

Lesson Plan: Mirabelle's World Adventure

Subject: Geography

Topic: Continents and Oceans

Grade Level: 1st Grade (Age 6)

Structure: 4 lessons, approximately 15-20 minutes each, with optional independent activities.

Overall Project for End-of-Year Review

"My Big World Map" Poster: This project will be worked on across the 4 days. It will serve as a hands-on, creative portfolio piece showing Mirabelle's understanding of the world's geography.

- **Day 1:** Create and color the continents.
 - **Day 2:** Add and color the oceans.
 - **Day 3:** Add animals or landmarks to the continents.
 - **Day 4:** Label everything to complete the map.
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Day 1: Meet the Continents!

Materials Needed:

- Large piece of poster board or several pieces of paper taped together
- Pencil
- Crayons or markers in at least 7 different colors
- Printed copy of the "7 Continents Song" lyrics
- Book: 'My Encyclopedia of Very Important Things' by DK (pages 42-43)
- Optional: A globe or world map for reference
- Optional: YouTube access to play the "7 Continents Song" (e.g., by "Hopscotch")

Lesson Plan (15-20 minutes)

1. Introduction (Hook & Objectives) - 3 minutes

What to Say: "Hi Mirabelle! Imagine our whole big world is like a giant puzzle. Today, we're going to learn about the biggest puzzle pieces! They're called **continents**. A continent is a super, super big piece of land. By the end of our chat, you will be able to name some of the seven continents and start making your very own map of the world!"

What to Do: Open the encyclopedia to pages 42-43. Point to the world map and show her how the land is broken into big pieces.

2. Body (I Do, We Do, You Do) - 10 minutes

I Do (Model): "I'm going to show you the continents on this map. This big piece of land is called North

America—that's where we live! This one is South America. This one is Europe..." (Point to each continent in the book or on a globe, saying its name clearly).

We Do (Practice Together): "Now let's learn a song to help us remember them! It's called the '7 Continents Song'."

What to Do: Play the song on YouTube or sing it together using the printed lyrics. Sing it two or three times, pointing to the continents on the map in the book as you name them. Let's trace the shape of a continent, like Australia, with our finger.

You Do (Apply): "It's time to start making your Big World Map! I've drawn the outlines of the continents on this big paper. Your job is to be the artist. Can you choose a different color for each continent and color it in?"

What to Do: Give Mirabelle the poster board with pre-drawn continent outlines. As she colors, ask her questions like, "Which continent are you coloring now? What color did you pick for Africa?"

3. Conclusion (Recap) - 2 minutes

What to Say: "Wow, your map looks so colorful! What did we call the big pieces of land on our world puzzle? That's right, continents! Can you remember the name of one or two of them? Great job! Tomorrow, we'll learn about all the water that goes around our continents."

Independent Work (Optional, 10+ minutes)

Mirabelle can continue coloring her continents carefully, making sure each one is a solid, different color. If she finishes, she can draw little houses on North America to show where we live.

Day 2: Dive into the Oceans!

Materials Needed:

- "My Big World Map" poster from Day 1
- Blue crayon, marker, or paint
- Printed copy of the "5 Oceans Song" lyrics
- A small cup of water and a little bit of salt
- Optional: YouTube access for an ocean song (e.g., "The 5 Oceans Song" by The Singing Walrus)
- Optional book from the library: "Ocean: A Visual Encyclopedia" by DK or any picture book about oceans.

Lesson Plan (15-20 minutes)

1. Introduction (Hook & Objectives) - 3 minutes

What to Say: "Yesterday we made our giant land puzzles called continents! What's all the blue stuff in between them on a map? It's water! But it's not just any water, it's a giant body of salt water called an **ocean**. Today, we are going to learn the names of the five big oceans!"

What to Do: Have Mirabelle taste a tiny drop of the salt water you mixed. "That's what ocean water tastes like—salty! All the oceans are connected, making one big world ocean."

2. Body (I Do, We Do, You Do) - 10 minutes

I Do (Model): "Let's look at our map. All this empty white space is where the oceans go. I'll show you where they are. The water between North America and Europe is the Atlantic Ocean. The huge one next to California is the Pacific Ocean..." (Point out the general location of each of the 5 oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Southern).

We Do (Practice Together): "Just like for the continents, there's a fun song for the oceans! Let's sing it together."

What to Do: Play or sing the "5 Oceans Song" together a couple of times. Point to the oceans on a map or globe while you sing.

You Do (Apply): "Now it's time to add the oceans to your Big World Map! Your mission is to color all the empty white space blue. That will be all of our oceans!"

What to Do: Give Mirabelle her map and a blue crayon, marker, or paint. Encourage her to fill in the water areas.

3. Conclusion (Recap) - 2 minutes

What to Say: "Your map looks amazing with all that blue! What did we call the big bodies of salt water? Oceans! And what do they taste like? Salty! Great work today. Tomorrow, we might have some special guests to help us explore!"

Independent Work (Optional, 10+ minutes)

Mirabelle can finish coloring the oceans. She could also draw some simple sea animals like fish, whales, or jellyfish in the oceans on her map.

Day 3: A Trip Around the Continents!

Materials Needed:

- "My Big World Map" poster
- Book: 'My Encyclopedia of Very Important Things' by DK (pages 44-57)
- Small slips of paper with one continent name written on each (7 slips total)
- A hat or bowl
- Extra paper and crayons/markers for everyone participating
- Glue stick
- Optional: The "7 Continents Song" lyrics/video for a fun warm-up

Lesson Plan (15-20 minutes)

1. Introduction (Hook & Objectives) - 3 minutes

What to Say: "Hello, world travelers! Welcome to our class. (Address Mirabelle and any family members who have joined). Today, we are going on an adventure! We're going to travel to different continents and see what amazing animals and places are there. By the end of our trip, we will have decorated our map with amazing things from all over the world!"

What to Do: Start by having everyone sing the "7 Continents Song" together as a quick and fun review.

2. Body (I Do, We Do, You Do) - 12 minutes

I Do (Model): "Okay, travelers, here's how we play. I have the names of the continents in this hat. I will pull one out. Let's see... I got **Antarctica!** Let's find it in our book."

What to Do: Turn to the page about Antarctica in the encyclopedia. "Wow! It says it's the coldest continent and that penguins live here! I am going to quickly draw a little penguin." Draw a very simple penguin on a small piece of paper.

We Do (Practice Together): "Now it's Mirabelle's turn to pick a continent from the hat! Which one did you get?"

What to Do: Have Mirabelle pick a slip. Let's say she picks "Africa." Find the Africa page in the book together. "What do you see on this page? Lions! Zebras! Pyramids! Let's all pick one thing we see and draw it on our paper." Everyone (mom, Mirabelle, grandparents, aunt) draws their own picture of a lion, zebra, or pyramid.

You Do (Apply): "Great job, artists! Now, let's have our other students (or Mirabelle again) pick another continent from the hat."

What to Do: Repeat the activity for 2-3 more continents as time allows. Each person picks a continent, you find it in the book, and everyone draws something they see. This is a simple, creative activity that anyone can join in on the spot.

3. Conclusion (Recap) - 2 minutes

What to Say: "Look at all these incredible drawings! We visited so many continents today. Which was your favorite place to 'visit'? Tomorrow, we will finish our beautiful map by adding the names of all the places we learned about."

Independent Work (Optional, 10+ minutes)

Mirabelle can carefully cut out her drawings and glue them onto the correct continents on her Big World Map. She can also color any drawings made by the family and add them to the map, too.

Day 4: World Tour Finale!

Materials Needed:

- Completed "My Big World Map" poster (with continents, oceans, and drawings)
- Pre-printed (or handwritten) labels for the 7 continents and 5 oceans
- Glue stick
- Optional: "Which ocean am I" interactive PowerPoint or simple, handwritten clue cards.

Lesson Plan (15-20 minutes)

1. Introduction (Hook & Objectives) - 3 minutes

What to Say: "Welcome back, explorers! For our last day, we have a very important job. We need to be

official map-makers and put the right names on all our continents and oceans. We are going to play a guessing game and then put the final labels on your beautiful Big World Map!"

2. Body (I Do, We Do, You Do) - 12 minutes

I Do (Model): "First, we'll play a guessing game called 'Which Continent Am I?' I'll give you a clue. 'I am a continent where you can find kangaroos hopping around.' Which continent am I?" (Wait for the answer: Australia). "Yes! You got it!"

We Do (Practice Together): "Let's try another one, and everyone can guess! 'We live on this continent. It is north of South America.' Which one is it?" (North America). "Great! How about this one? 'I am an ocean that touches California.' Which ocean is that?" (Pacific Ocean).

What to Do: Give 4-5 clues for different continents and oceans. This works perfectly with family members, as they can all shout out answers. Make the clues simple and related to what you've discussed (e.g., "I am the super cold continent with penguins," "I am the continent with the pyramids we drew yesterday").

You Do (Apply): "You are all expert geographers! Now for the final step. Here are the labels with the names of all the continents and oceans. Your job is to be the map-maker and glue each name onto the right spot on your map."

What to Do: Lay out the labels. Help Mirabelle read each one. Start with one she knows well, like North America. Ask her, "Where does this one go?" Let her point to the spot and glue it on. Continue until all continents and oceans are labeled.

3. Conclusion (Recap & Presentation) - 2 minutes

What to Say: "Mirabelle, you did it! You made a complete map of the world with all seven continents and five oceans. It looks absolutely amazing! Can you show everyone your finished map and point to one continent and one ocean? You have learned so much this week!"

What to Do: Hold up the finished map. Let her proudly present her work to the family. This finished map is the perfect project for her portfolio review.