

# Bell Activity

- How many time zones does the U.S. have?
- How do these time zones affect life in the U.S.?
- Russia is so large it has 11 time zones. What difficulties might this create?

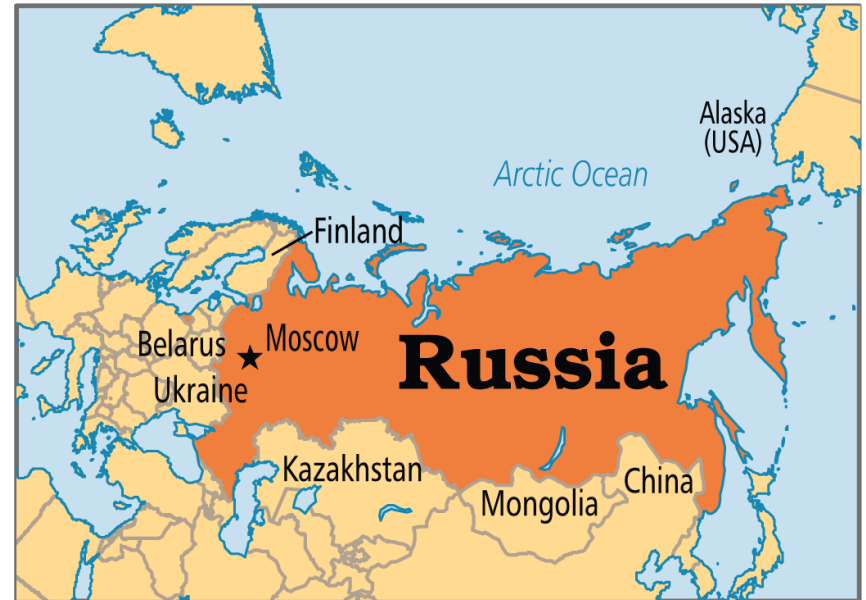
# Objectives

- Know landforms, climates, and natural resources of Russian.
- Know the patterns of Russian population distribution.
- Identify and describe important places in Russia.

Russia

# Map Activity

- Label your Map with Russia



1. Russia is very expansive. It takes 11 hours by plane to go from one side to the other.
  
2. Dense forests, high mountains and plains.
  
3. World's Largest country in area.
  - 11 time zones
  - Russian stretches almost halfway around the world.
  - Russia is spread across 2 continents: Europe and Asia and is divided by the Ural Mountains.

# European Russia (Blue)

- Covered mostly by Russian Plain
- Stretches east to the Ural Mountains and S. to the Caucasus Mountains.



- Many mountains are volcanic and covered by glaciers year round.
- The longest river is called the Volga and flows into the Caspian Sea.
  - The Caspian Sea is famous and part of songs and stories important to the Russian people.



- Russia has many large lakes and seas. The most famous is Lake Baikal in the heart of Siberia.
  - 1 mile deep
  - Holds 20% of Earth's fresh water
  - Many unique plants and animals found no where else.





Even though Russia has many rivers, canals and coastlines, Russia lacks many good harbors and ports.

# Climate and Vegetation

- Many areas of Russia have a subarctic climate because they lie near the Arctic Circle.
- Northern Russian has a tundra climate region: cold, dry, treeless, and covered with snow most of the year.
- SW Russia experiences long, cold winters and warm summers.
- Southern Russia has a semiarid, moderately dry climate.
- E. Russia has mild, moist summers

# European Russia

- North Russia has thick coniferous forests.
- S. Russia have temperate forests.
- E. Russia vast areas of grasslands called steppes: make fertile farmland.



# Asian Russia

- In Siberia, weather and climate are more extreme than in European Russia.
- Winters are long and cold and dry.
- Tundra covers 1/10<sup>th</sup> of Russia and stretches from Finland to the Kamchatka Peninsula.



# Kamchatka Peninsula

- Famous for its 160 volcanoes, 29 which are active.



- South of the tundra is the Russian taiga where there are dense coniferous forests.
- The forests made it challenging for humans to pass through and the permafrost (permanent frozen soil) made roads, housing and railroad building difficult.

- The far east region of Russia looks very different from the rest of the country.
- This area is close to the ocean and farther south so it is warmer and more vegetation can grow here.
- Animals include Amur tigers, the world's largest cat.

# Russian Resources

- Rich in mineral and energy resources especially in Siberia, making Russia wealthy.
  - Timber
  - Fish
  - Hydroelectric power
  - Coal: 1/3 of Earth's coal is located in Siberia
  - Gold
  - Iron, nickel, cobalt and platinum ore.
- Natural resources are difficult to reach due to long distances and harsh climates



- Russia has had to build and maintain an extensive transportation system to move product to market. Poor quality roads can make this difficult.
  - Many truck drivers find it easier to drive on frozen rivers .
- Underground pipelines transport Russia's oil and natural gas.
- Railroad is also used to transport goods to consumers.

# Trans-Siberian Railroad 1905

Large scale economic development began after the railroad was put in.

Connects Moscow in west to Vladivostok on the Pacific ocean. It also connects rail lines running from Mongolia and China.



- The railroad was built to help people settle the land and transport troops.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3Cw0>



# People of Russia





# People of Russia

- Population of 140 million people.
- Most live in the European part of Russia
- Most dense living areas have warmer climates and better agriculture.
- Siberia is a huge area of land but sparsely populated: 20 people per square mile.

- Largest cities are located in the west in Eastern Russia
- Moscow is the capital and the largest metropolitan area in Russia – 10 million people.
- St. Petersburg is Russia's second largest city located on the Baltic Sea. Founded by Russia's emperor, Peter the Great.



# Slavs

- The first Russians were East Slavs, migrating to Russia from east-central Europe.
- 80% of the population are Russian-speaking Slavs.
- Traditionally the Slavic people were Russian Orthodox but communism during the Soviet Union discouraged religions. Today more Russians are going back to church.
- There are 100 other ethnic and nationality groups in Russia today. Each has a distinct culture, language and religion.



Homework: Due Thursday 2/20  
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