

Expo Week 2 Research – Geography – Canada (Sample Research)

- 1) Canada is located in the northern hemisphere on the western side of the Earth on the continent of North America.
- 2) Canada is bordered by the United States of America on the south and in the northwest (Alaska). To the west, Canada is bordered by the Pacific Ocean, to the east sits the Atlantic Ocean, and in the north is the Arctic Ocean.
- 3) There are many mountains in Canada. The major mountain ranges are the Rockies through British Columbia and Alberta, the Laurentians which run through southern Quebec, and the Appalachians of southern Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.
- 4) There is a vast area of plains and prairie running through Alberta, Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. Canada, being a northern country, does not have deserts of any substantial area, however, parts of the Okanagan in southern British Columbia receive very little rainfall during the year and are extremely hot in the summer months.
- 5) Canada is 9, 984, 670 square kilometers in area. It is the second largest country, by size, in the world.
- 6) Canada's two greatest rivers are the St. Lawrence, which empties into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Mackenzie, which empties into the Arctic Ocean. The Mackenzie River is 4, 241 kilometers long and is one of the longest rivers in the world. They are the second and third largest rivers, in terms of volume of discharge, in North America. Locally, the Fraser River (which helped to create both Richmond and Delta), is an important lifeline (both with sea travel and for providing rich soil) for our history.
- 7) Besides the oceans mentioned above, Hudson Bay is located above Ontario and Quebec. It is the second largest Bay in the world, and it is considered part of the North Atlantic Ocean. The largest lakes in Canada, of which there are many, include the Great Slave Lake & Great Bear Lake (in the Northwest Territories), Lake Winnipeg (in Manitoba), and the Great Lakes (Superior, Ontario, Huron, Erie) which are in central Canada draining off from the St. Lawrence River.
- 8) Mount Logan, located in the Yukon Territory, is the highest peak in Canada. It is 5959 meters (5.959 km) high. There are more than 100 national parks and historic sites Canada. Canada is so large that it has six time zones spanning from the west coast of BC to the east coast of Newfoundland. Canada is nearly 40 times larger, in land size, than the United Kingdom!



The Geography of Canada

Canada is a vast, beautiful country that we call home. It is the second largest country, by size, in the world and its geography is as diverse and interesting as any place on Earth.

Canada is an astonishing 9, 984, 670 square kilometers in size and it is located in the northern hemisphere on the western side of the Earth. It is located on the continent of North America and is bordered by the United States of America to the south and the northwest. The Pacific Ocean borders Canada on the west while on the east sits the Atlantic Ocean. In the north, the Arctic Ocean surrounds our northern tip and Greenland borders our northeastern shoreline.

Huge areas of mountains, forests, plains, and tundra cover much of our country. The major mountain ranges are the Rockies in British Columbia and Alberta, the Laurentians of southern Quebec, and the Appalachians of Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces. The Rocky Mountains, alone, are over 4830 kilometers long and stretch all the way to the tip of Mexico. The highest peak in Canada at 5959 meters is Mount Logan which is located in the Yukon Territory. There are also large areas of plains and prairie running through Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and the Northwest Territories. Canada, being a northern country, does not have any deserts of any substantial size; however, parts of the Okanagan in southcentral British Columbia receive very little rainfall during the year and are extremely hot in the summer months. Arctic tundra, where ice and permafrost seep, covers a great deal of the northern territories of Canada. As a result of these natural features, much of Canada is uninhabitable. That is the major reason why there are so few people living in our country despite its enormous land area!

Canada is also home to a great deal of fresh and saltwater bodies of water within our borders. Our two largest rivers are the St. Lawrence, which empties into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Mackenzie, which empties into the Arctic Ocean. The Mackenzie River is 4, 241 kilometers long and is one of the longest rivers in the world. They are the second and third largest rivers, in terms of volume of discharge, in North America. Locally, the Fraser River (which helped to create both Richmond and Delta), is an important lifeline (both with sea travel and for providing rich soil) for our history.

Besides the three oceans that border our land, Hudson Bay is located above Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and beside Nunavut. It is the second largest Bay in the world, (next to the Bay of Bengal in India) and it is considered part of the North Atlantic Ocean. The largest lakes in Canada, of which there are many, include the Great Slave Lake & Great Bear Lake (in the Northwest Territories), Lake Winnipeg (in Manitoba), and the Great Lakes (Superior, Ontario, Huron, Erie) which are in central Canada draining off from the St. Lawrence River. Lake Superior, the largest lake in Canada, is over 82,000 square kilometers in size and is the world's third-largest freshwater lake.

These are only a few of the geographical sites of Canada. It is such a large country that it has over 6 time zones that stretch from the west coast of British Columbia to the east coast of Newfoundland. Our country is over 25 times larger than the islands of Japan but we have ¼ the amount of people!

