



Maps and Geography

Ken Jennings

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Discover the fun facts about the world and become a master of geography with this interactive trivia book from *Jeopardy!* champ and *New York Times* bestselling author Ken Jennings.

With this Junior Genius Guide to maps and geography, you'll become an expert and wow your friends and teachers with clever facts: Did you know that the biggest desert in the world is actually covered in snow? Or that Christopher Columbus wasn't the first to think that the Earth was round? With great illustrations, cool trivia, and fun quizzes to test your knowledge, this guide will have you on your way to whiz-kid status in no time!

Maps and Geography Details

Date : Published February 4th 2014 by Little Simon (first published February 1st 2014)

ISBN : 9781442473287

Author : Ken Jennings

Format : Paperback 160 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Science, Geography, Childrens, Cartography, Maps

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From Reader Review Maps and Geography for online ebook

Marcia says

A fun, illustrated reference book written by Jeopardy champ Ken Jennings. It covers lots of basics, includes interesting facts and little quizzes. I found the tone and the constant reference to "Junior Geniuses" grating, but I doubt kids will mind. I learned some new facts and think it could be a fun addition to an elementary geography class.

Heber Davis says

This was a great book

Melanie says

I'll be generous in my rating because I know I am not the target audience for this book, and there were some things I liked (the structure, the illustrations, the test at the end). Overall though I didn't like the tone of the book and felt it was all over the place in terms of content. I came across an error early on...the prime meridian is 0 degrees of longitude, not latitude, and that soured me a bit. What good is a trivia book if you can't trust it?

Ian says

I think it was a good book overall, and I liked almost everything about it, but what I did not like was the randomness of the content. It seemed like there was no consistency for more than a page or 2. I would have given it 5 stars if it would actually tell something worth knowing about the things mentioned, not if Nauru made money or not off bird poop.

Jenna Cantino says

I mean, if you like geography, this book is great. As someone who is fairly neutral on the subject, this was just so-so.

Siskiyou-Suzy says

Ken Jennings has some dad joke tendencies, but he also writes really interesting books. I love geography, and I enjoyed this presentation of it for children. The cartoonish nature is a bit too much for me, so I didn't

love it. There is a cool bit of the book where the answers to various questions are written in code so that the answer isn't given away so easily. (I've always hated it when answers are written upside down. People can read upside down, guys. If I accidentally glance at the answer, I know it.)

Lexy Kelleher says

I really enjoyed this! A great overview of maps and geography with a lot of really interesting trivia thrown in the mix. It is Ken Jennings, after all.

Although it seems to be targeted to ages 8-12 or so, it seems a little dense for that age group. I'm not sure how much I would have enjoyed this at that age. The illustrations are nice, but a book about maps and geography could really benefit from colored illustrations and/or photographs.

Edy Gies says

I love the style of these books! Maps and geography are some of my favorite things and this book is full of clever fun facts and interesting tidbits. Jennings style is engaging and perfect for younger readers. Highly recommend!

Elizabeth says

First, this is a trivia book. This is not meant to be an all-encompassing tour of geography. I thought the tone was light, and there was a great variety of trivia.

Second, I looked for an error that was referenced in another review and did not see it. The material feels more or less current.

Third and finally, this primarily is a book written for older children (8-early teen). The tone feels more or less appropriate for the age group. I found this very readable as an adult, too.

This is a great book series overall. Highly recommended.

Kristin Edwards says

By: Kristin Edwards

APA - Jennings, K., & Lowery, M. (2014). Maps and geography. New York: Little Simon.

Cost\$32

the type of reference - Geographical Reference

Call Number

content/scope - This book is part of the "Junior Genius Guides" series. The book is filled with guide to maps and geography, to become an expert on facts. It is filled with great illustrations, cool trivia, and fun quizzes.

accuracy - Ken Jennings has become a best-selling author. His books include Brainiac, about the phenomenon of trivia in American culture, Ken Jennings's Trivia Almanac, the biggest American trivia book ever assembled, and Maphead, about his lifelong love of geography.

presentation- This book has a collection of facts about climate, national flags, maps, and more.

relation to similar works - There are many books that students can use to find information about geography. But, this book is targeted towards grades 3rd-6th.

diversity - The text and examples are age appropriate. The illustrations will help students visualize and understand the information they are looking for.

the citation of a review of the item - Retrieved from <http://www.booklistonline.com>

Heidi says

Having studied geography in college it's a subject that has long fascinated me and while I currently work as a school librarian I still have a special fondness for geography. So when I saw this book I was intrigued. And I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. Jennings has divided the book up into 'class periods' with each period focusing on a particular topic like maps or countries or cities or oceans. He even included a 'music' class (national anthems). Each section includes fascinating information about the physical and human worlds. Some of the information is well-known but a lot of it is lesser known facts about people and places that most child readers will never have heard of. With the exception of one misplaced word (on page 16, the word should be longitude instead of latitude) the book is factually correct as far as I know (and I know a bit about geography). This is the type of book that could well light a fire of passion in the heart of a child for a particular subject.

Cathi says

This book was a lot of fun, and I managed to learn a lot. Granted, I'm not the target audience for this book, but because I like Ken Jennings, I thought I'd give it a try. It's written with a silly style, but that's okay. Silliness can be good, especially when you're a kid. There were all sorts of delightfully intriguing and obscure facts in this little gem, as well as some basic geographical knowledge, charts, lists, etc. The illustrations are fun, and overall, it's a likable book for smart kids who want to become a bit smarter in the area of geography. I may not be a kid, but I might just check out Jennings' other Junior Genius books sometime.

Brandy says

This is such a fun book jam packed with so much geography. Ken writes the book in a way that makes learning fun and keeps your attention. The chapters are broken down by 1st period, lunch, recess etc.

There are illustrations, extra credit and pop quizzes throughout and a 20 question quiz at the end (all answers are provided). Kids can learn about time zones, the highest landmarks & mountains, the deepest depth of the seas, maps (and how CA was once drawn as an island), what countries are shaped like food or animals, National Anthems, ocean inhabitants, places who have changed their names, capital location changes and so much more.

I Can't wait to read the next in the series!

Allison Burgess says

Jennings, K., & Lowery, M. i. (2014). Maps and geography. Little Simon, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Pub. Division.

Citation by: Allison Burgess

Type of Reference: Geographical

Call Number: 910

Content/Scope: This book not only provides facts about maps and geography for students, it includes recipes, exams, and craft projects for students to engage in.

Accuracy/Authority/Bias: The author Ken Jennings is a Jeopardy! champ and New York Times bestselling author.

Arrangement/Presentation: The 160 page book presents map and geography facts with black and white illustrations to help explain concepts.

Relation to other works: There are other books about maps and geography, however this book takes a modern approach to the subject by including it in the "Junior Genius Guides" series.

Accessibility/Diversity: Students will be engaged with the fun facts and activities. It may encourage students who are not interested in the topic to pick up this book and learn.

Cost: \$18.99

Professional Review: Maps and Geography. (2013). Publishers Weekly, 260(49), 86-87.

Stephanie Watson says

I am a bit biased because I am a geography nerd, but I thoroughly enjoyed this book! Loads of interesting content and engaging writing style for the target audience, which I'd say is 8-12 year olds. There's a good degree of goofiness employed, but sometimes you need that in a nonfiction book for kids. I would rather have eye-catching colorful photography or illustrations than these cartoony black and white ones, but again, it caters well to the audience. I found myself reading several parts out loud to whoever happened to be in the room with me at the time, which is my unofficial mark of an enjoyable nonfiction read. There's a lot in here I didn't know before.

Long story short, not the end-all be-all best children's book on geography out there, but a highly entertaining one, at least for 8-12 year olds. I can see it as being the book that sparks kids' interest in the subject.
