

Africa Map Clues

Use regions, borders, and physical features to locate six African countries.

SS7G1.b "Locate on a world and regional political-physical map the countries of Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Sudan."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each of the six country names. Circle the physical feature or direction clue that helps you locate each country.

Finding Countries in Africa

- ① To locate African countries, begin with the continent's broad regions and nearby physical features. Egypt lies in northeastern Africa, along the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea. Sudan is directly south of Egypt. Farther south and east, Kenya sits on the Indian Ocean and is crossed by the Equator. These clues help a map reader move from the continent's north and east toward the middle of Africa without confusing countries that have similar-sized spaces on maps.
- ② On the western side of the continent, Nigeria faces the Gulf of Guinea. Its location is in West Africa, well north of the Equator. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, often called the DRC, is in Central Africa. Much of the DRC lies near the Equator, and the Congo River crosses the country. On a political-physical map, country borders identify Nigeria and the DRC, while the gulf, equator, and river give physical location clues for map readers.
- ③ South Africa occupies the continent's southern tip, between the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. It is far south of the other five countries in this study. A world political-physical map shows Africa's position among the continents and oceans. A regional Africa map gives more detail, including borders, rivers, seas, and the Equator. Use both types of maps: first find Africa on a world map, then use a regional map to locate Egypt, Sudan, Kenya, Nigeria, the DRC, and South Africa precisely.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which country is directly south of Egypt?

2 Name the ocean and the line of latitude that help locate Kenya.

3 Which country is in West Africa, and which country is in Central Africa?

4 Which type of map gives the most detail for finding country borders, rivers, seas, and the Equator in Africa?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Create a six-row location guide for the countries in the passage. For each country, write its region or position and one clue that would help you find it on a political-physical map.

COUNTRY	REGION OR POSITION	MAP CLUE

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each of the six country names. Circle the physical feature or direction clue that helps you locate each country. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which country is directly south of Egypt?	Sudan.
2	Name the ocean and the line of latitude that help locate Kenya.	Kenya is on the Indian Ocean and is crossed by the Equator.
3	Which country is in West Africa, and which country is in Central Africa?	Nigeria is in West Africa. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, or DRC, is in Central Africa.
4	Which type of map gives the most detail for finding country borders, rivers, seas, and the Equator in Africa?	A regional Africa map.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

COUNTRY	REGION OR POSITION	MAP CLUE
Egypt	Northeastern Africa	Mediterranean Sea and Red Sea
Sudan	Directly south of Egypt	Border with Egypt
Kenya	South and east of Egypt	Indian Ocean and Equator
Nigeria	West Africa	Gulf of Guinea
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Central Africa	Congo River and Equator
South Africa	Southern tip of Africa	Atlantic and Indian Oceans

Accept accurate location clues stated in the passage, including directions, regions, oceans, seas, rivers, the Equator, and country borders. In the location guide, students may use more than one accurate clue for a country.