



What should I know already?

North America is one of the 7 continents. USA is one of the countries within North America. USA stands for United States of America. Each country has one capital city and several major cities. The world has hot and cold areas – the poles are cold and near the equator is hot.

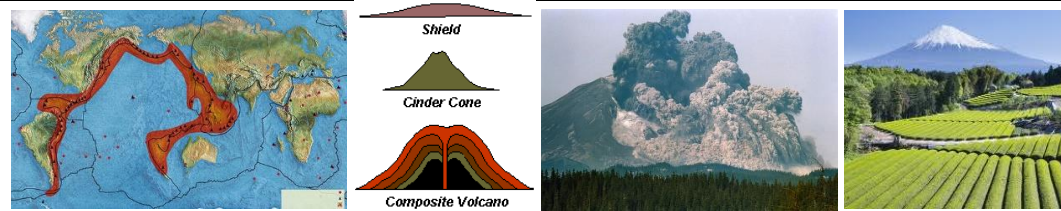
Vocabulary: continent, country, city, town, port, harbour, mountain, valley, vegetation, forest, river, ocean, sea, coast, equator, North Pole, South Pole, volcano

Things I need to know

Diagrams

Vocabulary

Mount St Helens' 1980 eruption. **Types** of volcano and how **formed**. **What happens** in volcanic eruptions. Know they are caused by movements in **tectonic plates** and Earth's mantle. Living near volcano has **benefits**.



earthquake, fault, seismic, tectonic plates, volcanoes (shield, composite, cone) Richter Scale (MMS), erupt, mantle, crust, magma, lava, states (active, dormant, extinct) Ring of Fire, pyroclastic flow

Each **state** is like a country and has capital city. The **federal** government is for the whole USA. The streets and avenues are arranged in a **grid** in Manhattan. British New England settlers named towns after where they lived in UK.



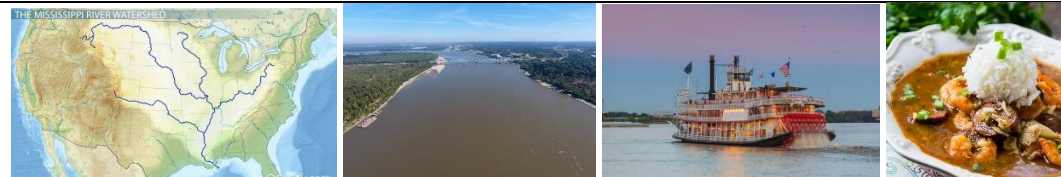
state, city, grid, grid iron, intersection, neighbourhoods, urban, business district, landmarks, population, densely populated, settlers

Tourism is very important for jobs in Florida. If tourism is not controlled, it will destroy important wildlife habitats; it must be **sustainable**. Everglades National Park preserves the **wetland biome**.



tourism, sustainable tourism, national parks, resorts, attractions, theme parks, itinerary, managed development, untouched, wetland biome

Mississippi River is about 3778km/2,360 miles long from its **source** at Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico. River is divided into **courses**. New Orleans home of Creole culture. Hurricanes can cause **flooding**.



courses (upper, middle, lower) source, spring, tributary, waterfall, floodplain, flood, meander, delta, mouth, Creole, Gumbo, storm surge, hurricane, tropical storm

Settlers set off West for a new life as farmers. Some travelled to dig for gold. The journey was very difficult – there were many hazards. Settlers went in a wagon train to states like Oregon 3490 km/2170m



sparsely populated, pull factor, river bed, prospectors, Gold Rush, pioneers, wagon train, supplies, fort, heading West, indigenous people, tribes

Why not try this at home?

Learn the song listing all the 50 states and capital cities of the USA – search *Wakko 50 states*

Play the game *Oregon Trail* – search for the website – very basic graphics but free

Can you instantly recognise and name any famous landmark in the USA from seeing a picture of it?