



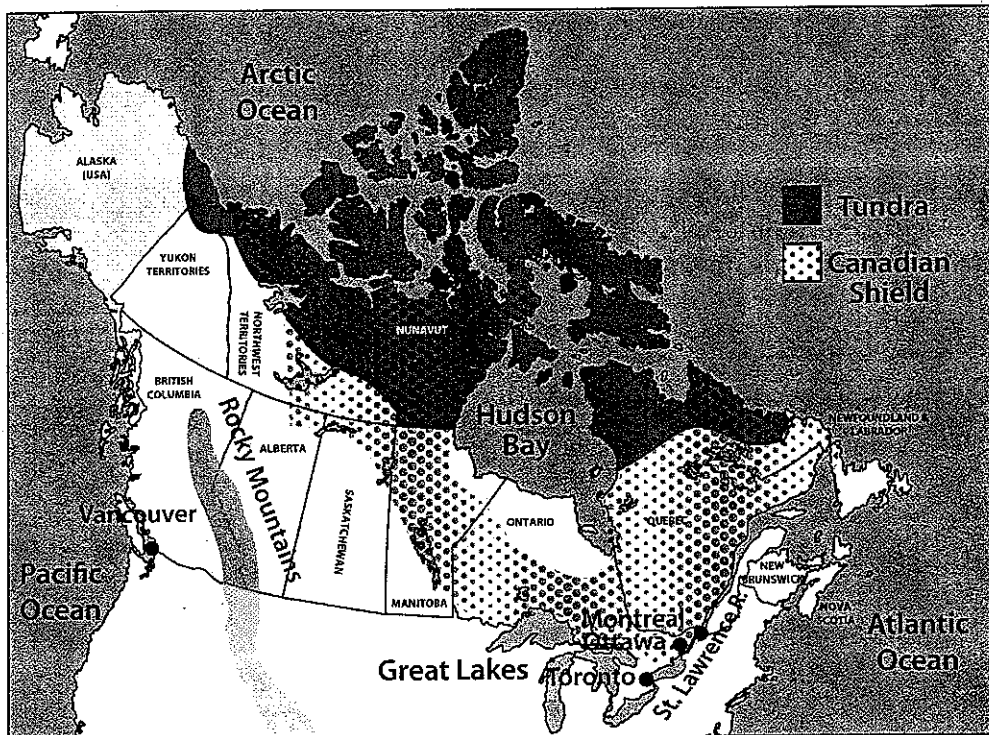
Chapter 1.2 Geography of Canada

1. **acid rain:** *Occurs when pollutants are trapped in the air and fall back to the earth in rain showers.*
2. **Arctic:** *Ocean that borders Canada to the North.*
3. **Atlantic Ocean:** *Ocean that borders North and South America to the East.*
4. **Canadian Shield:** *It contains an abundance of mineral ores, such as gold, silver, copper, and nickel.*
5. **Great Lakes:** *They are among the largest freshwater lakes in the world.*
6. **Great Lakes:** *Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario.*
7. **Hudson Bay:** *Much of Canada's northeast coastline borders this bay.*
8. **Rocky Mountains:** *Begin in the southwestern United States and run thousands of miles into Canada. It is a major mountain range separating eastern and western Canada.*
9. **St. Lawrence River:** *River that runs inland into southeast Canada.*
10. **Tundra:** *Frozen ground, found in northern Canada and Russia.*

Study Guide: 1.2 Geography of Canada

SS6G5 The student will locate selected features of Canada.

- a. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: the St. Lawrence River, Hudson Bay, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, the Great Lakes, Canadian Shield, and Rocky Mountains.



Geography's Impact on Canadians and Trade

SS6G6 The student will explain the impact of location, climate, distribution of natural resources, and population distribution on Canada.

- a. Describe how Canada's location, climate, and natural resources have affected where people live.*

Cities and Population

A country's location, climate, and available natural resources have a lot of impact on its population and economy. Canada is located very far from the equator. The country has very cold winters and, in much of its northern regions, freezing temperatures year round. As a result, most Canadians live in the southern portion of the country.

Today, most Canadians live in urban areas (cities). Geography has played a major role in determining where cities formed. Most major Canadian cities grew up along rivers, coasts, and other waterways. Waterways allow ships to transport people and goods from place to place. They allow for people to travel and engage in trade. Since people depend on trade and contact with other regions for survival, they tended to gather in these areas and establish settlements that became cities. Montreal is on the St. Lawrence River. Toronto rests on the shore of Lake Ontario. Vancouver sits at the intersection of a river and the Pacific Ocean. These are among Canada's largest and most important cities.

SS6G6 The student will explain the impact of location, climate, distribution of natural resources, and population distribution on Canada.

- a. Describe how Canada's location, climate, and natural resources impact trade.*

Location and Canada's Economy

Because Canada borders a highly developed country like the United States, the two countries have often cooperated in ways that have benefited both nations. Together, they have signed free-trade agreements, allowing each nation to conduct borders in the other without having to pay special taxes.

Location and close ties to the United States have helped Canadian industries grow and prosper.

Natural Resources

Canada also relies on its natural resources. Vast forest regions enable Canada to profit from a valuable timber industry. Oil exports also make the country one of the world's leading suppliers of petroleum. The open plains of central Canada provide some of the most fertile farmland in the world. As a result, Canada is a world leader in agricultural

production. In northern Canada, where harsh temperatures make farming difficult, many towns rely on mining industries that extract Canada's rich mineral deposits.

Environmental Issues Facing Canada

SS6G7 The student will discuss environmental issues in Canada.

- a. *Explain the major environmental concerns of Canada regarding acid rain and pollution of the Great Lakes, the extraction and use of natural resources on the Canadian Shield, and timber resources.*

Acid Rain

Canada must deal with a number of environmental issues. Because Canada is economically developed, it has a lot of modern industries. Industrial activity can produce pollution. Modern factories sometimes pollute the air and water. Such pollution can cause **acid rain**. Acid rain occurs when pollutants are trapped in the air and fall back to the earth in rain showers.

Protecting The Great Lakes

Along with the United States, Canada strives to keep the Great Lakes clean. These lakes provide sources of water and recreation. Therefore, both nations have a huge interest in keeping them free of pollution.

Protecting Forests

Canada also looks for ways to limit damage caused by its timber industry. Canada has a vast amount of forestland. Canadian timber is used to manufacture goods and trade with other countries. While timber produces a great amount of revenue for Canada, environmentalist (people concerned with protecting the environment) worry that too much forestland could be destroyed if the government does not take action to regulate the timber industry.

Extraction on the Canadian Shield

Environmentalists are also concerned about the effects of the **extraction of the Canadian Shield**.

Extraction is the process of removing natural resources so that they can be used to meet human needs. When oil companies drill for oil or mining companies dig for precious metals, they are extracting natural resources. Many environmentalists fear that the Canadian Shield is being damaged by mining.