

RECOMMENDED GRADES: 4-8



TIME NEEDED: 25 MINUTES

Description

The Giant Map turns into the world's biggest concentration game board as students learn the locations of all of South America's countries and their capital cities.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- learn the countries and capitals of South America

Materials

- Countries & Capitals Cards (13, red)
- Countries & Capitals Cards (13, yellow)
- Poly spots (13, or similar)
- Large die (1)

Preparation

5 minutes

- Separate red and yellow cards and shuffle each group.

Tips/Modifications

Modification

- Substitute poly spots with cones or cards able to conceal capital city names.

Rules



Have students remove shoes before walking on the map.

DIRECTIONS

1. Direct students to walk quietly around the map, focusing their attention on the country names and capital cities. Explain the symbol (encircled star) for capital cities. Tell students they will soon be playing a competitive game testing their knowledge of the names and locations of these capital cities.

COUNTRIES & CAPITALS CONCENTRATION

2. Place poly spots over all 13 capital city names, concealing the whole name.
3. Select participants for two groups of 13 students and instruct one group to line up along the western (left) yellow border of the map and the other group along the eastern (right) yellow border. Tell each group to spread apart and evenly space themselves along the whole border.
4. Give each student on one side a country card and each student on the other side a capital card. Students can look at the cards but should not show them to the students on the opposite side of the map until instructed to do so.

Modification

If you have fewer than 26, students you can have some hold more than one card.

Notes:

- There are two Bolivia country cards and two different capital cards, given that Bolivia has two national capitals (La Paz and Sucre).
 - French Guiana has no cards since it has no national capital (it is an overseas department of France).
5. Explain to students that this game is similar to the popular game of concentration. The object is for each student to remember which student across the map has the match for his or her country or capital.
 6. Have the side with the country cards hold up their cards for one minute, facing the opposite side before turning them back toward themselves. Then have the side with the capital cards hold up their cards for one minute.
 7. Choose a student to roll the die (or do it yourself from the center of the map). If the number is 1, 2, or 3, a student on the country side of the map will go first. If the number is 4, 5, or 6, a student with a capital card will go first.
 8. The first student selects his or her match (or at least guesses who has it) and asks for that student to reveal his or her country or capital name. If they do indeed match, those two students will say the name of their country and capital out loud and walk onto the map and sit together in the correct location on or near the capital of their country.
 9. Roll the die again to determine which side goes next. The game is over when all the students are sitting in the right locations on the map. If time permits, reshuffle and distribute both sets of cards and students can play again.

Tip

Caution students not to speak out and reveal the location of a match when it is not their turn. Have these students sit out to discourage this behavior.