



Year 4 Eastern Europe Reading Booklet

Lesson Series:

1. Key places in Eastern Europe
2. Climate of Eastern Europe (graphs, rainfall, temperature variation, distance from the equator)
3. Physical Features of Eastern Europe
5. Conflict in Eastern Europe
6. Assessment

Name: _____

Class: _____

Lesson 1

Eastern Europe - Key Places:

Eastern Europe covers a wide area, with many countries, peoples, cities and rivers. It has a long border with the continent of Asia. The biggest country in Eastern Europe is the Russian Federation, also known as Russia. However, not all of Russia is in Europe. Some of Russia is located within the continent of Asia. The United Nations identifies the following countries as Eastern European; Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine. There are many languages spoken in Eastern Europe. Some of the languages have similarities because of where they are and the countries having similar origins.

Read this

Lesson 2

Climate of Eastern Europe:

Within Ukraine, eastern Belarus, and Russia, there is a continental climate. This means that winters are much colder and longer, with greater snow cover, than in western Europe. Winters are coldest in the north-east, and summers are hottest in the south-east. Summer is the time of year that receives the most rain, which is less abundant than in the west of Europe. In parts of the south, lower rainfall - combined with the fact it rains less often, creates problems including droughts. Some of the Balkan countries are closer to the equator and so have a warmer climate, like: Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria. Just like it is in Western Europe, summers are mild, but winters are significantly colder, often seeing heavy snowfall.

Read this



Lesson 3

Physical Geographical features of Eastern Europe:

The four seas that surround Eastern Europe are the Baltic Sea, the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea and the Adriatic Sea. There are some very long rivers in Eastern Europe, including the Volga, which starts to the north of Moscow and reaches the Caspian Sea. It is the longest river in Europe and the Russian people call it Mother Volga. The most famous river in this part of Europe is probably the Danube. The Danube River flows through Vienna (capital of Austria), Bratislava (capital of Slovakia), Budapest (capital of Hungary) and Belgrade (capital of Serbia). Europe's highest mountains are in the south-east corner of Europe. They are called the Caucasus Mountains. The very highest mountain in this range is Mount Elbrus in Russia.



Lesson 5

Conflict in Eastern Europe

In February 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine. This happened because the relationship between Russia and Ukraine had been tense for many years, particularly since Russia annexed a region of Ukraine called Crimea in 2014. Vladimir Putin, the Russian President, was concerned that Ukraine was beginning to move towards EU membership and membership of NATO (an alliance of 30 countries from Europe and North America) and this was seen as a threat to Russia because of how close Ukraine is to Russia. Crimea has been under Russian control at different points in history.

The 2022 invasion of Ukraine resulted in over 8 million people becoming displaced within Ukraine and over 7 million people leaving the country for safety. Many people on both sides lost their lives. The war is continuing currently, though Ukraine is holding on with the support from other nations, including the UK.

