

# Globe Lesson 17 - Alaska and Hawaii - Grade 4-5

**Skills used** Latitude & Longitude

Using scale to measure distance

Using directions

Critical thinking

**Materials Needed** Globe in Horizon Ring Mounting

## Lesson

In 1867 the United States purchased Alaska from Russia for less than two cents an acre.

Find and circle Alaska on your globe. It can be found at  $65^{\circ}\text{N}/150^{\circ}\text{W}$ .

Turn to a world map in your social studies textbook and find Alaska. Use this map and its scale to measure the width of the state from its eastern boundary to its west coast at the point

where it is closest to Russia. How wide is Alaska at this point? (1.)

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Now, use your globe and the globe's mounting ring to measure Alaska's width at the same location. What is the distance on the globe? (2.) \_\_\_\_\_ Is the distance you measured across Alaska the same on the globe as it was on the textbook map?

(3.) \_\_\_\_\_ Which distance is the most accurate?(4.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Why? (5.)

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What is the name of the river that flows from east to west across Alaska? (6.)

\_\_\_\_\_ In the central part of the state, just south of this river you will find a small dot near  $63^{\circ}\text{N}/150^{\circ}\text{W}$ . What does this dot stand for? (7.)

\_\_\_\_\_ This mountain peak, at 20,320 feet, is the highest elevation on the continent of North America. What is the name of the mountain? (8.)

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Find the Aleutian Islands. The Aleutians are part of Alaska and they extend southwest and

west from the southern end of the state. Follow them westward until you come to a brown line. This line is called the International Date Line. Why do you think the line zigzags to the

west near the western end of the Aleutian Islands? (9.)

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Next, circle the Hawaiian Islands at  $25^{\circ}\text{N}/165^{\circ}\text{W}$ . Are the Hawaiian Islands closer to California or to Alaska? (10.) \_\_\_\_\_

Place a small "X" on Honolulu, Hawaii.

How far is Honolulu from the equator? (11.) \_\_\_\_\_ Compare that distance with Miami, Florida's distance from the equator. What kind of climate do you think

Honolulu might have? (12.) \_\_\_\_\_

To enjoy the warm breezy climate and the beautiful beaches and landscapes, millions of tourists travel to Hawaii for vacations each year. Suppose that you could visit Hawaii on your next vacation. Use your globe mounting ring to draw a route from your hometown, or a

place near it, to Honolulu. How far would it be and how long would it take you to fly there?

Make a list of some states you might fly over on such a trip.