

Year 6: A Diverse And Connected World

Aligned with the Australian National Curriculum



**Section 1:
Connecting
Places**

**Section 2:
A Global Study**

**Section 3:
Environmental
Hazards**



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Teachers' Notes

Year 6: A Diverse And Connected World is part of the *Australian Geography Series* which comprises nine books in total. This book has been written specifically for students in Year 6, who are living in Australia and studying Geography. The activity book is arranged into three sections: *Connecting Places*, *A Global Study* and *Environmental Hazards*. Each section is closely linked to the Australian National Curriculum.

The first section, *Connecting Places*, is designed to raise students' awareness that places are linked to one another. It explores Australia's connection to the Asia region through trade, tourism, aid and historic ties. Students are also asked in this section to use geographic tools to locate different parts of Asia on the map.

The second section, *A Global Study*, examines different regions in the world and their populations. Students will be asked to explore concepts such as: why citizens in some countries have higher living standards than others and how the natural resources in a place generate industries and employment. Students will reflect on the causes of poverty in the world and research programmes in Australia and other parts of the world that aim to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries. This section also considers the similarities and differences in religions between Australia and selected countries of the Asia region.

The third section, *Environmental Hazards*, focuses on natural disasters that affect people and places and our responses to these hazards. Tasks will require students to assess the risks of various environmental hazards and evaluate action plans for survival. A major component of this section is a case study on the Black Saturday bushfires in Victoria. This environmental disaster will be considered from multiple perspectives by students, who will then synthesise their research findings to suggest prevention and management strategies.

Year 6: A Diverse And Connected World is a teacher-friendly resource for 11-12 year olds studying Geography. An inquiry-based approach is applied in the activities and research tasks. Students are challenged to weigh up the visual and graphic data presented, to form their own understandings about how people and places are connected to one another and the world.

National Curriculum Links

Geographical Knowledge and Understanding

The location of the major countries of the Asia region in relation to Australia and the geographical diversity within the region (ACHGK031)

- using geographical tools, for example, a globe wall map or digital application such as Google Earth to identify the geographical division of Asia into NorthEast, SouthEast, South Asia and West Asia (the Middle East)
- exploring the diversity of environments, in the Asia region, or in part of the region, or in a country in either NorthEast, SouthEast or South Asia
- investigating the differences in the population size, density, life expectancy and per capita income between countries across the world
- describing the location of places in countries of the Asia region in absolute terms using latitude and longitude

Differences in the economic, demographic and social characteristics between countries across the world (ACHGK032)

- researching the population size and density of a selection of countries around the world
- investigating the relationship between per capita income, health (as measured by life expectancy) and energy consumption in a selection of countries around the world, including at least one country from the Asia region

The world's cultural diversity, including that of its indigenous peoples (ACHGK033)

- identifying examples of indigenous peoples who live in different regions in the world and appreciating their differences, for example the Maori of Aotearoa New Zealand, the First Nations of North America and the Orang Asli of Malaysia and Indonesia
- investigating the similarities and differences in official languages and religions between Australia and selected countries of the Asia region and other parts of the world
- researching the proportions of the Australian population and of the population from their local area who were born in each world cultural region, using data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics

Significant events that connect people and places throughout the world (ACHGK034)

- investigating a significant event, for example, a severe earthquake or the Olympic Games, and examining its local, regional and global effects on people and places
- discussing the types of responses made by Australia to significant natural events throughout the world and the reasons for these responses

The various connections Australia has with other countries and how these connections change people and places (ACHGK035)

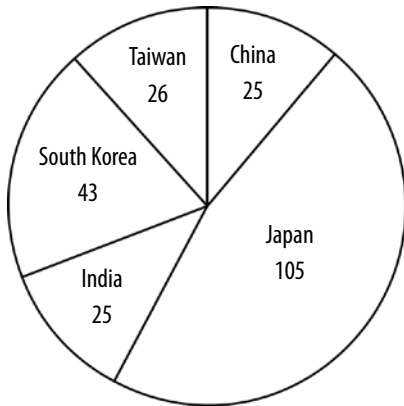
- researching connections between Australia and countries in the Asia region, for example, in terms of trade, migration, tourism, aid, education, defence or cultural influences; and explaining the effects of at least one of these connections on their own place and another place in Australia
- exploring the provision of Australian government or non-government aid to a country in the Asia region or elsewhere in the world and analysing its effects on places in that country

The effects that people's connections with, and proximity to, places throughout the world have on shaping their awareness and opinion of those places (ACHGK036)

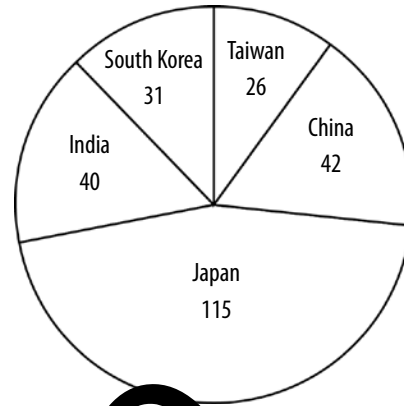
- identifying factors that influence people's awareness and opinions of places, for example, the media, significant known events, proximity to places and personal relationships with places
- explaining various generalisations and stereotypes about people and places and researching their accuracy

- Look at the data below which shows the amount of black coal exported from Australia in 2008 and 2010 to Asian countries.

Coal Exports To Asia 2008
(In Millions Of Tonnes)



Coal Exports To Asia 2010
(In Millions Of Tonnes)



- Which country is the biggest buyer of Australian coal?

- How much coal did South Korea import from Australia in 2008?

- Which country has increased its coal imports from Australia by almost 70% since 2008?

- Which country had the biggest cutback in buying Australian coal in 2010?

5. Coal is Australia's biggest export, bringing in \$55 billion to the economy in 2010. With this in mind, explain one way that Australia is linked to other countries around the world.



Activity

Map Of Asia

As the biggest continent on our planet it is home to 48 countries and contains all manner of environments including rainforests, snowy mountains and desert areas. It is a region rich in history, culture and traditions which have influenced the world. Asia is home to billions of people in some of the biggest cities in the world. It is a place of rapid change as development improves the lives of its citizens and problems are addressed.

- ☐ Grab an atlas and locate as many of the Asian countries as you can on the map below. Tick the countries off as you locate them. When you have labelled as many countries as you can, use three different coloured pencils to shade the three areas of Asia: North-east Asia, South-east Asia and South Asia.

North-east Asia:

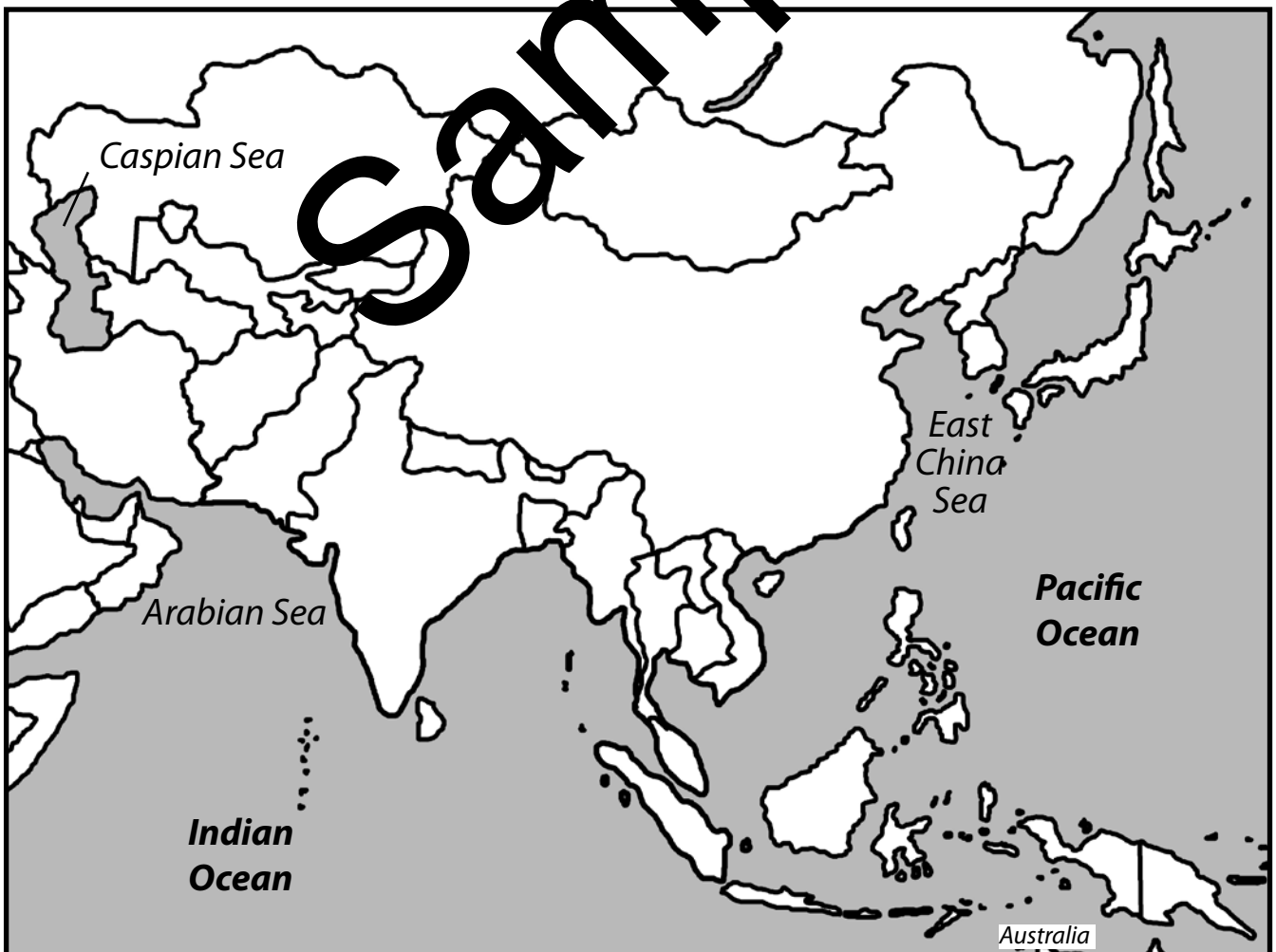
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> China | <input type="checkbox"/> South Korea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mongolia | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Japan | <input type="checkbox"/> Taiwan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> North Korea | |

South-east Asia:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indonesia | <input type="checkbox"/> Singapore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Myanmar (Burma) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Laos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thailand | <input type="checkbox"/> East Timor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Malaysia | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brunei | <input type="checkbox"/> Cambodia |

South Asia:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> India | <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladesh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistan | <input type="checkbox"/> Sri Lanka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nepal | <input type="checkbox"/> Maldives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bhutan | |



Global Population

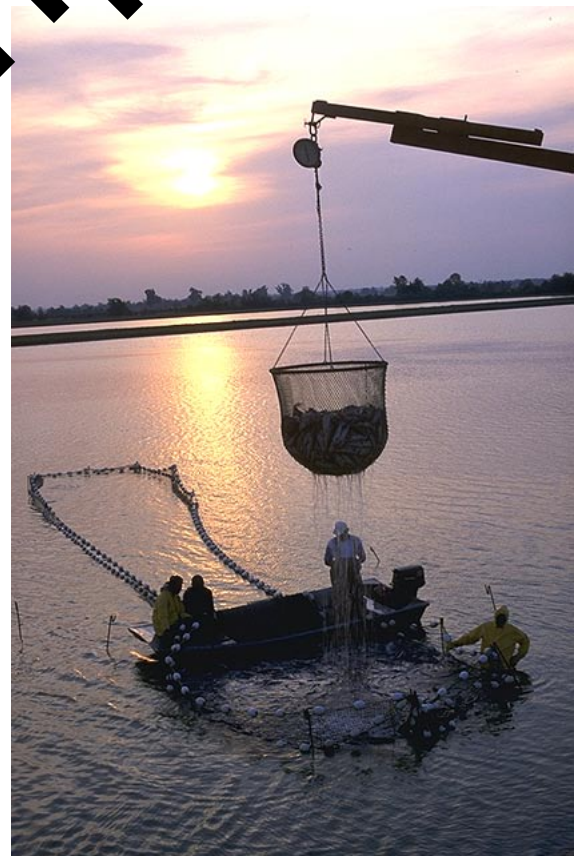
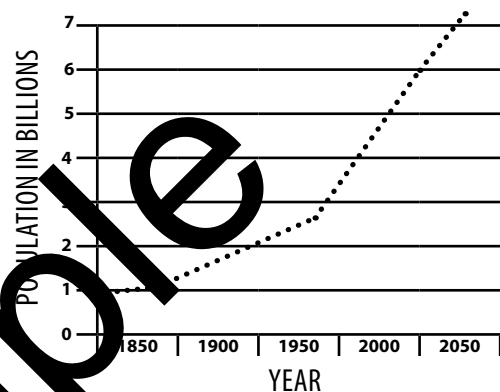
When we talk about the world's population, the numbers are in billions (see graph below right). Some countries in our world like China and India already have populations over a billion people. On the other hand, the population in countries such as Iceland, Fiji and Qatar has not reached the million mark. Australia's population in 2012 was 22.5 million which was similar to Sri Lanka's population in 2012 (21.5 million). However Sri Lanka is 118 times smaller in land area than Australia.

How The World's Population Is Distributed

If you look at a population graph of the world or a single country, you will notice that where people live is not spread evenly. Places where few people live are described as being sparsely populated and places where many people live are described as being densely populated. Some of the reasons for uneven population distribution include:

- areas rich in natural resources such as forests, coal and fisheries attract more people;
- work opportunities can draw people to a place. For example: migration to the United States and the European Union is high.
- some environments, such as the Antarctica, the volcanic islands of the Pacific Ocean region and desert regions are hazardous to live in because of the extremes in weather conditions;
- some areas of the Earth have low, flat land and a climate that is ideal for farming. For example: the Ganges Valley in India and the Mississippi Basin in the United States of America;

World Population Growth



Source: Wikimedia Commons

- ☐ Read the information on page 21 to help you to complete the questions and tasks below.

1. Use the graph on page 21 to answer the questions.

- The world's population in 1850 was approximately _____ billion.
- The world's population in 1950 was approximately _____ billion.
- The world's population in 2050 will be approximately _____ billion.

2. By how much has the world's population approximately increased since:

1900? _____ billion.

1950? _____ billion.

3. The world's population began to increase more sharply after the 1950s. In pairs discuss why you think that this happened and note down your response. (*HINT: Antibiotics to fight infections were widely used after the 1930s.*)

4. Consult an atlas to locate the Islamic region, the Middle East and the European Union. Research the proportion of the Australian population and of the population of your local area who were born in each region by accessing the Australian Bureau of Statistics census. Record your findings in the table below.

Region	Results
Islamic Region	
Middle East	
European Union	

Distribution Of Wealth And Health

How We Know If A Country Is Developed, Developing Or Less Developed

To determine whether a country is developed, developing or less developed many factors are considered. The table below compares the characteristics of a developed country with a less developed country.

Developed



- The average income of the population is high.
- Has established industries and manufacturing.
- The government of the country is stable and there is a high degree of security.
- People have access to education and health services.
- Life expectancy (how long a child is predicted to live at birth) is high. Australia's average life expectancy for men is 79.5 years and for women is 84.5 years.
- Unemployment rates are low and home ownership is high.
- People enjoy freedom and civil rights.

Less Developed



- The average income of the population is low - \$1,500 per year in some less developed countries.
- Birth and death rates are high.
- Unemployment is high.
- People are very dependent on agriculture.
- There is limited access to health services and educational facilities, and a shortage of safe drinking water and sanitation.
- Life expectancy at birth is low (in some nations this is 49 years for men and 55 years for women).
- There is political instability, a lack of security, and some countries are affected by civil war.

- ☐ Use the information on page 27 to help you to complete the questions and tasks below.

1. People who live in less developed countries generally do not have high incomes and live in poverty. In a group, discuss the ways that being poor can affect how children grow up. List your ideas below.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

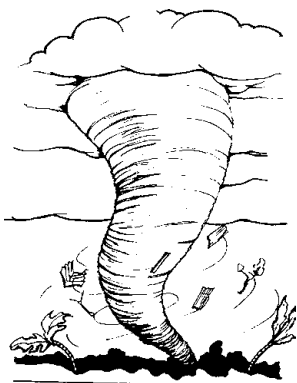
2. Look at the images on page 27. Draw two more images in the boxes below which compare life in a developed and less developed country.

Developed	Less Developed
Sample	Sample

Show your drawings to a friend to share how you have illustrated differences between a developed and a less developed country.

3. How can political stability contribute to making a country (or region) more developed? Do you know of any countries or regions in the world where there is political instability?

- ☐ Study the images of four types of natural disasters. Label each disaster. Underneath each image write down what you think the local and global effects of each disaster would be if they occurred in Australia.

1


2


3


4
