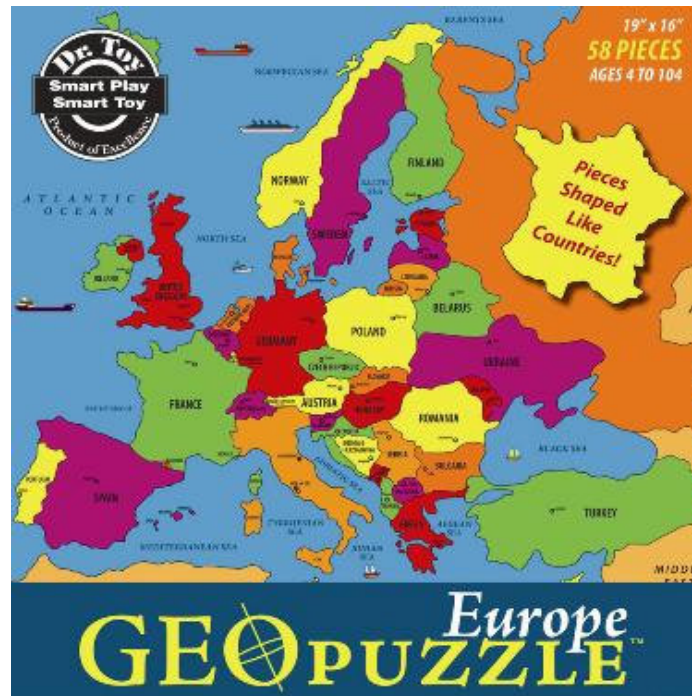


GeoPuzzle Europe Parent/Teacher Resource Guide



Introduction

This guide is designed for teachers and parents of children ages 5-10 to be used with the Asia GeoPuzzle. Combining the assembling of the GeoPuzzle with some of the following questions and activities will enrich the learning experience.

Teachers and parents are more than welcome to reproduce, modify, cut and paste any portion of this guide. It is designed more as an outline than anything else, and we've kept it in Microsoft Word format so it can be easily changed to suit your needs. All we ask is that if you have any other ideas, please share them with us at guides@geotoystore.com, so we can improve this guide for others.

About GeoPuzzles

GeoPuzzles are jigsaw puzzles that make learning world geography fun! The pieces of a GeoPuzzle are shaped like individual countries, so children learn as they put the puzzle together! Award-winning Geopuzzles help to build fine motor, cognitive, language, and problem-solving skills, and are a great introduction to world geography for children 4 and up. Designed by an art professor, jumbo sized and brightly colored GeoPuzzles are available for 5 major continents.

A Few Facts about Europe

- Europe is the smallest continent other than Australia, covering only 4.2 million square miles. The U.S. by itself is 3.5 million square miles.
- The population of Europe (including Russia) is 728 million, compared to 300 million in the United States. Roughly one in every ten people on Earth is European.
- Russia is the most populous country in Europe at 143 million, and the largest country in the world in terms of area.
- Hundreds of years ago, wealthy Europeans lived in castles. You can still find hundreds of castles all over Europe.



GeoPuzzle Discussion Questions

Geography:

1. Which country is shaped like a boot?
2. Which European countries are islands?
3. Europe has some very small countries—can you find some of them in the puzzle?
4. Which countries border the Black Sea?
5. What country borders Spain on the West?
6. What large country is just East of Germany?
7. The Aegean Sea is between Greece and which other country?
8. Even though Europe is considered a continent, it is the only one that is not completely surrounded by water. What part of Europe is bordered by land?
9. Name some of the oceans and seas that border the rest of Europe

- The Caspian Sea is actually the world's largest lake and is the lowest point in Europe. Can you find it on the puzzle? What's the biggest lake near your home?
- The Vatican City is the smallest country in Europe, and is located within the city of Rome, in Italy.
 - Can you find Rome on your map?
 - What important world figure lives at the Vatican City? (*the Pope*)

Population

- The largest country in Europe is Russia. The second largest is Germany, with 80 million people.
- London, in the United Kingdom, is the largest city in Europe, with 11 million people.
- How many people live in your city? In your state? In the United States?

Familiarity w/ Europe

- Is anyone in the class from Europe? Or have parents or grandparents from Europe? Has anyone been to Europe? What about other continents?
- European food
 - What country is spaghetti from? Hint: the same country gave us pizza, ravioli, and lasagna
 - What country gave the hamburger its name?
 - What European country has hundreds of different kinds of cheese?
- Can you name any German-made cars? Did you know that these cars were made by German companies:
Audi, Mercedes, BMW, Volkswagen, Porsche


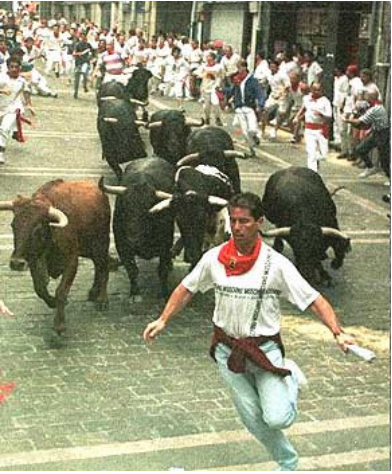


MATCH THE COUNTRY WITH ITS CAPITAL

Country	Capital
1. Spain	Skopje
2. France	Ljubljana
3. Serbia and Montenegro	Belgrade
4. Macedonia	Madrid
5. Albania	Copenhagen
6. Estonia	Belgrade
7. Latvia	Warsaw
8. Lithuania	Paris
9. Czech Republic	Oslo
10. Slovakia	Moscow
11. Hungary	Bucharest
12. Croatia	Bratislava
13. Slovenia	Vilnius
14. Serbia and Montenegro	Minsk
15. Bulgaria	Andorra la Vella
16. Romania	Budapest
17. Moldova	Stockholm
18. Ukraine	Nicosia
19. Belarus	Belgrade
20. Bosnia and Herzegovina	Brussels
21. Russia	Zagreb
22. Poland	Riga
23. Cyprus	Kiev
24. Ireland	Ankara
25. Denmark	London
26. Norway	Prague
27. Sweden	Chisinau
28. Andorra	Sofia
29. Holy See	Luxembourg
30. Greece	Tallinn
31. Turkey	Dublin
32. Montenegro	Athens
33. Luxembourg	Vatican City
34. United Kingdom	Tirana
35. Belgium	Sarajevo

Europe Neat Facts

Here are some neat facts about European countries. Can you look in an almanac, or atlas, another book, or on the Internet, and fill in a neat fact of your own?

Country	Neat Fact
Turkey	<p>In Turkey, many men wear small hats called a “fez” that looks like this:</p> 
Spain	<p>Pamplona, Spain is famous for “The Running of the Bulls”, an annual event where bulls chase people through the streets.</p> 

Country	Neat Fact

Internet Resources

CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

World population clock: www.ibiblio.org/lunarbin/worldpop

Geography World: <http://hometown.aol.com/bowermanb/101.html>

Mr. Dowling's Passport: <http://www.mrdowling.com/708europe.html>

Answers to Questions: