



Ambrose Goes International

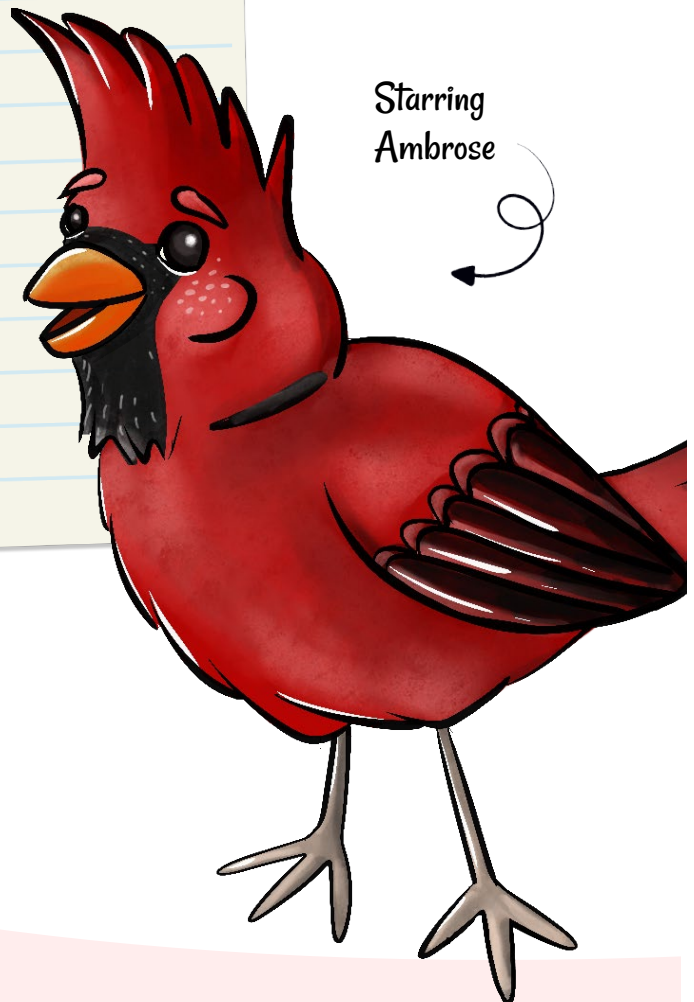
a story-based map skills unit

Ambrose is ready to go international!
Help him explore all seven continents and learn the difference between a continent, a country, and a state along the way.

What You'll Find Inside

- Four story pages
- Continent/Country/State Worksheet
- Map Skill Activity
- Bonus: Bingo Game

Starring
Ambrose



Let's Go International!

Dear Fellow Traveler,

I was flying over Argentina last week when something exciting suddenly occurred to me! You and I explored Storylark Road together, and even went on our very own pirate adventure ... but there is still a whole wide *world* out there just waiting for us to discover! Are you with me?

Hooray! BUT ... before we start flapping off in every direction, I need to understand how the world is actually organized. As you know, despite being a cardinal named after the **compass rose**, I am still not the best navigator. And since you already helped me live out my explorer dreams, I am counting on you again!

This is what I've learned so far: the world is divided into larger sections called **continents** and **countries**, as well as smaller sections called **states** (in the US) or **provinces** (in some other countries). I had no idea! I've been trying to wrap my birdy brain around it, but so far I haven't come up with the perfect analogy to keep them straight.

I've decided to enlist the help of Thaddeus, our neighborhood traveler. He's been adventuring all over the United States, so I'll bet he can help us make sense of it all.

You'll be hearing from Thaddeus soon!

- Ambrose



Geography Terms to Know

continent - A large, solid mass of land, like Africa or Asia. There are seven continents.

country - Land that is controlled by its own government, like the United States or Canada. Countries are separated by borders.

state - A smaller region within a country that often has its own local government, like Texas or Florida.

province - Similar to a state. Some countries, like Canada and China, call their smaller regions provinces instead of states.

compass rose - A symbol on a map that shows directions (North, South, East, West) to help with navigation.

mainland - The largest part of a continent or country, not including its islands.



Build Your Own Compass Rose

If your student has difficulties with cardinal directions, grab [our FREE map skills unit](#)! Your student can label and cut out their own compass rose. It might come in handy later on!

[Click Here to Download!](#)

Hello from Thaddeus!

A little bird told me that Ambrose is having trouble understanding the difference between a **continent**, a **country**, and a **state**, and he needs *your* help before he can start exploring the world. Luckily, you've come to the right expert—me, Thaddeus, world traveler and all-around genius. Now, the best way to understand anything is with food, of course. And what's better than pizza?

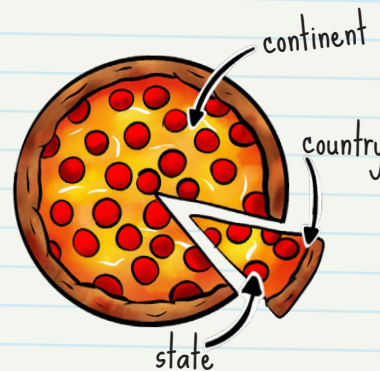
Ahem. Let me explain. Imagine that a **continent** is one giant pizza. There are seven pizzas (continents) in the world: **Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, and Australia.**

Now, let's look at **North America**, one of those seven pizza-continents. The **United States** is a country on the continent of North America. But did you know North America contains 23 countries? That's right! Along with the United States, there's Canada and Mexico on the **mainland**, along with Central American countries like Belize and Costa Rica and islands like Greenland and Cuba!



So if North America is a pizza ... then the **countries** are the slices! North America has 23 slices (countries), and one of those slices is the United States.

Now think of your favorite pizza topping. Mine? Tuna niblets! If a slice of pizza is a country, then each topping is a **state**! (Some countries, like Canada, call their toppings *provinces* instead of *states*.) Each slice will have a different number of toppings. There are 50 states in the United States, which means one pizza slice (the United States) is covered with 50 toppings (the states). Now that's my kind of pizza!



Quick Recap:

Continent = a whole pizza


Country = a slice (countries make up a continent)

State (or Province) = a topping (states or provinces make up a country)



I've included a map of North America so you can test your knowledge. Ambrose tells me he wants to fly to every continent. If only I had wings! But no matter ... I've been traveling the states in some rather unusual ways. Have you ever ridden in a motorized covered wagon? No? Well, neither had I—until last week in New Mexico!

Good luck, explorer!

 Thaddeus

Continents, Countries, and States

Test your knowledge! In Thaddeus's letter, we learned that the world is made up of large land masses called *continents*, which are divided first into *countries* and then into smaller sections called *states* (or *provinces*). Here's a map of North America divided into the three mainland countries: Canada, United States, and Mexico. 1) **Circle the entire continent.** 2) **Locate and point to a country.** 3) **Locate and point to a state.** 4) **Fill in the blanks below.**



The continent that I live on:

The country that I live in:

The state/province that I live in:

Draw a line to match each definition with the term.

State

A large, solid mass of land, like Africa or Asia. There are seven of these.

Country

A smaller region within a country that often has its own local government, like Texas or Florida. (Some countries call their smaller regions *provinces*.)

Continent

Land that is controlled by its own government and has borders, like the United States or Canada.

There's a Whole World to Explore!

Dear Fellow Traveler,

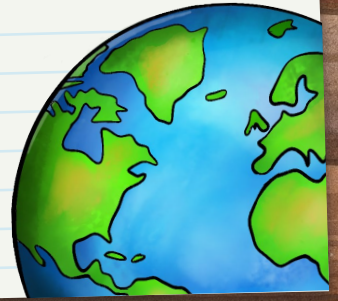
Great work on the map of North America! I feel like I can finally see how everything fits together. But now I have a huge idea—why stop at just one continent? Why not visit them all?!

I've been studying world maps and have become quite the expert on map coordinates. If we follow the right directions, we can fly all the way around the globe and land on each of the seven continents.

I'll be sending you a world map with a grid and some flight instructions. And the best part? We'll keep track of our travels in a special Continent Passport! I've sent it to you in this letter, at the bottom of the page. Cut it out, stack the pages under the cover, and staple it together. After landing on a new continent, be sure to record the coordinates and stamp your passport by drawing a star in the *stamp box*!

Let's get flying!

- Ambrose



This passport belongs to:

I Visited the Continent of

North America

Fun Fact: North America has more lakes than any other continent! Canada alone has more lakes than the rest of the world combined.

Coordinates

Stamp

I Visited the Continent of

South America

Fun Fact: South America is home of the Amazon rainforest. It is the largest rainforest in the world and receives an average of 6 to 10 feet of rainfall every year.

Coordinates

Stamp

I Visited the Continent of

Antarctica

Fun Fact: Antarctica is technically a desert! That's hard to believe since Antarctica is known as the coldest place on earth. But the continent receives very little precipitation, so it is indeed a desert!

Coordinates

Stamp

I Visited the Continent of

Europe

Fun Fact: Europe is home to the most-visited country in the world! France is the most popular travel destination, followed by Spain, which is also in Europe.

Coordinates

Stamp

I Visited the Continent of

Asia

Fun Fact: Asia has both the world's highest and lowest points. Mount Everest, the tallest mountain, is located on the border of Nepal and Tibet. The Dead Sea, the lowest point, is between Israel and Jordan.

Coordinates

Stamp

I Visited the Continent of

Africa

Fun Fact: Africa is home to the world's longest river. The Nile River is over 4,000 miles long! Africa is also home to the Sahara, the largest hot desert on Earth.

Coordinates:

Stamp

I Visited the Continent of

Australia

Fun Fact: Australia is the only continent that is also a country. Australia is also known for the Great Barrier Reef—the world's largest coral reef system—and for its unique wildlife like kangaroos and platypuses.

Coordinates

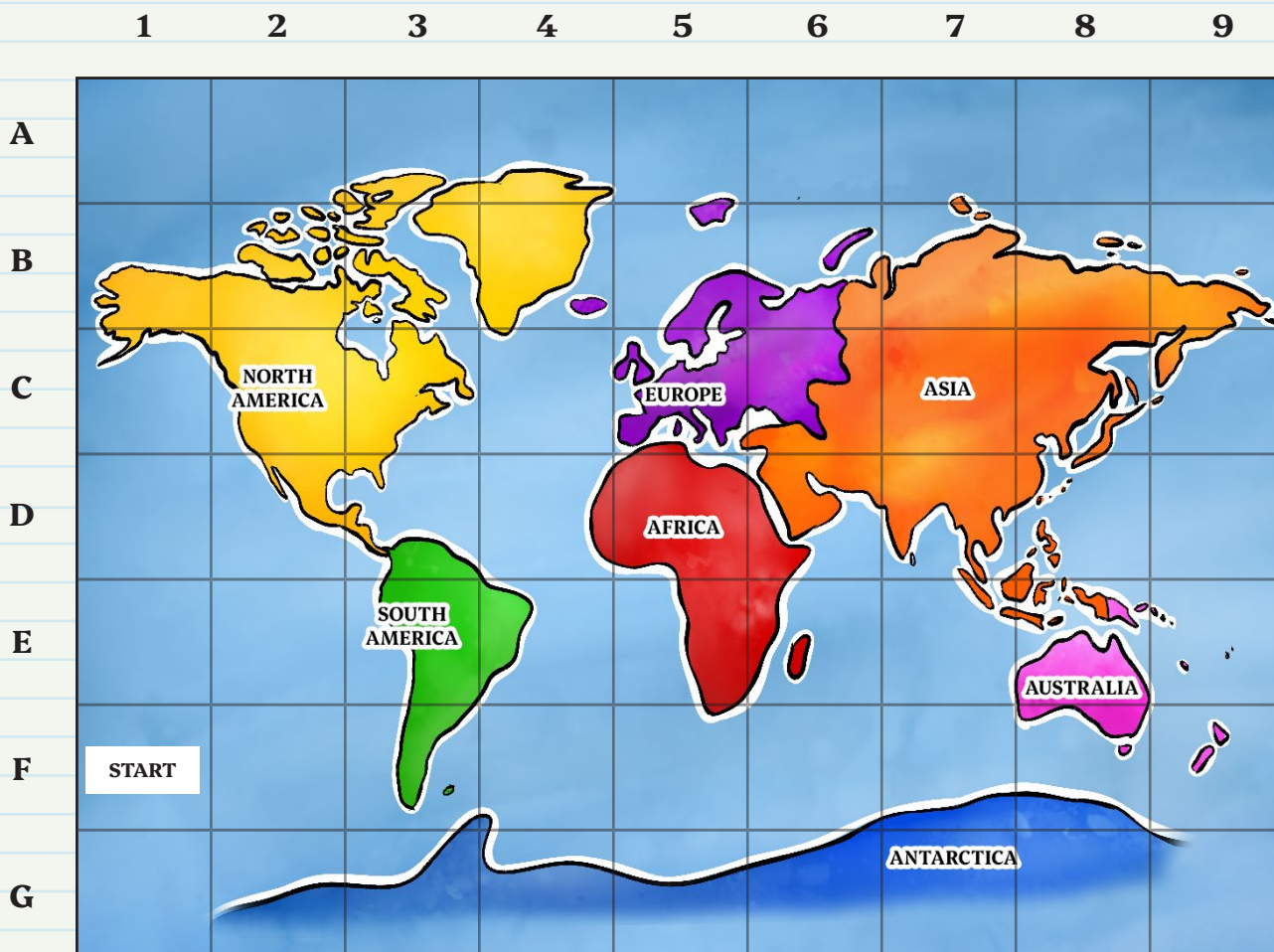
Stamp

Visit the 7 Continents

Instructions

1. Print the map on this page and the map cards on page 7.
2. Place the map face up on the table. Cut out the Ambrose playing piece at right and place it on the Start square.
3. Cut out the map cards and place them face up next to the map.
4. Draw a map card and follow the directions step by step. Check that you end up in the correct spot by reading the upside-down coordinate at the bottom of the card.
5. Find the label of the continent you landed on and locate the continent in your passport book.
6. Write the coordinates of the space you landed on in the blank space in the passport. Then draw a star in the passport book showing that you visited that continent and read the fun fact.
7. Return Ambrose to the Start square. Draw a new map card and follow the directions.
8. Continue until all the map cards have been completed and all the continents have been visited.

Cut me out
so we can
follow the
directions
together!



Map Cards

Continent Directions #1

1. Go north 2 squares.
2. Go east 7 squares.
3. Go north 1 square.
4. Go west 1 square.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: Asia, C7

Continent Directions #2

1. Go north 5 squares.
2. Go east 5 squares.
3. Go south 2 squares.
4. Go west 1 square.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: Europe, C5

Continent Directions #3

1. Go south 1 square.
2. Go east 1 square.
3. Go north 4 squares.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: North America, C2

Continent Directions #4

1. Go north 2 squares.
2. Go east 5 squares.
3. Go south 3 squares.
4. Go east 1 square.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: Antarctica, G7

Continent Directions #5

1. Go east 4 squares.
2. Go north 2 squares.
3. Go east 4 squares.
4. Go south 1 square.
5. Go west 1 square.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: Australia, E8

Continent Directions #6

1. Go north 3 squares.
2. Go east 4 squares.
3. Go south 1 square.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: Africa, D5

Continent Directions #7

1. Go south 1 square.
2. Go east 2 squares.
3. Go north 2 squares.

***Find the continent in your passport.
Write the coordinates and stamp the page!***

Answer: South America, E3

Dear Fellow Traveler,

Wow! We did it—we found all seven continents! I couldn't have done it without you, my trusty travel companion. Along the way, we filled out our Continent Passport, uncovered fascinating facts, and explored how each continent is divided into smaller countries, which then may be split into even smaller states or provinces. (Leave it to Thaddeus to compare it all to pizza!)

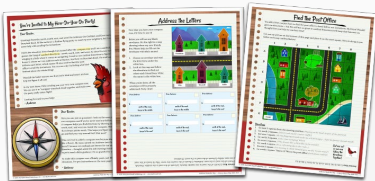
But the adventure doesn't have to end here. There's always more to discover, more places to explore, and more fun to be had—and I'm so glad to have you by my side for the journey. I'm sure I'll be contacting you again soon for even more exploring!

Thanks again for everything. I hope you had as much fun as I did!

Until our next adventure,

- Ambrose

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Ambrose Finds His Way

Learn about cardinal directions and map skills in this free unit

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Ambrose's Pirate Adventure

Practice map skills and discover hidden treasures

[Click Here to Download!](#)

★ Did You Know...

Alaska is so big that if it were its own country, it would be the 16th largest in the world—bigger than Germany, France, and Spain combined!

Pop Quiz!

There are seven _____ in the world. They are divided up into _____. These can be even further divided into _____, which in some countries are called provinces.

_____ is the only continent that is also a country.

One of the states in the United States is _____.

Answers: continents; countries;
states; Australia; any of the states

Bonus Activity: Bingo Around the World

Instructions

1. Print the Bingo boards and cards on pages 9-13. Cut out and mix up the Bingo cards and place them face down in a pile.
2. Choose a Bingo board and place it in front of you.
3. Pick a Bingo card and call out 1) whether it is a continent, state, or country, and 2) the place name.
4. Check your board. If you have the item called, place a small marker on the card (e.g., a penny, cheerio, or piece of paper).
5. Continue until someone completes a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row and yells BINGO!

Bingo Around the World



STATES		COUNTRIES		CONTINENTS
Hawaii	California	Brazil	Japan	Asia
Florida	New York	Canada	Germany	Europe
Ohio	Illinois	FREE	Denmark	North America
Georgia	Virginia	India	France	Africa
Michigan	Arizona	Sweden	Argentina	Antarctica

Bingo Around the World



STATES		COUNTRIES		CONTINENTS
Pennsylvania	Nevada	Italy	Chile	Europe
Florida	New York	Egypt	Greece	Asia
Colorado	Kentucky	FREE	Thailand	North America
Ohio	Illinois	Germany	Sweden	Africa
Texas	Michigan	Argentina	Denmark	South America

Bingo Around the World



STATES		COUNTRIES		CONTINENTS
Pennsylvania	Nevada	Sweden	Brazil	South America
Arizona	Florida	Greece	Japan	Antarctica
Wisconsin	Colorado	FREE	Germany	Australia
Michigan	Virginia	Thailand	Argentina	Asia
Texas	New York	Chile	Denmark	Europe

Bingo Around the World



STATES		COUNTRIES		CONTINENTS
New York	Arizona	Brazil	Argentina	Africa
Florida	Michigan	Canada	Germany	Asia
Ohio	Nevada	FREE	Denmark	Antarctica
Georgia	Virginia	Greece	India	South America
Hawaii	Wisconsin	Japan	France	Australia

State

Texas

Bingo Around the World

State

California

Bingo Around the World

State

Florida

Bingo Around the World

State

**New
York**

Bingo Around the World

State

Ohio

Bingo Around the World

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Wisconsin

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Georgia

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Virginia

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Michigan

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Arizona

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Nevada

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Colorado

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Kentucky

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Illinois

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Hawaii

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Canada

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Thailand

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Egypt

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Japan

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Country

Brazil

Bingo Around the World

Continent

Asia

Bingo Around the World

Continent

Europe

Bingo Around the World

Continent

**North
America**

Bingo Around the World

Continent

Africa

Bingo Around the World

Continent

Antarctica

Bingo Around the World

Continent

**South
America**

Bingo Around the World

Continent

Australia

Bingo Around the World

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