

Canada Map Clues

Use location clues to find major Canadian features on maps.

SS6G4.a "Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: the St. Lawrence River, Hudson Bay, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, the Great Lakes, Canadian Shield, and Rocky Mountains."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the first mention of each named map feature. Draw an arrow from each circle to words nearby that tell where to locate it.

Finding Canada's Land and Water

- ① Canada can be located by using large water features as anchors. The Atlantic Ocean lies east of Canada, while the Pacific Ocean lies west of Canada. North of much of the country is Hudson Bay, a broad inland sea connected to the Atlantic Ocean. The Great Lakes sit along the border region between Canada and the United States. They form a chain of five freshwater lakes, and the international border passes through or follows parts of this lake system.
- ② On a physical map, the Canadian Shield appears as a vast area of ancient rock around Hudson Bay and across much of central and eastern Canada. It is land, not a body of water. The St. Lawrence River flows from the Great Lakes toward the northeast and reaches the Atlantic Ocean. On a political map, this river helps mark part of the boundary between Canada and the United States before continuing through Canada to the sea.
- ③ Farther west, the Rocky Mountains extend through western Canada and continue into the United States. On a physical map, they are shown as a long mountain range near the Pacific side of the continent. A map user can use these relationships to check each label. For example, a label for the Pacific belongs west of the Rockies, while a label for Hudson Bay belongs north of the Great Lakes and within Canada. Political borders add another useful clue for locating the shared lakes and river.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which ocean would you locate east of Canada, and which ocean would you locate west of Canada?

2 Name the body of water north of much of Canada and the land region around it.

3 Where are the Great Lakes in relation to the Canada-United States border, and which river flows from them toward the Atlantic Ocean?

4 Where would you look for the Rocky Mountains on a physical map of Canada?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a seven-sentence map-search guide for all seven features in the passage. Use one short sentence per feature that tells where to look for it by using a direction, a nearby feature, or a border clue.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the first mention of each named map feature. Draw an arrow from each circle to words nearby that tell where to locate it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which ocean would you locate east of Canada, and which ocean would you locate west of Canada?	The Atlantic Ocean is east of Canada. The Pacific Ocean is west of Canada.
2	Name the body of water north of much of Canada and the land region around it.	Hudson Bay is north of much of Canada. The Canadian Shield is the land region around Hudson Bay.
3	Where are the Great Lakes in relation to the Canada-United States border, and which river flows from them toward the Atlantic Ocean?	The Great Lakes lie along the Canada-United States border, which passes through or follows parts of the lake system. The St. Lawrence River flows from the lakes toward the Atlantic Ocean.
4	Where would you look for the Rocky Mountains on a physical map of Canada?	Look in western Canada, near the Pacific side of the continent.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Look east of Canada for the Atlantic Ocean. Look west of Canada for the Pacific Ocean. Look north of much of Canada for Hudson Bay. Find the Great Lakes along the Canada-United States border. Trace the St. Lawrence River northeast from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. Locate the Canadian Shield around Hudson Bay in central and eastern Canada. Find the Rocky Mountains in western Canada near the Pacific side.

Accept equivalent directional and relationship clues that accurately locate each feature. For the Great Lakes, require that students place the Canada-United States border along or through parts of the lake system, as well as south of most of Canada.