or Himachal

Below the Himadri Range lie the Middle Himalayas or the Himachal. These mountains are not as high as the mountains in the Himadri. The Himachal is covered with thick forests which have trees such as oak, pine, fir and deodar.



*A view of the Himachal Range*



*Kangra Valley*



*Gangtok in winter*

In winter season, the Himachal Range receives snowfall. Many beautiful hill stations are situated in this range, such as Manali, Kullu, Mukteshwar, Gangtok and Darjeeling. It also has many fertile valleys such as Kangra.

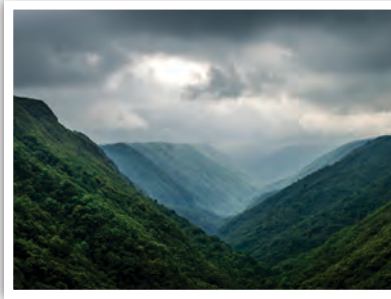
## The Outer Himalayas or Shiwaliks

The lowest range in the Himalayas is called the Outer Himalayas or the Shiwaliks. The mountains in this range are more like hills. Many cities, towns and villages are located in this range. This range is not covered with snow. The Shiwaliks are covered with thick forests. People **cultivate** the slopes of hills, and grow many types of crops and vegetables.

The Shiwaliks extend to the north-eastern states of India, where they are called the Purvanchal Ranges. These ranges have hills such as Garo, Khasi, Naga and Mizo. These hills are covered with thick forests and have beautiful waterfalls.



*Nohkalikai Falls, (Meghalaya)*



*Khasi Hills*



*Terrace-farming in the Shiwaliks*

The Himalayas have a major effect on the climate of India. These mountains act as a natural **barrier** against the cold northern winds blowing from Central Asia. The **moisture-laden** monsoon winds are prevented from blowing further north. These winds strike against the Himalayas and cause rainfall in most parts of northern India.

## **Climate and Vegetation of the Northern Mountains**

The Greater Himalayas experience extreme cold throughout the year, and are always covered with snow. The Middle Himalayas have cool and pleasant summers and cold winters. Many tourists visit the valleys and hill stations in the Middle Himalayas during summer. The Outer Himalayas are not very cold and have cool summers and mild winters with heavy rainfall during the summer monsoon.

In the Greater Himalayas, shrubs, mosses, lichens and wild flowers such as blue poppies and rhododendrons grow. The Middle Himalayas have many trees such as pine, oak, poplar, walnut, spruce, fir, cypress, juniper and birch. The valleys of the Middle Himalayas are famous for fruit orchards such as apples, plums, peaches, pears, cherries and almonds.



*An apple orchard*



*A pine forest*

The **foothills** of the Outer Himalayas are called the **terai**. The region is covered with trees, well known for their **timber**, such as keekar, sal, teak and babool. The slopes of these mountains are used for growing tea. Large areas of the forest on the slopes and the foothills are cleared for growing crops such as rice, sugar cane and wheat.

Yaks, mountain goats, snow leopards, musk deer and wild sheep are some animals that are found in the Greater Himalayas. The Middle Himalayas are home to animals such as tigers, leopards, rhinoceroses, red pandas and different types of deer. Hogs, hyenas, bears, elephants and tigers are found in the Outer Himalayas. Many varieties of birds, snakes, crocodiles and tortoises are found in the forests and rivers.

## Rivers and Passes In the Northern Mountains

Major rivers such as the Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Indus and Satluj flow from the Himalayas. These swift-flowing rivers of the Greater and the Middle Himalayas are used for producing electricity by building **dams** across them. In the plains, these rivers deposit rich soil and make the plains fertile for growing different crops.

A path through a mountain range is called a **pass**. People use these passes to cross a mountain. In the Northern Mountains, these passes are called **La**. Zoji La, Khardung La, Chang La, Nathu La and Shipki La are some of the important passes in the Northern Mountains.



*Zoji La Pass*



*Nathu La Pass*

## LIFE IN THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS

The Himalayas are spread over Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and the northern part of West Bengal, and the north-eastern states.

**Jammu and Kashmir** is the northernmost UT of India. It is cool in summer and extremely cold in winter. It receives heavy snowfall in winter. The major rivers that flow through the UT are Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi and Tawi. The languages spoken in this area are Kashmiri, Dogri, Urdu and Ladakhi. Srinagar is the summer capital and Jammu is the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir is famous for its snow-covered peaks and beautiful valleys. It is a popular tourist destination. It is well-known for its orchards, chinar forests and houseboats. Dal Lake and Wular Lake are two famous lakes in Jammu and Kashmir. Skiing in Gulmarg, trekking in Pahalgam and boating in *shikaras* in the Dal Lake are some activities that people enjoy doing in Jammu and Kashmir. The holy sites of Vaishno Devi and the Amarnath Caves are other important attractions in Jammu and Kashmir.

*Phiran* and *salwar* are the traditional clothes of men and women. During the long, cold winters, people carry *kangri*, a small pot filled with burning charcoal, under the clothes to keep themselves warm. They drink *kahwa*, a traditional green tea. The occupation of the people depends on the time of the year and the climate. They weave carpets, blankets, shawls and make handicrafts items from papier mache. Pashmina shawls, known for their high quality of wool, are also made in Jammu and Kashmir. People grow various fruits such as apples, peaches, plums, cherries and saffron (*kesar*).



People of Jammu and Kashmir



Shikara on the Dal Lake



People drink kahwa, a special tea

**Himachal Pradesh** has cool summers and very cold winters. It has snow-covered peaks, lush meadows, orchards and green valleys. Beas, Ravi, Satluj, Yamuna and Chenab are the main rivers that flow in Himachal Pradesh. Shimla is the capital of the state. It is also an important hill station. Dalhousie, Kullu and Manali are some of the other famous hill stations in Himachal Pradesh. Many people visit these hill stations during summer and winter. Trekking, river rafting and skiing are some activities that people enjoy doing here. The widely spoken languages in the region are Pahari, Dogri, Kangri and Hindi. Himachal Pradesh has the world's highest cricket ground located in Chail. The traditional clothes are colourful *phirans*, pyjamas, woollen caps and traditional scarves called *dhazu*. People grow rice, maize, barley, fruits and vegetables, and rear sheep and goats.



People of Himachal Pradesh



World's highest cricket ground at Chail

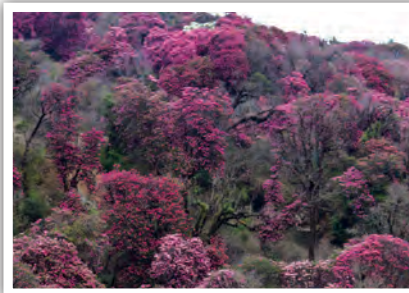


A view of Dalhousie in Winter

**Uttarakhand** is located at the foothills of the Himalayas. It has beautiful forests of oak trees and rhododendrons. Its capital is Dehradun. Kumaoni and Garhwali are the main languages spoken in Uttarakhand. It is famous for its hill stations such as Mussoorie, Nainital and Ranikhet. Gangotri, Yamunotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath are some famous places of pilgrimage located in the state. It is also called *Dev Bhumi* or 'land of gods'.



*People of Uttarakhand*



*Rhododendrons in the forest*



*A view of a valley in Uttarakhand*

**Sikkim** is the second smallest state of India. The weather varies from cool summers to cold winter. It gets a lot of rainfall during monsoon and landslides are very common here. Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim, is a beautiful hill station. Mount Kangchenjunga, the highest peak in India, is also located in Sikkim. The original inhabitants of Sikkim are Nepalese, Lepcha and Bhutia. Women in Sikkim wear long skirts called *boku* and heavy bead necklaces. Sikkim has fertile valleys and orchards. The Red Panda and the Himalayan Black Bear are two species that are found here. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of Sikkim and they grow cardamom, oranges, apples, tea, rice and orchids. Weaving is another major occupation in the state.

Darjeeling is a famous hill station in West Bengal. It lies to the south of Sikkim. It is famous for its tea gardens.



*People of Sikkim*



*Himalayan black bear (found in Sikkim)*



*Tea gardens in Darjeeling*

The seven states of the North-East are known as the 'seven sisters' and include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. These states lie in the Puravanchal Range of the Himalayas and receive very heavy rainfall throughout the year. People build stilt houses to protect themselves from the heavy rain and wild animals.

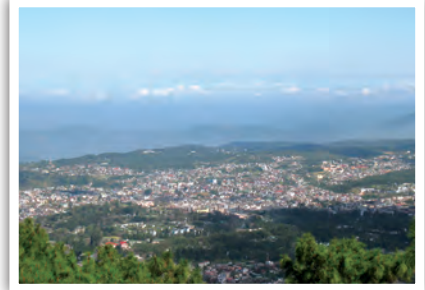
Agriculture is the main occupation of the people in the north-eastern states. They grow rice, jute, sugar cane, pineapple, potato, maize and fruits. Large areas are covered with bamboo trees, from which people make beautiful craft items. Shillong is a famous hill station and is known as the 'Scotland of the East'. Most of the hills in the north-eastern states are covered with thick forests. Wild animals such as elephants, bears, wild buffaloes, leopards and tigers are found in these forests.



A couple from North-East



Beautiful cane handicraft



A view of Shillong



## You Have Learnt

- The Himalayas and the Karakoram Ranges form the Northern Mountains.
- Himadri, Himachal and Shiwaliks are the three parallel ranges of the Himalayas.
- Mount Everest, in the Himalayas, is the highest peak in the world. It is located in Nepal. Mount Godwin Austen or K2, in the Karakoram Range, is the second-highest peak in the world.
- Mount Kangchenjunga is the third highest peak in the world.
- Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and the north-eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland lie in the Northern Mountains.



*glacier*: a slowly moving river-like body of ice  
*cultivate*: prepare and use land for growing crops  
*moisture-laden*: carrying water content  
*barrier*: an obstruction that prevents movement  
*foothill*: lowland at the bottom of a mountain or mountain range  
*timber*: wood used for building houses or furniture  
*dam*: a human-made barrier across a river

# EXERCISES



## Let Us Answer

**A** Choose the correct word from the help box and fill in the blanks.

Himachal Pradesh, Karakoram, Himalaya, Mount Godwin Austen,  
Mount Everest, Purvanchal

1. The ..... and the ..... Ranges form the Northern Mountains.
2. .... is the highest peak in the world.
3. Shimla, Kullu, Manali and Dalhousie are some hill stations in the state of .....
4. Garo, Khasi, Naga and Mizo are hills in the ..... Range.
5. .... is the second highest peak in the world.

**B** Write T for True and F for False.

1. The Himalayas are made up of four parallel mountain ranges.
2. The Outer Himalayas are also known as Himadri.
3. The Shiwaliks in the north-eastern states are called Purvanchal Range.
4. Glaciers in the Greater Himalayas are the source of many important rivers.
5. Pashmina shawls are made in Jammu and Kashmir.

**C** Think and answer the following questions.

1. You travel to a state where people wear *phiran* and *salwar*, drink *kahwa* and carry *kangri* to protect themselves from cold. It is famous for apples, peaches, plums and saffron (*kesar*). Name the state.
2. You visit the capital city of a state. This city is a famous hill station in north-east India. It is also called the 'Scotland of the East'. People make beautiful crafts from bamboo and cane. Name the city.
3. You travel to a state which is the second smallest state of India. It has animals such as Red Panda and the Himalayan Black Bear. Heavy rainfall and landslides are common here. Name the state.

**D** Answer the following questions in your exercise book.

1. Name the states that lie in the Himalayas.
2. Name the three parallel ranges that form the Himalayas.
3. Describe the vegetation in the three ranges of the Himalayas.
4. Write a short note on the rivers and passes of the Himalayas.



## Think Beyond

HOTS Question

In the mountains and hills, people cut out steps in the slopes and plant crops on these steps. Find out why this type of farming is done on the mountains and hills.



## Let Us Do

- A** Divide the class into groups of four. Assign each group a state that lies in the Northern Mountains. Each group will collect pictures and make a collage on the culture, food, clothing, people and occupations of the state assigned to them.
- B** Collect pictures and make a poster on the forests and wildlife found in the Northern Mountains.



## Life Skills

Thinking & Environmental Skills

Many forests in the Northern Mountains have been cut down for timber and agriculture. During heavy rains, the soil of the Northern Mountains is washed away and there are landslides. Share some ideas to prevent cutting down of trees and soil erosion.



## Map Work

On a map of India, mark the following: Mount K2, Mount Everest, Srinagar, Shimla, Nainital, Kangchenjunga, Darjeeling and Gangtok. You may refer to an atlas.



## Internet Links

- <http://www.importantindia.com/11790/the-northern-mountain-ranges-in-india/>
- <http://www.himalayamountains.com/>
- <http://www.kidsdiscover.com/spotlight/himalayas-kids/>



## Project Time

Imagine yourself as a tourist visiting the state of Sikkim, where you become friends with a Nepalese child. Write a tour diary describing 'A Day in the Life of a Nepalese Child'.