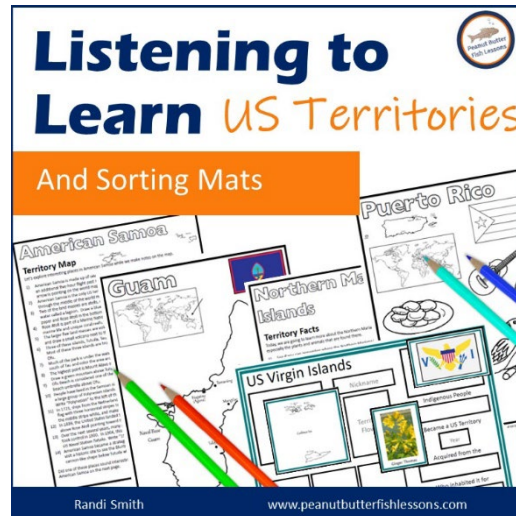


Listening to Learn US Territories

This is a sample of our Listening to Learn US Territories:



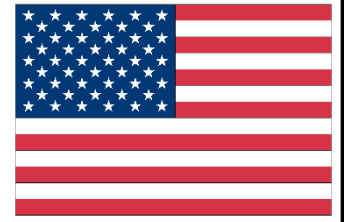
Print one map for each child. You will need crayons or colored pencils. You may also want a map, globe or atlas nearby.

For children working at simple levels, break directions up, help them find locations, or modify the directions in other ways to help them be successful.

If the directions are too easy for your child, give your child something to remember (a word, phrase, number, etc.), then give the direction. Once they have completed the direction, ask what they were supposed to have remembered.

These activities are to help teach your children learn about the US territories and to give them practice following directions and start some beginning note-taking. They are NOT tests. The goal is for your children to experience **at least 80% success**. Modifications will help your children achieve this level of success. As your children become better at following directions, decrease the amount of help you are giving them.

US Territories



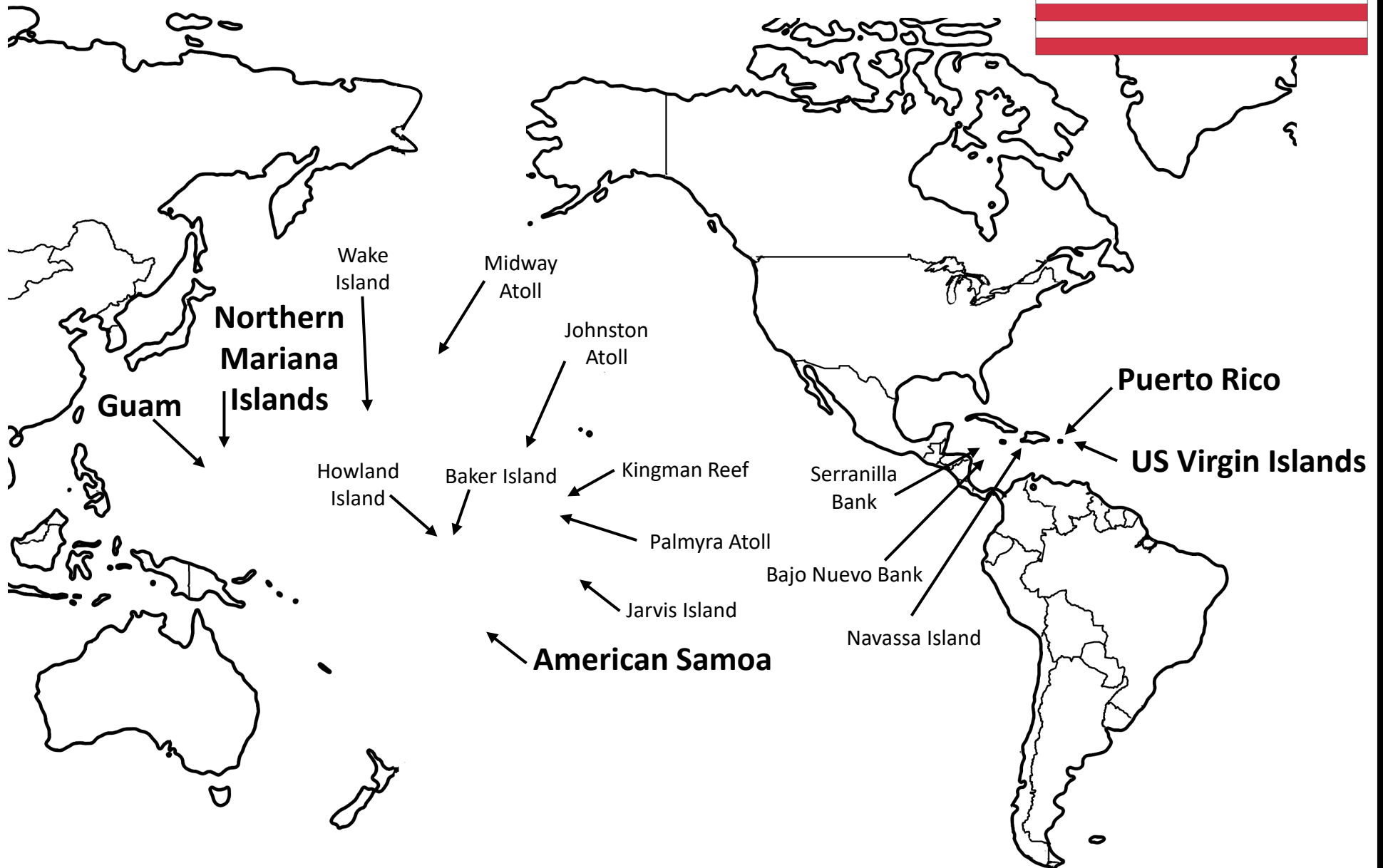
An Overview

Today, we are going to learn about the 16 territories of the United States. All of them are islands, groups of islands or atolls. Only five of them have permanent residents so we will start with those! Their names are big and bold on your map.

- 1) But first, make a dot with your favorite color where you live on the map.
- 2) Puerto Rico, in the Caribbean Sea, is the closest territory to the US mainland with residents. This territory was claimed by Christopher Columbus in 1493. Draw a boat with a sail **above** Puerto Rico.
- 3) Just to the east of Puerto Rico are a series of islands called the US Virgin Islands. They were a popular place for pirates to hang out 300 years ago. Draw a black pirate flag **below** the US Virgin Islands.
- 4) Now let's head over to the Pacific Ocean to American Samoa. This is the only US territory with residents that is south of the equator. About halfway **between** Guam and American Samoa, draw a blue horizontal line across the entire map. This is the equator.
- 5) Now travel northwest to Guam. Two US military bases here take up $\frac{1}{4}$ of Guam. Draw an airplane **below** Guam.
- 6) Near Guam are the Northern Mariana Islands, which are really a mountain range that is mostly underwater. Next to them is the Mariana Trench, the deepest part of the ocean. Draw a blue V in **between** Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. This trench is 7 miles deep!
- 7) Five of the US territories are atolls. These are ringed shaped islands that encircle water called a lagoon. So, they are kind of like swimming pools made by nature. Draw a green ring **around** the tips of the arrows for Wake Island, Midway Atoll, Johnston Atoll, Baker Island and Palmyra Atoll.
- 8) Howland and Jarvis Islands are coral islands meaning they are just a few feet above the water and made of coral sand. Coral sand is crushed limestone usually from the skeletons of marine animals. Draw very light tan circles at the tips of the arrows of Howland and Jarvis Islands.
- 9) Kingman Reef is a triangle-shaped reef that is partially underwater. Coral reefs are made up of corals, which are animals. The coral is held together by calcium carbonate and the reefs can become very large. Kingman Reef is 10 miles long! Draw an orange triangle at the tip of the arrow for Kingman Reef.
- 10) Now let's head back to the Caribbean Sea near Puerto Rico. Serranilla Bank is another coral reef that is mostly underwater. Draw a pink oval at the tip of the arrow for Serranilla Bank.
- 11) Bajo Nuevo Bank is another coral reef with some islets or small islands. One islet has a lighthouse on it! Draw a small lighthouse **above** the words *Bajo Nuevo Bank*.
- 12) And the last US territory is Navassa Island. This Island is currently overseen by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, but its "ownership" is currently disputed between the US and Haiti. Below the words *Navassa Island*, write "Haiti" with a question mark.

What was the most interesting thing you learned? To learn more about the five territories with permanent residents, grab our [Listening to Learn US Territories](#) resource!

US Territories



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Thank you, Randi Smith