

# Where on the Globe is Alaska?

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Discipline / Subject: Geography

Topic: Alaska's location on the globe

Grade Level: 2-5

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

- Song chart
- Globe
- Markers
- Maps

Lesson Summary:

- Students will learn the location of Alaska on the globe and on a map
- Students will name bodies of water and countries to the north, south, east, and west of Alaska
- Students will learn one or two facts about the Arctic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, Canada, and Russia

Standards Addressed:

National:

NSS-G.K-12.1 Understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective

Alaska state standards:

Geography A.1 use maps and globes to locate places and regions

Learning Objectives:

The student will:

- Sing the song; *Where on the Globe is Alaska?*
- Complete map work using the information gained from the song
- Locate Alaska, countries, and bodies of water mentioned in the song on the globe and maps

Method of Assessment for Learning:

Individual assessment through map work

Procedural Activities:

1. Introduce song—the tune is piggy-backed to, *He's Got the Whole Word in His Hands*
2. Give students map of Alaska that includes the Arctic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Bering Strait, Canada, and Russia
3. Instruct students to color Alaska green, Canada yellow, and Russia pink
4. Have students color bodies of water blue
5. Label Alaska, each country and body of water
6. Each student will individually show the teacher where Alaska, Canada, Russia, the Bering Strait, the Pacific Ocean and the Arctic Ocean is located on the map and the globe
7. Students label Anchorage and Nome on their maps and the Iditarod Trail

**Materials Students Need: Song chart, maps, and markers**

**Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:**

[www.iditarod.com](http://www.iditarod.com)

[www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com) for map

**Other Information:**

I have had great success in using this song to kick off our map work with students in grades 2-5. The teacher doesn't have to be a music major to sing this well-known tune. All that is needed is enthusiasm! I explain to my students that learning educational information in a song format makes it easier to remember, just like advertising jingles. This helps to encourage those that are initially reluctant to sing.

**Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities**

The repetition of singing this song every day combined with the visual provided with map work and the song chart made the information easy to learn. I wanted to make sure my students knew how to tell me exactly where Alaska was on the globe before beginning a more detailed study of Alaska and the Iditarod Trail.

I did differentiate in the map work assignment. I enlarged the map (11"x 17") for all grades and second and third grade students were given maps that were already labeled. I had the fourth and fifth grade students give a groups presentation. Before the class sang, five students (using signs for Alaska, Canada, Russia, Bering Strait, Arctic Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean) became a "living map," giving information about the area they represented as they pieced themselves together.