

Name _____

Canada's Geography and Natural Features



Canada is the second-largest country in the world, covering nearly 10 million square kilometers. Its vast landscapes include towering mountains, enormous lakes, icy tundra, and dense forests. Because of its size, Canada has many different natural environments, from the cold Arctic in the north to the lush forests and prairies in the south.

The Rocky Mountains: Canada's Majestic Peaks

The Rocky Mountains, often called the Rockies, stretch across western Canada. These mountains are some of the tallest in North America, with snow-capped peaks, deep valleys, and crystal-clear lakes. The highest peak in the Canadian Rockies is

Mount Robson, which stands at 3,954 meters (12,972 feet).

The Rockies are home to many wild animals, including grizzly bears, elk, mountain goats, and bald eagles. People visit the Banff and Jasper National Parks to hike, ski, and enjoy the breathtaking views.

The Great Lakes: A Natural Wonder

Canada shares the Great Lakes with the United States. These five massive lakes—Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario—hold about 20% of the world's fresh water!

The Great Lakes region is an important area for fishing, transportation, and wildlife. Many cities, including Toronto, are located along their shores. The lakes provide a home for fish like trout and salmon, as well as birds such as bald eagles and herons.

The Tundra: Canada's Frozen North

The tundra is a cold, treeless region found in northern Canada, especially in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. In the tundra, temperatures are very low for most of the year, and the ground remains frozen in a layer called permafrost.

Even in this extreme environment, animals such as polar bears, Arctic foxes, and caribou survive. In the summer, small plants like mosses, grasses, and wildflowers grow, creating a brief but beautiful season of life.

The Boreal Forest: Canada's Green Heart

The boreal forest, also known as the taiga, covers over half of Canada's land. It is one of the largest forests in the world and is filled with evergreen trees, rivers, and wetlands.

Many animals live in the boreal forest, including moose, wolves, lynxes, and black bears. This forest also plays a vital role in the environment by absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen, helping keep the air clean.

A Land of Natural Beauty

From the towering peaks of the Rockies to the icy tundra of the north, Canada is a country with incredible natural beauty. Whether you visit the Great Lakes, the boreal forests, or the snowy mountains, there is always something amazing to explore!