CREATE YOUR OWN COUNTRY
Activity 1: Physical Map

Things to do:
1. Select a real-world location to place your country. It could be an island out in a sea or ocean, or a country attached to the coast of a continent. You may not put it over the top of an existing country.
2. Draw the outline of your country in the box. Use a bold line. Create a name for your country and write in the name at the top of the box (use all capital letters).
3. Choose the scale. Your country should be between 300-2,500 miles in width and height. No more, no less. Create a scale of miles in the bottom right hand corner of the box.
4. Draw in the lines of latitude and longitude. Make this as accurate as possible! Use a ruler to ensure your lines are straight. (1 degree of latitude = 100 miles)
5. Label the bordering areas around your country - body(ides) of water, or other countries.
6. Create an elevation key similar to the one on pg. 120 of the textbook. Have a minimum of 4 levels of elevation. Color in each level of the elevation key. Don’t use blue - it is for water.
7. Choose how you want the landscape of your country to look. Use a pencil and lightly draw in the elevation areas of your country. Use all levels of land. Draw in rivers and lakes in your country. Color in your features. Start with the lowest elevations. Color rivers, lakes, seas, and oceans blue. If your country borders another country, lightly shade in the other country in a color that isn’t on your elevation key.
8. Create names for and label the physical features of your country such as rivers, lakes, mountain ranges, peaks, deserts, plains regions, gulfs, bays, etc. (Reminder, names of oceans are always in capital letters).
Things to do:
1. Draw your country and draw in the lines of latitude and longitude.
2. Draw the scale of miles and a compass rose.
3. Draw in your lakes and rivers and color them blue.
4. Divide your country into states, provinces, or territories. (Have a minimum of three). Draw in the borders for these areas and name them (all capital letters).
5. Place five to ten cities in your country. Use a star with a circle around it to show your national capital, a star for state/provincial/territorial capitals, and a dot for other cities. (When deciding on locations for cities, refer to your physical map for guidance. Most cities are located in lowland or flat regions with good access to water. If you have a city at a high elevation, make sure it’s in a valley or on a plateau). Create a key that shows the symbols for your cities (use the key on pg. 192 as an example).
6. Color in each region (state, province, or territory) on your map using different colors.
7. Label the areas surrounding your country (bodies of water or other countries) and color them.
CREATE YOUR OWN COUNTRY
Activity 3: Population Density Map

Things to do:
1. Draw your country and draw in the lines of latitude and longitude.
2. Draw the scale of miles and a compass rose.
3. Find a population density map in the textbook to look at as an example for this map.
   (Pg. 73 has a population density map)
4. Create a key similar to the one in the book. Your key should have colors representing population density (number of people per square mile), and symbols for cities that show their range of population. You don’t need to use the same colors and symbols shown in the book. You may create your own. Also, if you’ve put cities on your political map that are smaller than 250,000 people, you may create symbols for those smaller cities and towns.
5. Place all your cities on the map along with the appropriate symbol for the population of that city.
6. Decide on which areas of your country are more heavily populated than others and draw in lines to represent the boundaries between population density regions. Color your map using the colors from your key. (Note: keep the physical landscape of your country in mind as you determine your high, middle, and low density regions. Plains, valleys, and coastal regions typically have higher densities than highland, swampy, or desert regions).
Things to do:

1. Draw your country and draw in the lines of latitude and longitude.
2. Draw the scale of miles and a compass rose.
3. Find an economic activity and resources map in the textbook to look at as an example. (Pg. 272).
4. The colors in the legend represent how the land is being utilized. Decide on what economic activities will occur in certain regions of your country. Keep the physical landscape of your country in mind as you create this map. For example, you wouldn’t likely have commercial farming or fishing in a mountainous or a desert landscape. Also, notice that regions of manufacturing and trade are usually around urban areas. Create a color key for your map showing the various land uses (economic activities) for your country and color your map accordingly.
5. The symbols in the legend represent what natural resources are found in an area. Decide on what natural resources are in your country. Create symbols for these resources and place them in your key and also on your map. You may use the same symbols as in the book, or create your own symbols.
CREATE A COUNTRY
Activity 9: Human Geography
Use your maps to answer these questions. Be sure the maps support your answers.

**Name of your country** __________________________________________

**Where People Live**
1. How many people live in your country? ____________________________
2. Where do the people live? Decide how many live in each place.
   a. How many people live in urban areas? ___________________________
   b. How many people live in the largest city? ________________________
   c. How many people live in rural areas ____________________________

**The Economy and Employment**
1. What are the main types of jobs that people have in your country?
   _______________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________

2. What kinds of crops are grown in your country for export to other countries and what kinds of crops are imported into your country?
   _______________________________________________________________

3. What natural resources are exported out of your country and what resources does your Country import?
   _______________________________________________________________

**Culture**
1. What is the official language of your country? ________________
   What percentages of the people speak this language? _____________
   What other languages are spoken in your country? _______________
   What percentage of the people speak these other languages? __________

2. What is the dominant religion in your country? _________________
   (Look at the world religion map on p. 103 to help you decide what religion(s) are in your country)
   What percentages of the people follow this religion? _______________
   What other religious groups are in your country? _________________
   What percentages of people follow these other religions? ___________

3. Describe the kinds of sports, games, and recreational activities that are played in your
4. List 4 holidays that are observed in your country. (At least two of them need to be made-up). List the name of the holiday, its date, and describe it.

#1
#2
#3
#4

5. Describe the kinds of food that are eaten in your country. What are the staple foods in people’s diets? Are there any customs or rituals associated with meal times that are part of your country’s culture? Are there special foods that are prepared for holidays?

6. Describe the kinds of clothing people wear in your country. What are the latest fashions and trends with clothing and jewelry? Does your country have traditional clothing that people wear for festivals and holidays?

Draw examples of a typical man’s and woman’s attire:
CREATE A COUNTRY
Activity 5: Climate Map

Things to do:
1. Draw your country and draw in the lines of latitude and longitude.
2. Draw the scale of miles and a compass rose.
3. Turn to the World Climate Map on pgs. 62.
4. Create a climate key - the key doesn’t need to have all the climate types; rather, it only needs the climate types that cover your country.
5. Draw in the boundaries for the various climate zones of your country and color them according to your key. Keep in mind all the various factors that influence climate:
   - Latitude: The further away from the equator the cooler the climate and less precipitation.
   - Currents: Ocean currents can warm up or cool down a region. Notice the direction of flow for the major ocean currents of the world.
   - Winds: Depending on whether the winds blow from the ocean or from a landmass affects the amount of precipitation a region receives. Also, winds take on the temperature of ocean currents as they pass over them, which too can impact a region’s climate. Check the Pressure and Wind Systems diagram on p. 43.
   - Nearness to water: Places that are near large bodies of water (coasts) have a more even temperature year round and usually receive more precipitation. Places in the center of large landmasses usually have a greater range of temperatures throughout the year and are often drier.
   - Elevation: Air cools 3.5 degrees for every 1,000 feet of elevation. A place could be in the equatorial zone, and yet have a highland climate due to elevation.
   - Landforms: A large mountain range might block warm winds that are striking the coast of a region, thus creating a rainy climate on the windward side, and a desert on the leeward side.
CREATE A COUNTRY
Activity 7: Physical Geography
Use your maps to answer these questions. Be sure the maps support your answers.
Name of your country ______________________________________________________________

**Geographic Features.** Write a description of each feature. Be sure to use complete sentences. Tell as much as you can about your country.

1. Land features:
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

2. Water features:
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

3. Rainfall: (see pgs. 61-63)
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

4. Temperature: (see pgs. 61-63)
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

5. Vegetation: (see pg. 63)
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

**Wildlife.**
What types of wildlife - animals, birds, insects, reptiles, marine life - are found in your country? Which regions of the country would you find most of the wildlife? Which species are endangered in your country? Make sure your animals can live in your climate. (NO polar bears in a Tropical Jungle)

   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
**Natural Disasters:** Explain the types of natural disasters that have occurred in your country, or have the potential to occur there.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

**Tourist Highlights.** List at least three places that tourists should be sure to visit. Explain why they should see them.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Activity: 7 Physical Geography
Tourism Advertisement
Create a poster which advertises one of your country’s tourist highlights. Draw a picture of that tourist attraction as part of your poster. Make your tourist attraction sound as appealing as possible.
CREATE A COUNTRY
Activity 8: Political Geography

Use your maps to answer these questions. Be sure the maps support your answers.

Name of your country ____________________________________________

Government
Read the handout on types of government. Determine and explain which type of government authority and which type of economic system governs your country.

Government: ________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Economic System:
___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Explain how long your country has been governed this way, and what previous systems existed in your country. What political events have led to a change in government? Explain. Has another country ever been in control of your country and how and when were you able to gain independence from them?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Borders
1. Describe the borders of your country. (Where is it located, what’s around it, etc.)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. Describe the state borders inside your country.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

States
Answer these questions about the states in your country.

1. Which state has the largest population? ______________________

2. Which state has the smallest population? ____________________

3. In which state does your national capital lie? ________________

4. Which state has the most natural resources? ________________
5. Which state depends on tourism? ______________________
6. Which state has the most agricultural land? ______________
7. Which state is the most scenic? _________________________
8. Which state has the most political influence? ______________

**Relations with neighboring countries.**

1. Which countries are your allies? (List at least four - two must be real countries)
   ______________________________________________________

2. Which countries are your enemies? (List at least four - two must be real countries)
   ______________________________________________________
   Explain why your country is in conflict with these other countries.
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

**Country facts and statistics**
(See the Standard of Living chart on pg. 286 for examples)
Literacy Rate: __________ Infant Mortality rate:________
Per Capita GDP: ________________
Life Expectancy Male: ________________ Life Expectancy Female:________
Activity 8: Political Geography
National Symbols
(You must also include pictures - drawings or cutouts - of these symbols)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flower</th>
<th>Tree/Plant</th>
<th>Bird</th>
<th>Animal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity #10 - Reflection Essay

Respond to the essay questions with complete sentences and include the questions as part of your response. Please use a pen or type your reflection essay.

Why do you think I had you do the Create a Country project? (Learning objectives).
Evaluate the project - what was the easiest and the hardest activities and why?
What was your favorite and least favorite activities and why?
What would you change about the project if your could?
What did you learn about geography?
How did your project turn out?
What part of it are you most proud of and least proud of?
What grade would you give your project and why?

When your are finished with your reflection essay, create a TITLE PAGE and a TABLE OF CONTENTS for your project.

Title Page should include the name of the project (Create a Country), your country name, your name, date, and period. Also include a picture or graphic (outline of your country, the flag, national symbol, etc.).

Table of Contents page should list the titles of the 9 activities.

Put all of your project activities into the folder that was given to you and prepare to turn it in tomorrow.