

The background is a colorful grid of squares in various colors including red, blue, green, yellow, orange, purple, and brown. A large, light blue circle is centered on the page, containing the main text.

Location, Climate, &
Natural Resources

Australia

Where People Live &
How They Trade

Standards

SS6G13 The student will explain the impact of location, climate, distribution of natural resources, and population distribution on Australia.

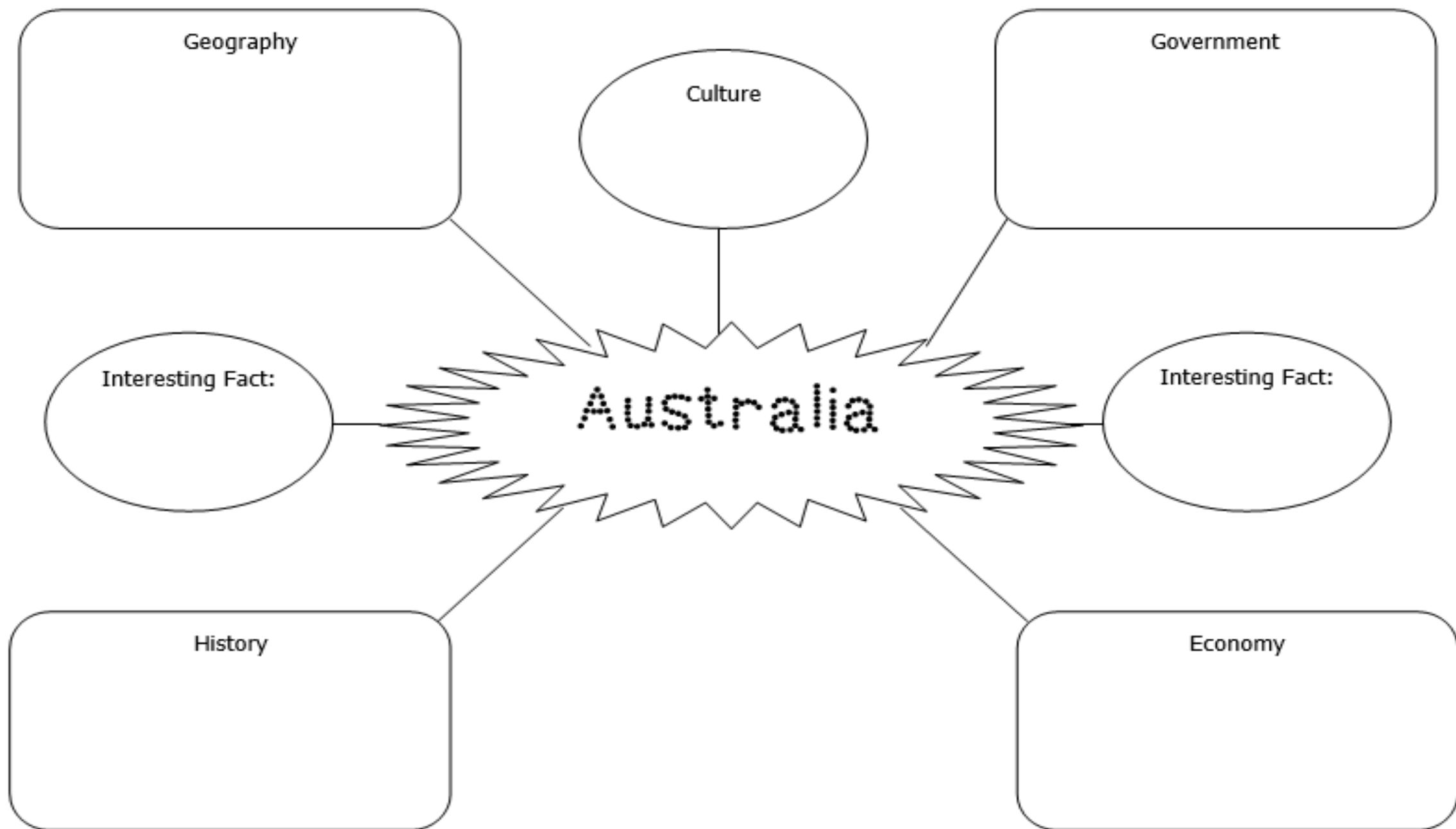
a. Describe how Australia's location, climate, and natural resources have affected where people live.

b. Describe how Australia's location, climate, and natural resources impact trade.

Teachers

Print off the following slide for each student. They should complete the concept web BEFORE the discussion so that you can see what the students already know about Australia.

Directions: Fill in the concept web below with information that you already know about Australia.



Teachers

Print off the following slide for each student. They should complete the chart while discussing the presentation.

Location, Climate, and Natural Resources

Australia

Location

Climate

Natural
Resources

Where People
Live

How They
Trade

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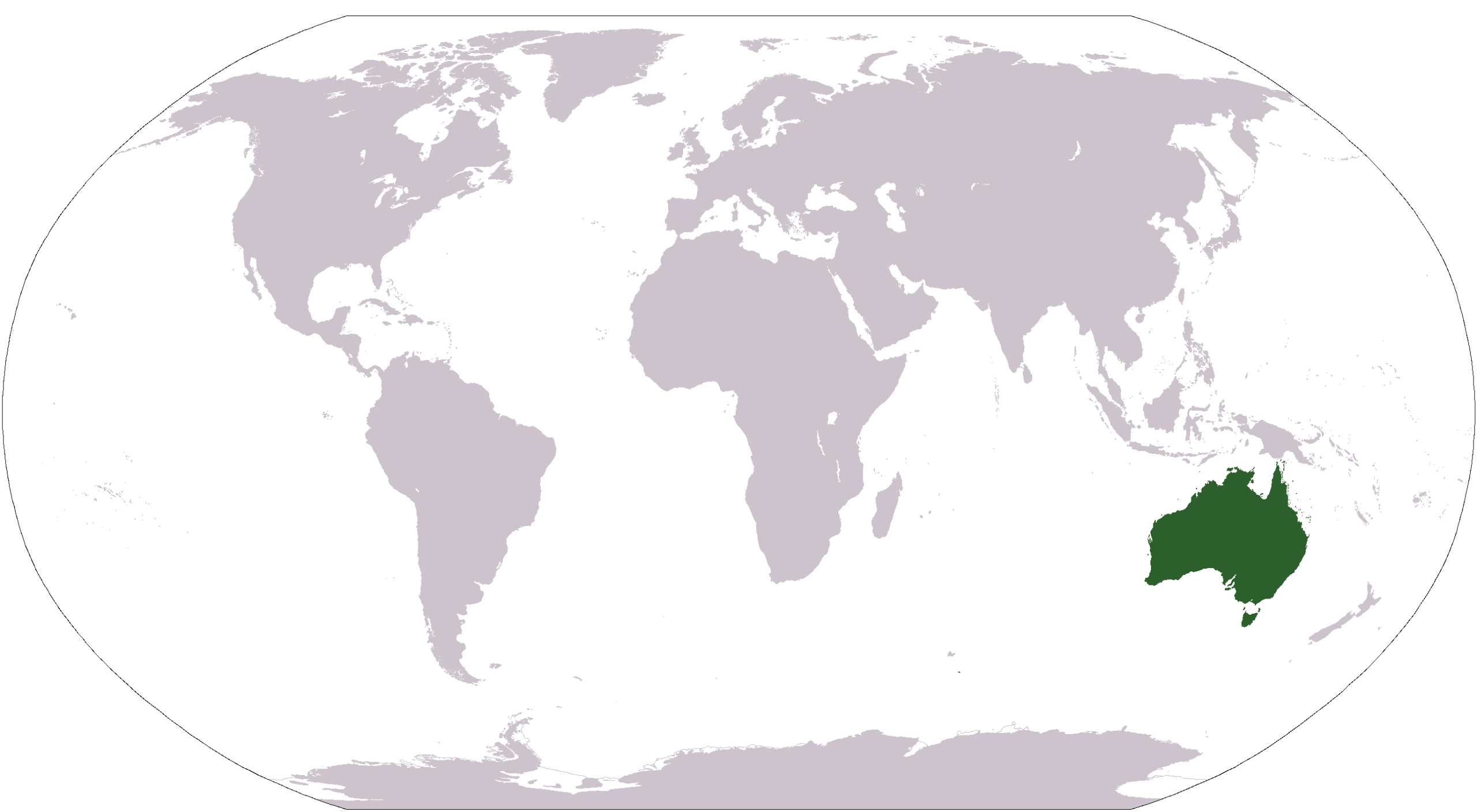
Location, Climate, &
Natural Resources

Australia

Where People Live &
How They Trade

Location

- Australia is both a continent & a country.
- It lies about 2,000 miles southeast of Asia.
- Surrounded but the Pacific Ocean on the east and the Indian Ocean on the west.
- It's in the southern hemisphere.
 - Literally the “land down under”!



Climate

- Climate varies across the continent.
- Australia is south of the equator, so it's climate is opposite that of North America:
 - Summer: December through March
 - Winter: June through September

Mount Hotham, Victoria



Climate

- The northern part of Australia is closest to the equator.
- It has a tropical climate and is warm-to-hot all year round.
 - It gets more rain than any other part of the country.
- Winter: wet and cool
- Summer: hot and dry

Whitsunday Island, Queensland



Climate

- Central Australia is mostly desert.
 - This is the largest part of Australia.
- Very little rain falls here.
 - Most of this area gets less than 10 inches of rain per year!

Outback (Ayers Rock)





- 1 *Pedirka Desert*
- 2 *Tirari Desert*
- 3 *Sturt Stony Desert*

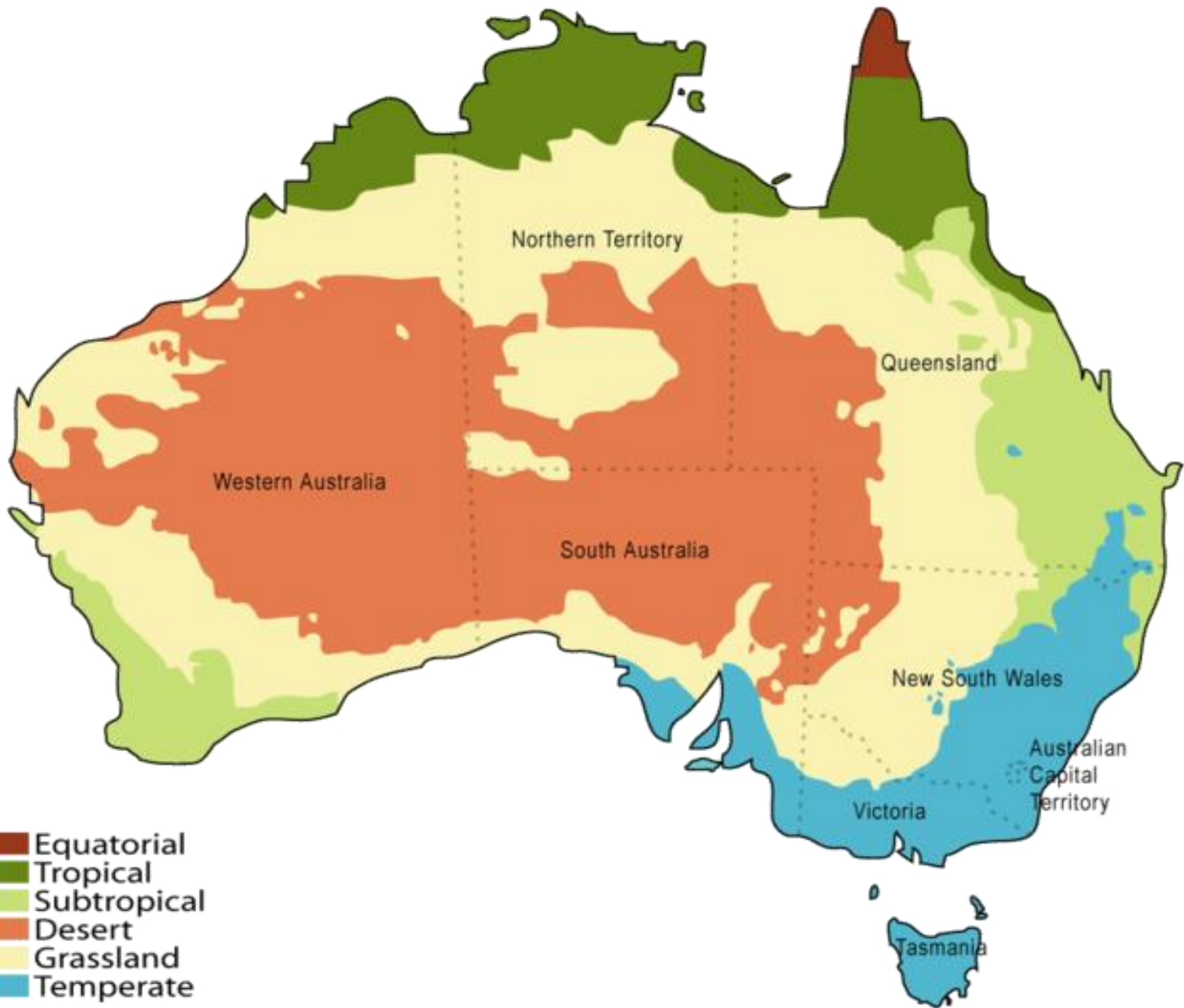
ACT = Australian Capital Territory
JBT = Jervis Bay Territory





Climate

- Only the southeast and southwest corners along the coasts have a temperate climate.
 - Summers aren't too hot & winters aren't too cold.
- The climate in these regions is the one that most Australians prefer.
 - Most Australians live along southeastern coast.



Tourism

- Tourists from the northern hemisphere visit Australia's warm beaches when it is winter in their country.
- Tourists usually wait until spring or fall to visit the rural areas & the outback.
 - It's not too hot then.

Gold Coast, Queensland



Natural Resources

- Outback refers to the dry interior of Australia.
 - It's mainly open countryside, including vast expanses of grazing land.
- There are only a few widely scattered settlements in the Outback.
 - Many of them grew up around mining operations.

Boulia, Queensland

WELCOME to BOULIA
The Friendly Town
"PLEASE KEEP OUR TOWN TIDY"



Natural Resources

- Across much of Australia, the ground is barren & not ideal for farming (outback).
 - Many minerals are found here: gold, silver, uranium, coal, copper, & iron ore
- Australia has exported nearly \$400 billion worth of metals, minerals, & fuels in the past 20 years.
 - Natural resources account for 1/3 of the country's economy!

Broken Hill Township – Mining Town in New South Wales



Natural Resources

- Australia exports more coal & iron ore than any other country.
- It leads the world in mining bauxite, titanium, & diamonds.
- No other country has more reserves of lead, cadmium, or nickel.

Natural Resources

- Natural resources have always been important to Australian trade.
- In the mid-1800s, Australia had a gold rush in the southern region.
 - Thousands of immigrants moved to Australia to find gold.
 - Many came from England, Ireland, Germany, & China.

Super Pit – World's Largest Gold Mine



Natural Resources

- In the non-desert regions, Australians grow many grains.
 - Grains are grown in inland regions of the coastal states (not too hot/dry here).
- Grains include a wide range of different crops:
 - Wheat, barley, sorghum, rye, rice, chickpeas, lentils, & oilseeds

Farmland in Queensland



Where People Live

- The coastal areas are the most populated.
- Most people live along the east coast.
- The most populated city is Sydney, in New South Wales.
- Another populated city is Brisbane, Queensland.

Sydney, New South Wales



Brisbane, Queensland



Where People Live

- Nearly 80% of Australians live in urban areas.
 - Australia is one of the world's most urbanized countries.
- 70% of all Australians live in cities of more than 100,000 people.
 - Sydney has 3.5 million people.
 - Melbourne has about 3 million people.

Sydney, New South Wales



Gold Coast, Queensland



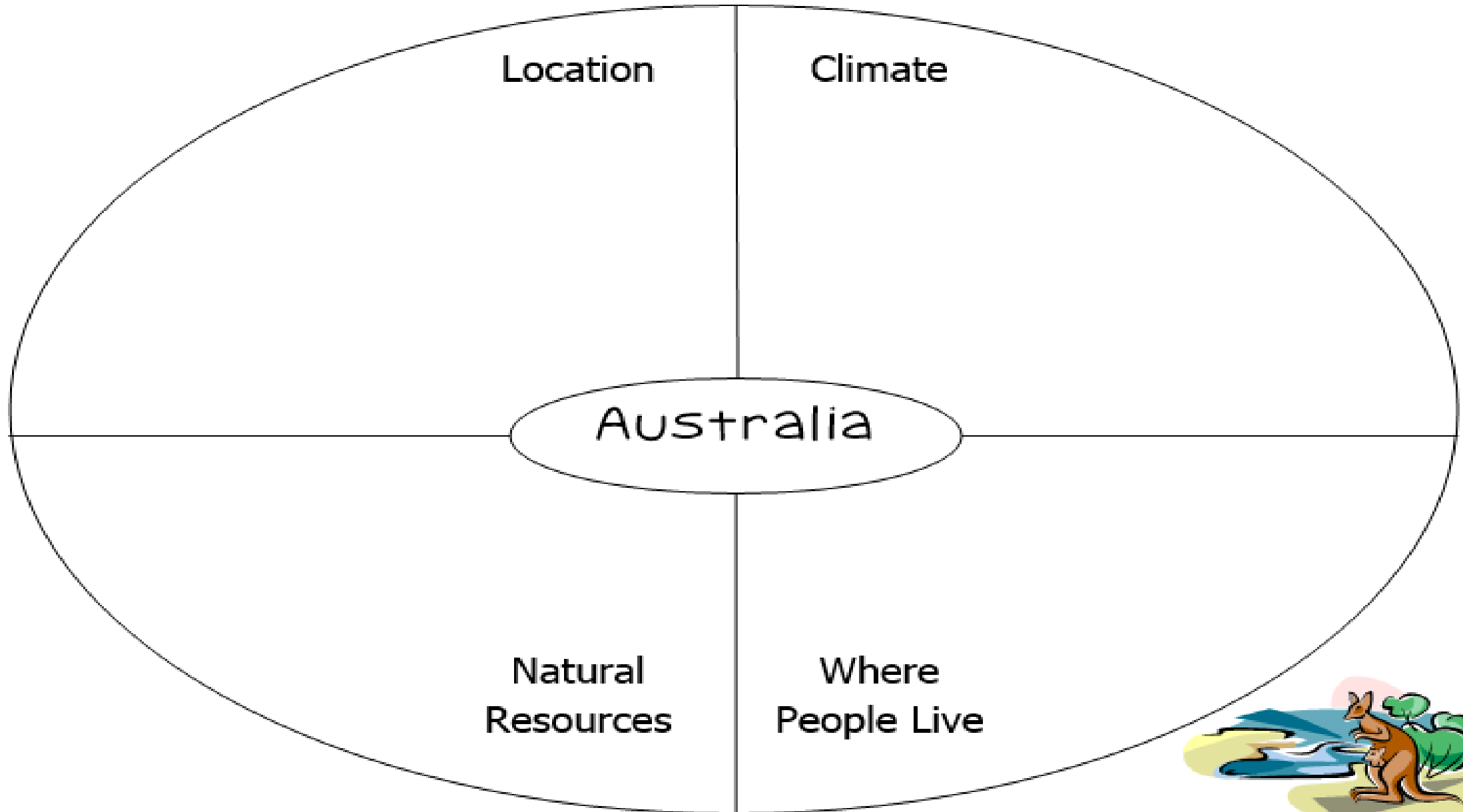
Trade

- Australia's top trading partners for exports are: China (29.5%), Japan (19.3%), South Korea (8%), & India (4.9%).
- Australia's top trading partners for imports are: China (18.2%), US (11.6%), Japan (7.8%), Singapore (5.9%), Germany (4.6%), Thailand (4.2%), & South Korea (4%).
- Australia exports tons of natural resources to China.
 - 50% of iron ore exports go to China.
 - In return, China provides Australia with affordable finished goods (cars, kitchen appliances, etc.).

Tourism

- Foreign tourists create only 1/4 of Australia's \$81 billion tourist industry.
 - Australia's location makes it expensive for people to visit from other countries.
- Australians do the majority of tourism within their own country.
 - Its remote location in the Southern Hemisphere makes it expensive for Australians to leave & visit other countries.

Australia's Geography



Teachers

The following two slides can be used as a review or as a quiz.



Name: _____

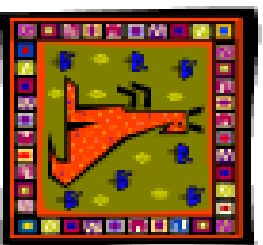
Australia - The Land Down Under

1. Fill in the chart below with TWO facts about Australia for each category.

Physical Features	Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none">••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
Climate	Natural Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none">••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
Where People Live	How They Trade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••

2. Why is Australia called the "Land Down Under"?

3. Where do most Australians live?



4. Why do you think Australia has animals that are not found on other continents? (Hint: think about location...) What are some of those animals?



5. What does Australia lead the world in producing and exporting?
6. Why is the climate of central Australia so hot?
7. Who does Australia export (sell) most of their resources to?
8. Why does Australia trade so much with China?
9. Is it easy or difficult for Australia to trade with other countries in the world? Why?
10. How does climate affect where people live in Australia?
11. How do natural resources affect where people live in Australia?

12. Draw a quick sketch illustration that summarizes each of the 3 sections in this lesson.

Australia's Location	Australia's Climate	Australia's Natural Resources

Teachers

The next activity is a cute little project that I like to do with my students if we have time. First, I read aloud *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Voirst. You can get this children's book at most libraries, but I just bought mine on Amazon because I love this book! (Even though I teach "big kids", they still love being read to. In my 8 years of teaching, I haven't had a teenager complain once about listening to me read aloud a children's book!) Next, the students create a brochure about different Australia topics (see brainstorm). If computers are available, the students could create a PowerPoint instead of a paper brochure.

“I Think I’ll Move to Australia.”

In the story, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst, Alexander has a bad day and decides that his life would be better if he moved to Australia. After reading the story, create a PowerPoint presentation that is designed to convince Alexander’s mother to indeed let him move to the “Land Down Under”. Include information from the “Where do Australians Live?” lesson to help justify your point. You will need to include descriptions of Australia’s location, climate, land, and resources.



Title	Land	Climate
Location	Resources	People

Picto-Map

Your Task: Use the blank map of Australia. Draw 8-10 visuals on the map that show information about Australia. On the back of your map, write complete sentences that explain what each visual represents. Please color your map!

Example: Draw a sun in central Australia. The sun represents the hot climate in the outback.



Teachers

Thank you for downloading this file. I hope you enjoy using it with your students, and I can't wait to read your feedback in my TPT store! 😊

- For more Australia materials, please visit my store:
<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Brain-Wrinkles>
- I teach 6th grade Language Arts and Social Studies in Georgia, so my products are aligned with Common Core (LA) and Georgia Performance Standards (SS).

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