

# Passport to New Worlds Reading



Grades 4 – 5

## Welcome, Traveler!

A passport is a document that guides you from country to country while traveling. This passport is designed to help you READ across the world ...

Have fun each month!

- Mark off the places you travel with a passport sticker.
- Spark your imagination about the world.
- Find new ways to interact with the books you read.

Don't let the fun stop there. Extend your journey outside of the passport!

- Explore the activities, and share them with others.
- Tour on your own; check out a book from the library.
- Search out interesting destinations, and plan your next trip.

Keep this passport ready, and prepare to travel to a new country each month!

**This passport belongs to:**



## Pack Your Bags—Get Ready to Read Across the World!

Here are a few of the things you will need to prepare for your reading journey!

- **A comfortable place:** It's easier to read when your body is comfortable.
- **Quiet time:** Reading is most fun when you are free from distractions.
- **Curiosity:** Ask questions, and record your “wonderings.” Think about making connections between what you already know and the books you read.
- **A traveling partner:** Share your books and what you're reading with others. Ask them questions, or share your favorite parts.

## Book Travel History

Before you travel into a new book, review where you have been.

Favorite book character:

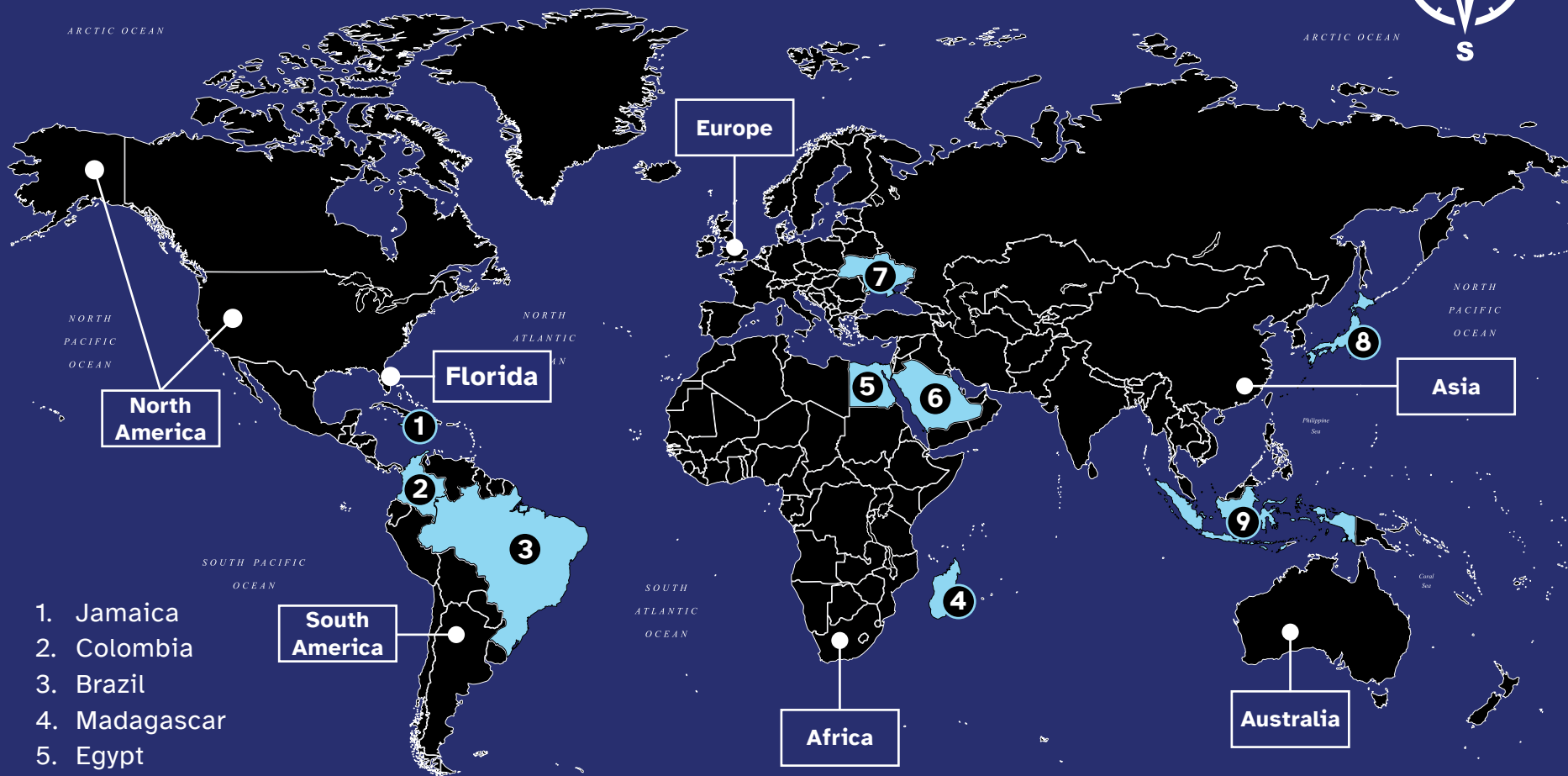
Most interesting location:

Book with the best facts:

Book that made me laugh out loud:

Most exciting book:

The most important thing to have in any book is:





# October

# Jamaica

**Location:** Third-largest island of the 700 in the Caribbean, just south of Cuba

**Primary Language:** English, Jamaican Patois

**Must Visit:** Jamaica Carnival

**Animals:** Find the “doctor bird,” a two-tailed hummingbird.



Jamaica is the birthplace of reggae, ska, and dancehall music. After you taste some of the spicy jerk chicken, get ready to dance and enjoy Jamaica Carnival! Carnival is a week-long celebration featuring parties, parades, and concerts.

Jamaica has a lot of personality, just like the characters in your latest read. While you’re enjoying the tastes and sounds of Jamaica, think about your favorite book character while you answer these questions:

## Describe or draw the character:

- What is their personality like? How would you describe their character traits?
- What is their favorite saying?
- What is their favorite food?
- How would you change the character if you were the author?

Time to get on an airplane and fly south across the Caribbean Sea to a sparkling destination!

# November

# Colombia

**Location:** Crossing the equator, South America

**Primary Language:** Spanish

**Must Visit:** Bogotá’s Gold Museum with over 34,000 gold pieces, some over 2,500 years old

**Animals:** Search out capybaras, the largest living rodents!



Mountains, deserts, beaches, and rainforests—Colombia has it all! But there’s more than just nature here. Visit the capital city of Bogotá to experience rich history and culture. Top it all off with a visit to the Gold Museum.

Speaking of gold, would you give your last read a gold star, or could it use some more shine and polish? Give your book the stars it deserves, and create a review. Tell the world why you loved the book or what you would have done to make it amazing.



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Have you been dazzled by Colombia? Take time to rest on the flight to your next destination!

# December

# Brazil

**Location:** The largest country in South America, home of the Amazon River Basin

**Primary Language:** Portuguese

**Must Visit:** Iguazu Falls

**Animals:** Here, you'll find slow sloths, stealthy jaguars, and rare Amazon river dolphins!



There are about 400 billion trees in the Amazon River Basin and 10% of the world's species of animals. Brazil is a wild place! Explore the amazing Iguazu Falls, over 200 feet tall and over 1.25 miles wide.

Brazil is a fascinating place. Imagine if your latest read was set in Brazil. How would changing the setting change the story? Retell your favorite scene from the book, but change the setting:

Time to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. Your next destination has more wilderness to explore but not as much water.

# January

# Madagascar

**Location:** An island off the southeast coast of Africa

**Primary Language:** Malagasy, French

**Must Visit:** Baobab trees and wild orchids

**Animals:** Search for ring-tailed lemurs, chameleons, aye-ayes, and fossas.



Most of the plants and animals found in Madagascar are not found anywhere else in the world! Visit the long-lived baobab trees! Sometimes, they're called "upside-down trees" because their branches appear to be roots sticking up in the air!

Not every word is one of a kind. Words that mean the same thing—or almost the same thing—as another word are called **synonyms**. In each group of four words below, there are three synonyms. Find the word that does not belong! Did you notice that the word that did not belong in each group was the group's opposite? A word with an opposite meaning is called an **antonym**.

Word	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3
1. big	large	mini	huge
2. small	tiny	little	giant
3. happy	sorry	glad	joyful
4. sad	unhappy	thrilled	gloomy
5. fast	rapid	creeping	swift
6. slow	creeping	speedy	lazy

**Answer Key:** 1. **big:** mini 2. **small:** giant 3. **happy:** sorry 4. **sad:** thrilled 5. **fast:** creeping 6. **slow:** speedy

What an amazing, awesome, incredible, and surprising place! Time to head north to a place with great history.

## February

## Egypt

**Location:** North Africa

**Primary Language:** Arabic

**Must Visit:** In Giza, the Sphinx and the Great Pyramid (one of the Seven Wonders of the World)

**Animals:** Here, you will find Egyptian vultures, Nile crocodiles, and striped hyenas!



The Nile River has been the center of Egyptian culture for over 5,000 years. Ancient Egyptians invented paper and writing. They also contributed to mathematics, medicine, agriculture, and art. A visit to Egypt brings history to life!

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There are many amazing stories to learn and share about Ancient Egypt. What amazing stories would you like to tell? Retell a favorite story or scene from your latest read. Make sure to share the order of events!

It's time to share. Now, act out your story for someone else to enjoy!

About 95% of Egypt is desert—dry, and sandy. The next country on our tour is also dry but partially mountainous!

## March

## Saudi Arabia

**Location:** East of Egypt

**Primary Language:** Arabic

**Must Visit:** The historic port city of Jeddah

**Animals:** Camels are an important form of transport in the desert. There, you can find honey badgers and caracals (wild hunting cats).



You might not think about swimming when you learn that Saudi Arabia is mostly desert. But once you put on your snorkel mask and explore underwater, you'll find coral reefs and tropical fish galore!

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Saudi Arabia changes when you explore under the water. Changing your perspective (the way you view things) gives you new information and experiences and a new way of understanding situations. Think about the last fiction book you read, and answer these questions.

- ☐ What is the perspective of the main character of the last book you read?
- ☐ Does the author want you to think a certain way about the subject? How can you tell?
- ☐ In what ways do you agree or disagree with the main character's perspective of the main problem in the story?
- ☐ How would the book change if the author added additional perspectives to the story?

Time to dry off and leave the tropical waters. Climb into an airplane, and head north to your next destination.

## April

## Ukraine

**Location:** Eastern Europe, on the Black Sea

**Primary Language:** Ukrainian

**Must Visit:** The Pysanka Museum to experience over 10,000 dyed eggs

**Animals:** Stoats, moose, and barn owls roam the woodlands.



Farming helped Ukraine to be known as the “breadbasket of Europe.” The country is also recognized for its pysanky tradition. **Pysanky** refers to eggs decorated with beeswax and dyes. They are a symbol of hope and are created and shared every spring.

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Books, like countries, can be difficult to share in just a few words. If you had to tell a friend about this book in just a few sentences, what would you say? Use the following questions as a guide to help you summarize the last book you read.

- ☐ What’s the central idea of the story?
- ☐ Explain what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- ☐ Who are the main characters, and what are they trying to achieve?
- ☐ What is the problem or conflict, and how is it resolved?
- ☐ What are the most important events that move the story forward?

Ready to travel? It’s time to skip across the Asian continent towards the Pacific Ocean.

## May

## Japan

**Location:** Island country to the east of mainland Asia in the Pacific Ocean

**Primary Language:** Japanese

**Must Visit:** The top of Tokyo Tower

**Animals:** Notice the snow monkeys, red-crowned cranes, and sika deer.



Japan is made up of over 14,000 islands. It’s a land associated with samurais and ancient traditions, like tea ceremonies and ikebana. Modern Japan shares its culture around the world, including things like sushi, manga, anime, and J-pop music!

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Japan can inspire plenty of conversations! Does your latest book make you want to start talking, too? Imagine a conversation about what you’ve been reading.

- ☐ Who are you talking to?
- ☐ Why do you want to tell them about this book?
- ☐ What do you want them to know about this book?
- ☐ How will you start the conversation?
- ☐ What kinds of questions do you think they will ask?

Time to travel south across the Philippine Sea to our next island destination. There’s only one stop left on this around-the-world tour!

**Location:** Islands between the Indian and Pacific oceans, North of Australia

**Primary Language:** Indonesian

**Must Visit:** Tanjung Puting National Park to visit orangutans

**Animals:** Watch for Komodo dragons, Sumatran tigers, and Asian elephants.



The name **Indonesia** comes from two words: **Indos** and **Nesos**, meaning **Indian Islands**. There are MANY islands to explore! Some islands have large cities, or active volcanoes, or beautiful beaches, or amazing wildlife. Indonesia is made of many interesting parts!

Just like the word Indonesia, plenty of everyday English words are made up of word parts that have specific meanings.

Prefixes - come at the beginning of the word

Suffixes - come at the end of the word

Prefix	Meaning
micro-	small
tele-	far off

Suffix	Meaning
-phone	sound
-scope	viewing device

Can you combine these prefixes and suffixes to make words with the following meanings?

1. A device for viewing something small
2. Something that provides far-off sounds

**Answer Key:** 1. microscope 2. telephone

Pack your bags—it's time to fly home!

Nine months of travel and new experiences will change a person! Think back on your months of reading and travel, and share three of your biggest successes—travel-related or not!

1.



2.



3.



**What do you want to do or explore next?**



# Animal Explorers

There were many animals on this trip. Can you match each animal with its location?

# 1. stoat



## 2. capybara



### 3. ring-tailed lemur



## 4. Komodo dragon



## 5. sloth



## 6. “doctor bird”



## 7. camel



8. red-crowned crane 



## 9. Egyptian vulture



**Answer Key: 1. Ukraine 2. Colombia 3. Madagascar 4. Indonesia 5. Brazil 6. Jamaica 7. Saudi Arabia 8. Japan 9. Egypt**



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