

INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to the wonderful world of geography! Utilizing geography in the study of history is a key element in helping history make sense. There is an old adage: “We fear what we don’t understand.” The traditional way of memorizing names, dates, and places, didn’t help ease that fear, either! Instead, we memorized for tests, usually promptly forgetting the information, and rarely becoming interested in the topics because we had no time to delve into them and understand them on a personal level. There are two key initial elements that help gain an understanding of history in a way that lays a foundation to explore it further. This way, the child develops not just an interest, but hopefully a passion to know more.

UNDERSTANDING HISTORY (AND LIKING IT!)

History is made of stories and legacies from a different time and place. Each story taught is like a puzzle piece—it has its own shape, size, and image, but may pose a challenge when trying to connect it to other stories, making it a random happening or isolated event. In order to make sense, these “happenings” need to go from random to concrete, and that’s where these two important elements come in. *Timelines* are used to plot the “when” in history; a crucial piece of information to determine how the story will make sense to its surroundings before and after. *Mapping*, in turn, plots the “where.” This is necessary for placing the story at its location. Like a sailor measuring latitude and longitude to determine a distinct destination, timelines and mapping define a context that allows us to navigate history through both time and place. Now a child (or an adult!) has a concrete framework to build his knowledge upon, and those puzzle pieces of “random happenings” can be joined together to build a bigger, more meaningful picture.

OUR MAPS

Our Olde World Style World Maps come in two categories: Ancient (or “Early”) and Modern. Ancient maps offer physical characteristics such as mountain ranges, and no political borders (with the exception of *Ancient China*, in order to distinguish it from Mongolia and the rest of Asia). Modern maps have political boundaries as they would be seen today. However, boundaries do still move and countries are still claiming independence, so be aware that there may be discrepancies at times.

We also offer most maps in three formats: with labels, without labels, and without labels nor a title. This allows your students to use the map that best fits their needs. All Modern maps have a “labeled map” as an option. Several of the Ancient maps do as well, as there were distinct time periods that were classic to each one. However, a handful of maps were handled a little differently. *Ancient Africa*, *Early Europe*, and *Early Europe and the Near East* had kingdoms, empires, and boundaries changing enough that it was hard to pin down one time period that stood out among the others. As for *Ancient China*, we opted instead to include smaller maps showing 10 dynasties that spanned the history of the empire. For *Ancient Israel*, we also offer borders and labeled maps showing two eras: *The Twelve Tribes of Israel*, and *Palestine at the Time of Jesus Christ*. Maps with no labels allow the child to fill in the details himself. From physical features to cities and capitals, the child has control.

Maps with no titles offer many options! Atlases will help you with your research on different topics. Historic atlases are designed to show territories and boundaries at different times through history. Chart the Silk Route or the Crusades, show barbarian invasions or the storming of Normandy! Ocean maps offer options for mapping water routes or weather patterns, and even the Arctic and Antarctic maps allow you to illustrate Robert Peary’s trek to the North Pole, or Ernest Shackleton’s attempt to reach the South Pole. The choices are endless!

INTRODUCTION: CONTINUED...

USING THE MAPS

Our maps can be printed in several ways, adding more variety to your choices. Of course there is the standard way of printing a map on white paper, but once you change the color, you change the feel of it altogether! Print our Olde World maps on ivory or parchment paper and suddenly you have a map that appears like it was from centuries ago! The map on the cover of this CD case was created by printing the map on a speckled stock, and coloring it in with watercolor pencils. Although you can use markers or crayons to color the maps, colored pencils work best to maintain readability, while allowing a range of color and attention to detail.

Include your maps in your 3-ring binders with your other study materials on a topic, or add them to projects such as Lap Books™! If you are unfamiliar with a Lap Book™, it is a file folder containing paper projects on individual lessons, culminating into one “portfolio” on a topic. (*Visit our website to view photos of various Lap Books™ there! www.homeschoolinthewoods.com*) Maps are always a welcome addition to a Lap Book™ and can be attached as a panel or reduced on a copier or in your printer commands to fit the size you need. You can even use maps as game boards! Use stickers to create a path traveling around the map. Then create questions regarding your studies that have to be answered correctly before each player can advance his marker!

USING THE NOTEBOOKING PAGES

As a bonus to you, we have included over 40 notebooking pages to aid in making your studies more fun! There are several “generic” pages with no title, but ruling and placement for pictures or unique borders. There are others that call for answers to be researched and filled in, such as *Flora and Fauna, Languages, Daily Life, Geography*, and others. And yet others lend themselves to reports or essays, such as *Explorers of the World, Holidays and Christmas, Missionaries, People of the Past*, and more. You can use your talents in creative writing with the *Brochure, Postcard, or Newspaper*. The *Country Fact Sheet* and *Seven Wonders of the Ancient World* involves cutting and pasting, too! And who doesn't love to try a little cooking from another culture? Use the *Recipes* page to record recipes of dishes from around the world! Most notebooking pages are offered with either ruled lines or dashed lines. Most notebooking pages are self explanatory or can be used for several purposes. Here are a few notes to help you with some of the additional pages:

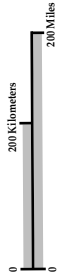
Country Fact Sheet: Research information on each country and fill in the blanks. Flags and miniature graphic maps are provided to print in color and cut out to paste into the appropriate blocks on each sheet.

Seven Wonders of the Ancient World: Cut out the images on the second page and adhere to the main page. List the titles in the blanks provided.

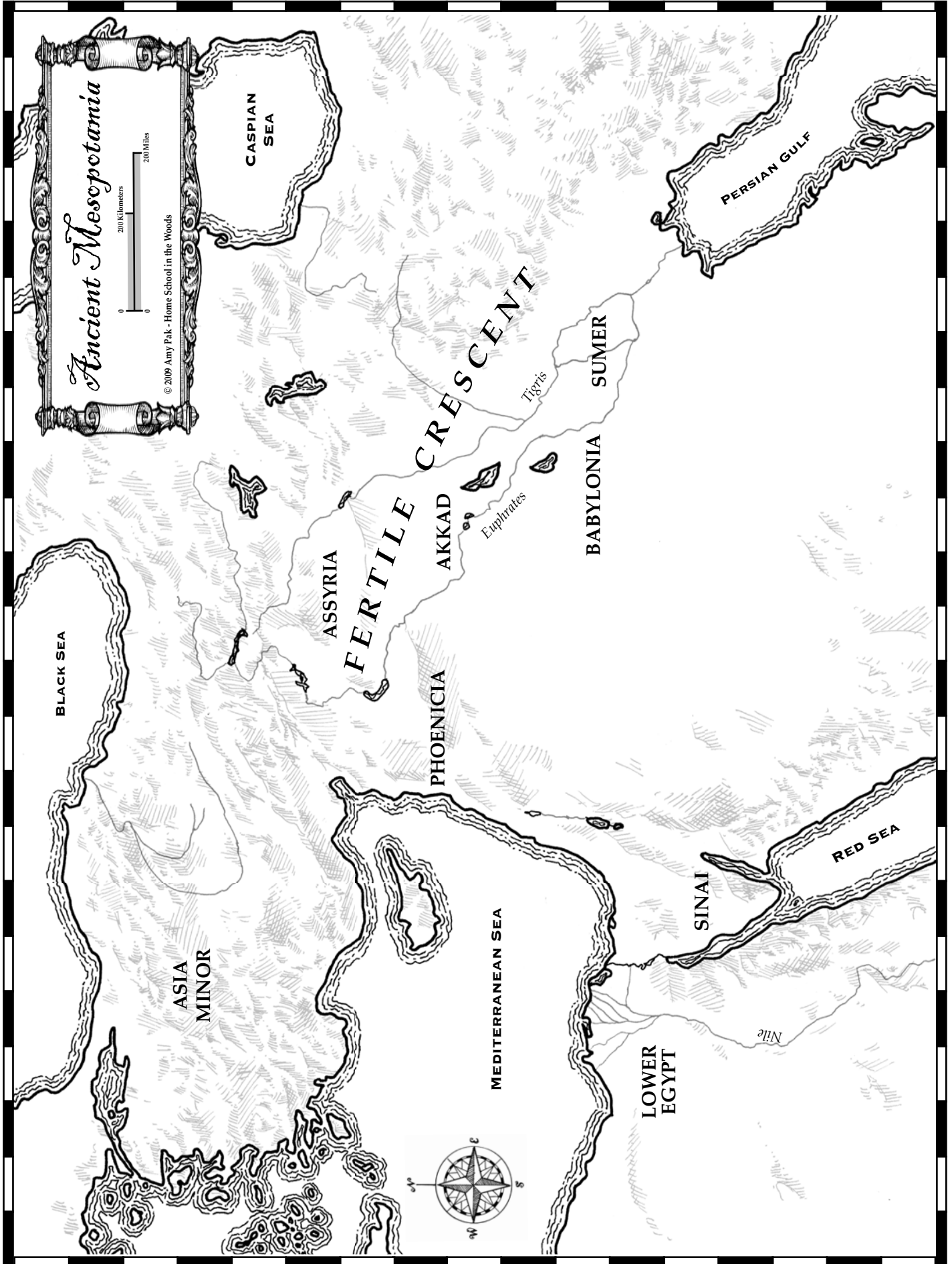
Geography Page: Research and answer the questions, or use the Teacher Key as a guide.

Brochure: Pretend you are a real estate agent selling a person on moving to another country! Print the brochure front with the brochure back on the reverse side. Be sure to align to face the same direction. Cut out on the lines and fold into a 3-fold brochure. Research information about the country to add into the brochure. Don't forget to add pictures!

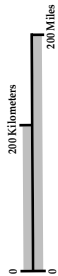
Ancient Mesopotamia



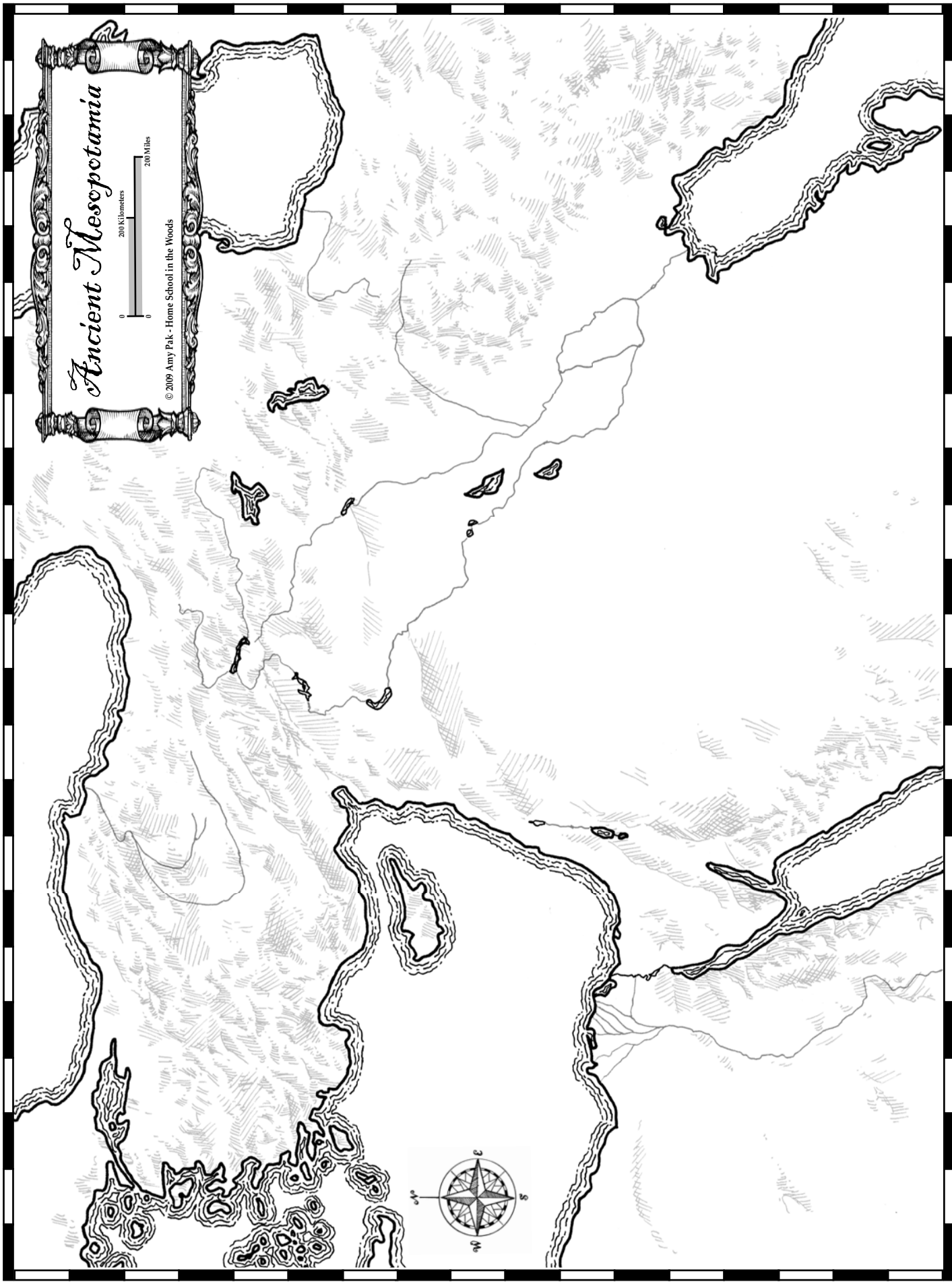
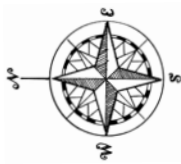
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Ancient Mesopotamia



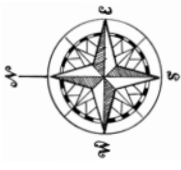
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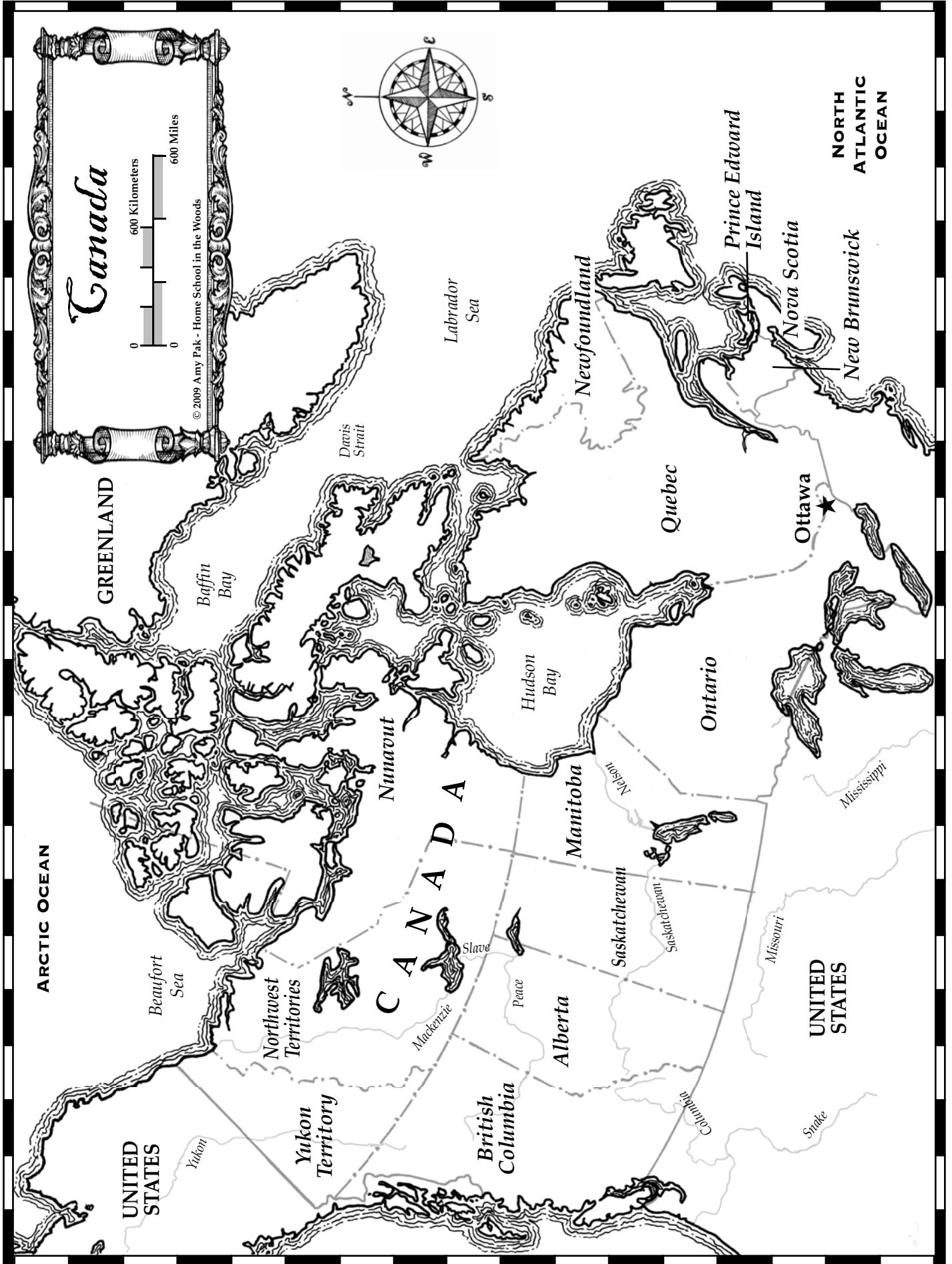




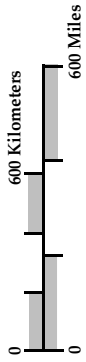
0 200 Kilometers 200 Miles

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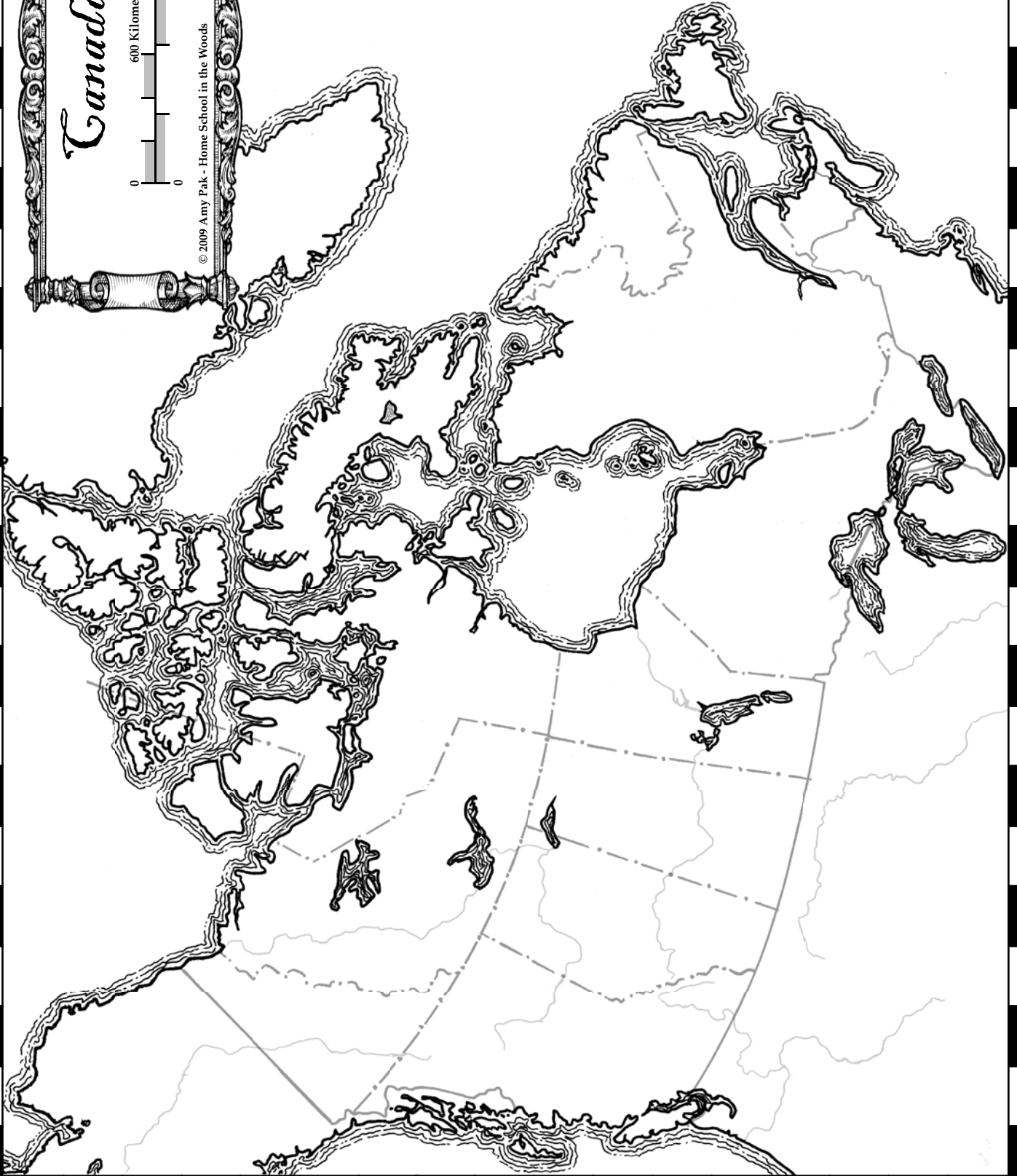
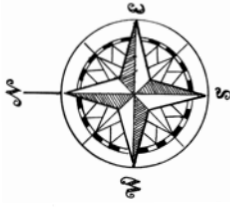


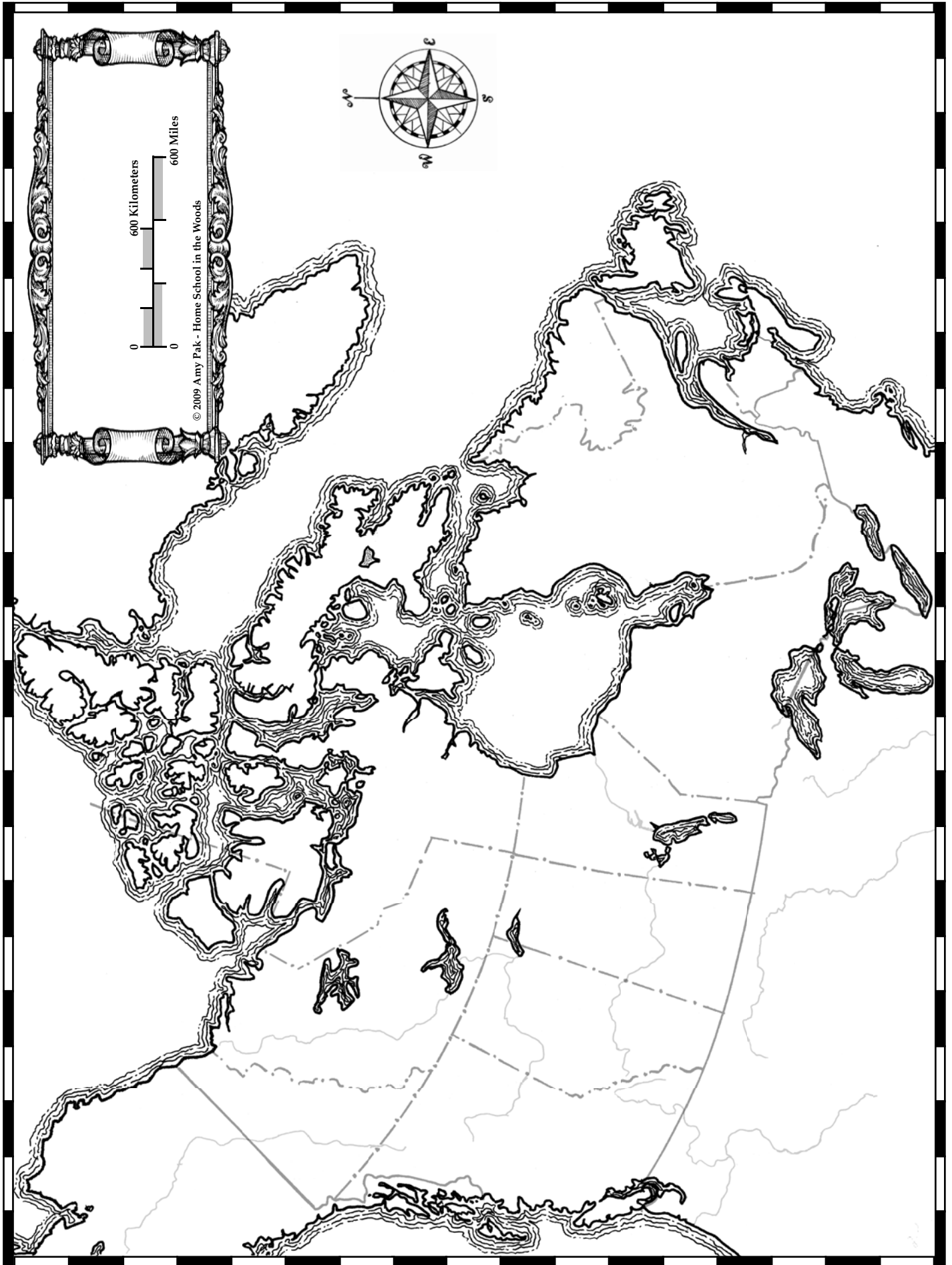


Canada



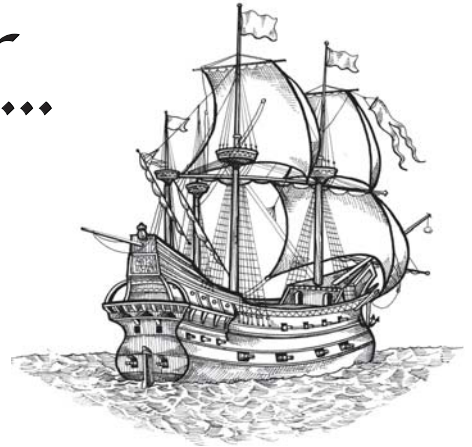
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Explorers of the World...

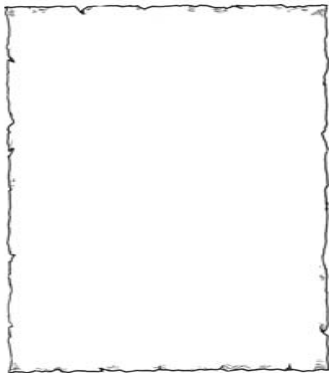


Explorer to: _____



“I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward.” – David Livingstone

Explorers of the World...

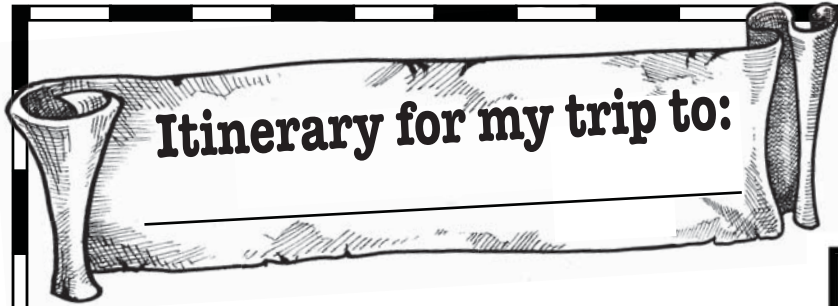


Explorer to: _____

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line. There are ten sets of these lines stacked vertically.



"I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward." – David Livingstone



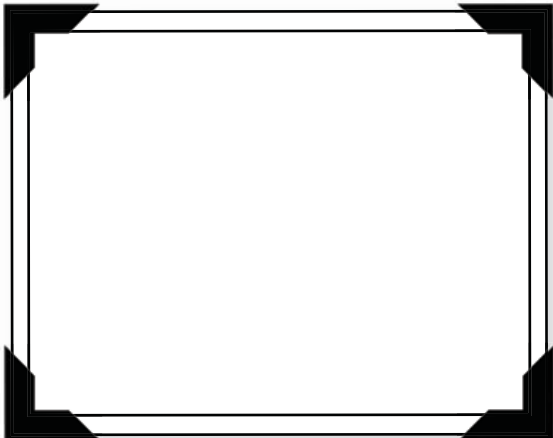
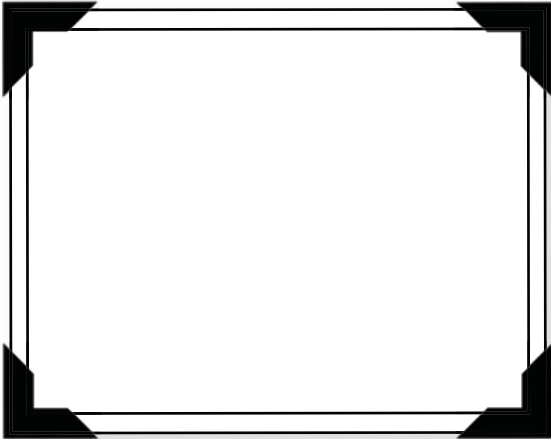
Name: _____

Date: _____

Cities to Visit & Places of Interest:

Buildings, Museums & Architecture to Tour:

Landmarks and Monuments: _____



Favorite Foods of the Area: _____

People to Meet: _____

My Favorite Discoveries: _____

