

SHOPPING AROUND THE WORLD OR WORLD WIDE TREASURE HUNT

GRADE LEVEL: Middle School through High School

OBJECTIVES:

To know that few places are self-sufficient and therefore extensive human networks of transport and communications link places together.

- Sample TEKS Alignment - 113.18.b.5.B - identify geographic features such as location, physical features, transportation corridors and barriers, and distribution of natural resources that influence a society's ability to control territory; and 113.18.b.5.C - explain the impact of geographic factors on economic development and the domestic and foreign policies of societies.

To develop an awareness of the amount of trade between countries and our global interdependence.

- Sample TEKS Alignment - 113.43.c.8.A-C- understands how people, places, and environments are connected and interdependent.

*Excerpted from:

Texas Alliance for Geographic Education. *Young Geographers Alliance: Program Guide*. (San Marcos, Texas: Southwest Texas State University, 1991) 41-42.

ACTIVITY:

This activity can be conducted at home, at the shopping mall, or in a local grocery or large department store such as Walmart. This could be a field trip activity.

Each student is to conduct an investigation of goods from other countries. Students should use the enclosed map to note products from other countries.

Identify the product and draw an arrow to the region from which it comes.

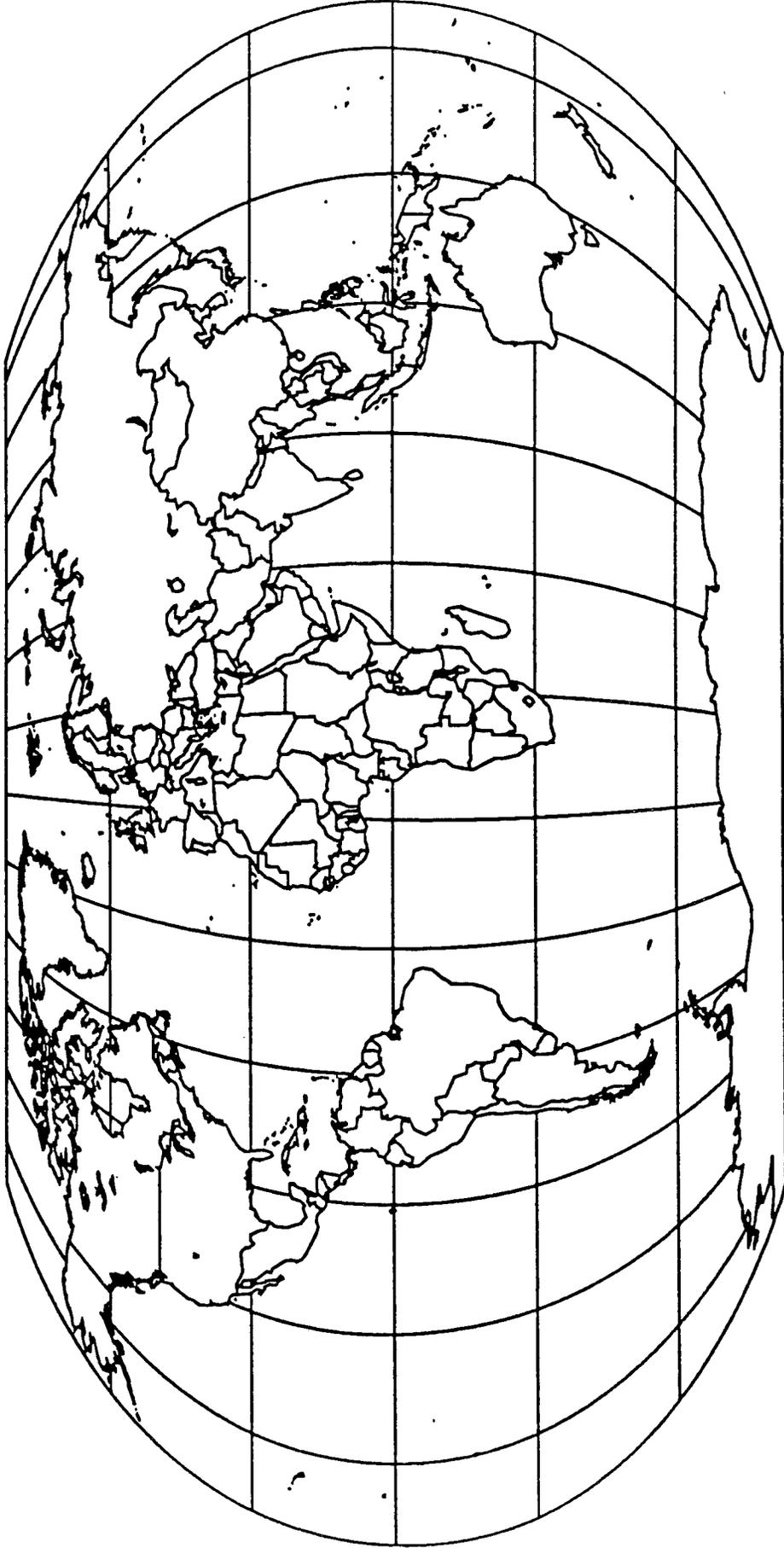
Write the name of the product in the margin (white spaces).

See how many different items and countries you can identify.

Be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. How many different countries were represented in your product search?
2. Which countries showed up most often? Why? Can you explain this pattern? Are there geographical reasons for producing products here?
3. What surprised you about this investigation?
4. What factors affect which countries export goods to the U.S.?
5. What goods made in the U.S. might you expect to find in another' country?
6. Examine whether the environmental relationships discovered above have changed over time.
7. What are the advantages and disadvantages of interdependence in the goods we import?

The World



Robinson