



Knowledge Bank: Year 4 Geography - Road Trip USA.



Key Location Facts:

Facts
The USA is a country that is made up of 50 states.
The USA is bordered by Mexico and Canada.
The Atlantic and Pacific oceans border the USA.
The capital of the USA is Washington DC.
U.S.A stands for United States of America.
The USA is in the continent of North America.
There are 23 countries in total in North America including Canada, Greenland, Mexico and the USA.
California is a state on the West coast of the USA.

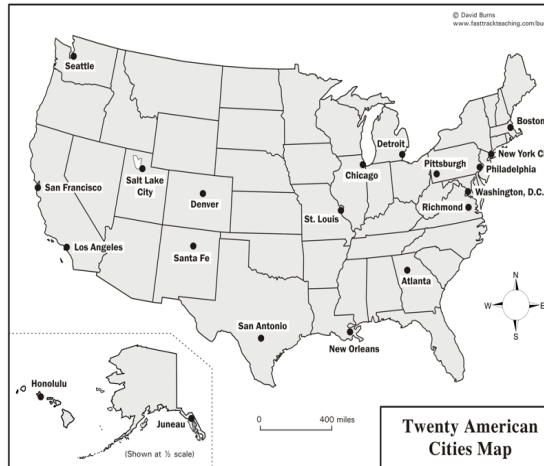
Physical Features in California:

- Beaches on the west coast
- San Andreas fault – the biggest fault line in the world
- Yosemite National Park
- The Sierra Nevada mountains
- Lake Tahoe
- Giant Sequoia forests
- Mojave desert
- Death Valley National Park
- Napa Valley

Human Features in California:

- Large cities – San Francisco and Los Angeles
- Iconic landmarks – the Golden Gate bridge, Alcatraz, Hollywood sign, Disneyland
- Natural resources – fertile farmland, mining
- Businesses – finance, film and television, technology

Diagrams/Images/Maps:



What I should already know:

- Portsmouth is a city in the south of England in the county of Hampshire.
- Tourists visit Portsmouth for different reasons.
- Urban areas have different categories of land use – residential, commercial, recreational, transportation, industrial.
- In the region of Portsmouth there is a national park – The South Downs.
- National Parks help to protect an area.
- Earthquakes and volcanoes happen where there are fault lines.
- In volcanic areas, the soil can be rich in minerals and geothermal energy can be used.

Key Vocabulary:

word	Definition
state	An area of a country with its own government
fault line	The place where two tectonic plates meet
settlement	A place where people live and establish a community
land use	The purpose or function of an area of land.
rural	Countryside
urban	A built up area – a city or town.
National Park	An area of countryside that is protected
mountain	A large natural raised area of the earth's surface
glacier	A large area of ice which moves slowly
valley	A low area of land between mountains or hills. Often there is a river flowing through it.
waterfall	A point on a river or stream where the water flows over a vertical or steep drop
monolith	A large upright block of stone or rock
aerial photo	A photo taken from the air
trade	Buying and selling goods and services
economic activity	The amount a country or area sells and makes