

# My first world map

This colourful map of the world is an ideal introduction to the wealth of information that can be found in maps and atlases. Explore it together, guided by the children's interests and comments

## Activities across the curriculum

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Explore the poster together, asking the children to point out countries that they have visited, or would like to visit. Encourage them to talk about their memories, or what they might do on an imaginary visit.
- Invite the children to take turns to look at the poster in pairs and make a list of a specific category of items, such as buildings, animals or environmental features. Encourage them to share their lists with the rest of the group.

### Communication and Language

#### Literacy

- Ask developmentally-appropriate poster-related questions to encourage listening, observation and extension of vocabulary, for example, 'Can you name the animals you can see in this country? It is called Australia', or more challenging, 'What is an ocean?, Can you name some creatures that might live in one?'
- Introduce the word 'map' and discuss the children's experiences of maps. What information does this map give us? Point to the words on the map as you read them aloud, encouraging the children to sound out regular words such as 'Africa' and 'America'.

### Mathematics

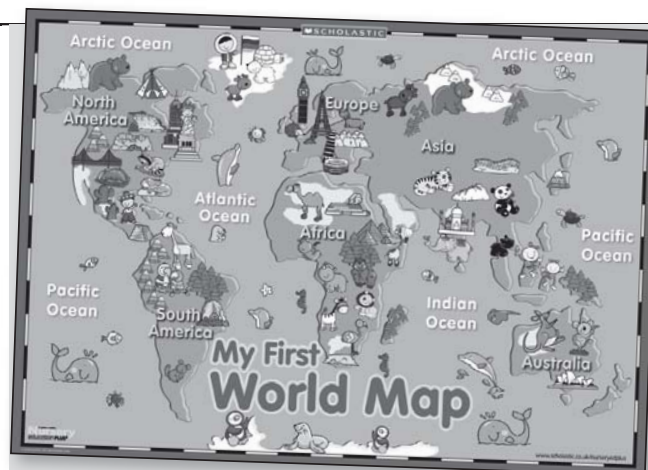
- Laminate the poster, put it on the carpet and take a small-world character for a journey around the world. Provide a commentary focusing on positional language, for example, 'Daisy has travelled across the Atlantic Ocean to South America. She is going up through the mountains to North America' and so on. Leave the children to make up their own stories, supporting them with appropriate mathematical language if necessary.
- Pose poster-related questions to encourage counting, for example, 'How many fish can you see?', 'Are there more animals in Africa or in Australia?'

### Understanding the World

- Explain the meaning of 'ocean' and use the poster to identify creatures that live there. Encourage the children to play with model sea creatures in a water tray, search for web images, or look in books such as *Under the sea (Lift the Flap series, Usborne)* to extend their knowledge.
- Show the children where they live on the poster and ask them to choose another country on the map. Join the two countries with string and talk about how they would travel between them.

### Physical Development

- Create a role-play ship from crates, planks and boxes and



## How to use the poster

Make up Set up an 'Our world' information and play area. Laminate the poster, display it on a low board and surround it with postcards and photographs of children to remind them of holidays in different countries. Supply boxes of small-world wild animals and people from different cultures, and floor-related resources, such as world map play mats and puzzles, to encourage matching and linking of ideas. Scatter cushions around and display a box of pictorial atlases and books about countries of the world alongside. Interact with children to answer questions and encourage them to make links between the resources.

provide home-area resources for a voyage. Hang the poster inside to help the children to plan ocean-going journeys around the world.

- Discuss the information that the poster conveys and suggest creating a pictorial map. Spread a large roll of paper along the floor, tape it securely and provide children with mark-making equipment, glue, collage materials and magazine pictures of animals and buildings.

### Expressive Arts and Design

- Set up a role-play travel agents. Display the poster on the wall for reference and provide brochures about holidays to countries shown on the map. Visit the travel agents in role, asking appropriate questions, for example, 'I would like to see some camels on my holiday. Where should I go?'
- Provide poster-related resources, for example, a small-world panda or a picture postcard of Big Ben. Play a game called 'Where am I going?' involving the children holding up a chosen resource and others guessing their destination on the poster.

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