Uncle Josh's™
Outline Map Collection
CD-ROM

Mark-It Maps for All Subjects

by George Wiggers and Hannah Gullett

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Acknowledgements

I would like to thank David Broad of Digital Wisdom for the fantastic cover art and Hannah, my daughter, for helping me in this colossal project. I also want to thank my family for allowing me to neglect them for a season. Most of all, thanks to my wife, Cindy, for all of her help and encouragement in making this project possible.

ad majorem Dei gloriam!

~ Uncle Josh ~

First of all I would like to thank God for giving me the patience to finish this project. Thanks also to my dad for helping me to do my best, and to Mom for believing in me and encouraging me to do this.

~ Hannah ~
**Introduction**

Germany is not an island! When I handed my children the map of Germany I downloaded from the internet while studying WWII my oldest daughter asked “What island is this?” The problem was free online maps were “floating” shapes that looked like islands. I was sure that I wasn't the only homeschooling parent with this issue. So, I set out to create a collection of good quality outline maps that anyone could print from their home computer and use to teach children.

Hannah and I originally selected over one hundred outline map titles designed to add fun and adventure to any school subject. I have since added over 150 more maps (including some labeled maps) through the years, each time we reprinted the CD-ROM.

May this comprehensive collection of maps make your studies of any subject more fun and complete.

**General Instructions**

We have found that kids love using maps, especially when they get to draw and color in events on topics which they are currently learning. You’ll be amazed at how much more they remember when a mapping activity is coupled with history, literature, or even science lessons.

Here are some suggestions to get you going.

**History**
- Draw explorers’ routes and include a drawing of the flag representing the country that sponsored each explorer. Color-code routes and draw or connect a picture of the type of ship used by each explorer.
- Record boundaries of lands conquered, territories established, new frontiers explored, etc.
- Use maps as an integral part of your lesson plans. Simply introduce each new subject by using the appropriate map(s) and labeling them with pertinent information. Be sure to depict all water sources and adjacent boundaries. Add more data as your study progresses.
- Find historical data in a historical atlas of the world (or USA) or in your history curriculum.

**Geography**
- Draw and label major rivers, lakes, and other bodies of water.
- Draw physical features using colors as seen in good classroom atlases.
- Copy appropriate thematic (climate, economies, precipitation...) maps from atlases using color coding.
- Label countries, states, capitals, and major cities.

**Literature**
- Select a map representing the setting of your story and label all places of importance.
- Label surrounding countries, states, or territories.
- Find and label major sources of water, transportation routes, or movement as depicted in the literature selection.
- Compare and contrast the climate and terrain in your story to the student’s home town.
- Map the action in the story, if appropriate.

**Science**
- Study the weather, hurricanes, or other weather related events and depict them on maps. Use the hurricane tracking map and chart provided on this CD-ROM.
- Map geological regions and natural resources using color-coding, or different markings such as slashes, dots, triangles, or shading.
- Use maps for learning about volcanoes, earthquakes and other earth science topics.
- Don’t forget maps when learning about the oceans and the water cycle.
Uncle Josh's Special Map Features
We’ve put some special features in these maps to make using them more beneficial. You’ll notice that most of the maps have rivers lightly shaded. Select those of importance to your study, trace in blue, and label. It’s not necessary for students to learn all of the rivers. Grid lines depicting latitude and longitude are included where possible. This helps students to better identify where these places are located. Oceans and larger bodies of water are shaded to enhance reference points, making the outlines easier to use. In addition the country maps do not look like islands, but each country is shown in context with surrounding countries. Students will see that rivers flow through countries and do not stop at the border.

Helpful Hints for Awesome Activities
Regardless of what subject you find to use with your maps, these suggestions will help students organize their information and produce fine looking map assignments.

Helpful Hints for Students
• Color-code. Use pictures, symbols, and small stickers. Make a legend of all markings.
• Plan to use a variety of atlases and maps in textbooks, as resources for mapping activities.
• Caution: Spelling of countries and cities can vary with publisher.
• Use a current world atlas to get accurate information for your maps.
• If you’re concerned with putting that first bit of info on the map accurately, start with pencil, then mark over the pencil with fine-tipped markers or colored pencils.
• Label grid lines with latitude and longitude degrees.
• North is toward the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.
• Be creative, you have great ideas yourself!

Helpful Hints for Teachers
• To find a specific map, use the bookmarks on the left of the navigation window. If you don’t see what you’re looking for, think about the area. For example, you’ll find Croatia on the Balkans map. Do you need Northern Ireland? You’ll find it on the British Isles map. Keep looking. Believe me, every nook and cranny of the earth is on at least one of the maps in this CD-ROM!
• Be prepared: have adequate resources on hand before giving a map assignment. Be sure to provide your students with a current world atlas. (Visit www.geomatters.com for suggestions and ordering information.)
• Have students orient the map in the same way it is oriented in the atlas they are using. Adding their own compass rose might help.
• Finding large bodies of water or other stand-out features first makes labeling easier.
• Encourage students to use maps with posters, reports, and class demonstrations.
• Feel free to enlarge any section of the maps. (We don’t “blow up” countries, we enlarge them.)
• These maps are copyrighted, but I want your students to learn, so printing is permitted for families, co-op classes, or one classroom—NOT for an entire school.
• The Trail Guide to World Geography and Trail Guide to U.S. Geography are excellent resources for weekly mapping assignments to use with these maps.

Conclusion:
We’ve made every effort to make these maps as accurate as possible. Because of map projections, some maps may be distorted. If a boundary is missing, hey, it’s an outline map—draw it in! If a boundary changes somewhere in the world, try liquid paper or White Out before making copies. If you find an error, feel free to contact me and I’ll gladly correct it on the next update of this CD-ROM. (My email address is: unclejosh@geomatters.com)

Well, there you are. Go for it, and have fun exploring the world through maps!
Printing & Tech Support

Before you call for tech support please do the following:

• Make sure you have the most recent version of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Some newer computers do not come with this software pre-installed. You can download Acrobat Reader FREE from https://get.adobe.com/reader/

• This CD is NOT an auto-run program. The CD contains files that are read by Acrobat Reader and can be used on ANY computer platform that can run Acrobat Reader, including ALL personal computers running ANY version of Windows, Macintosh OS, and Unix.

• Start Acrobat Reader, insert Uncle Josh’s CD-ROM, go to FILE>OPEN and find the CD-ROM and “Open” the “Uncle-Josh-Map-CD” file.

• Navigate the map files using the “Bookmarks” tab and click on the map you want to view/print.

• You can also use the “thumbnail mode” to chose the map you want (this may slow your computer down because of the redraw of each thumbnail as you scroll down the list).

• Visit http://www.geomatters.com for updates and for FAQs.

• Windows users: If pages or maps don’t seem to print full-page, make sure you check the “print as image” in the print dialogue box. If the map prints as solid black, try selecting the “Print in grayscale” box.

• Windows 10 users: If you are having problems printing from Acrobat Reader, perhaps try opening/printing the file in Microsoft Edge (the web browser).

Contact Info

If, after you have done everything listed above, you can email or call:

email: unclejosh@geomatters.com
Tech Support: 606-636-4678