**Russia Geography**

**Geography:**

* **World’s largest country**
* **Almost twice size of U.S.**
* **“Eurasian” country: Russia lies on both Europe & Asia**
* **Borders 14 countries**
* **Last year went from 11 time zones down to 9.**
* **Russia touches many inland bodies of water such as Black Sea, Caspian Sea, and Lake Baikal**

**Bodies of Water**

* **North: Arctic Ocean**
* **East: Pacific Ocean**
* **Caspian Sea & Black Sea form natural borders between southwestern Russia & Western Europe**
* Caspian Sea: size of CA/largest inland saltwater body in the world
* **Lake Baikal**

**Lake Baikal**

* **world's oldest and deepest lake at 30 million years old and with an average depth of 2,440 feet.**
* **the most voluminous freshwater lake in the world, containing roughly 20% of the world's surface fresh water that is unfrozen.**

**Russia’s Climate**

* **Western Russia**
* Humid continental climate: summers are warm and rainy, winters are cold and snowy.
* **Eastern Russia**
* Sub arctic: short cool summers and long snowy winters.
* **Most ports are closed parts of the year due to ice.**

**European Russia**

* **Ural Mountains separate Europe and Asia**
* **West of the Urals lies the North European Plain**
  + Fertile, most of Russia’s pop. live here.
  + **North European Plain:  
    European Russia**
    - 75% of Russia’s population lives here
    - Mild climate
    - Majority of Russia’s industry & agriculture
    - Good farmland (the steppe)
    - Caucasus Mountains form southern border with Georgia & Azerbaijan

***RUSSIA***

**VI. Siberia: Asian Russia**

* **Located east of Ural Mountains**
* **One of world’s coldest climate**
* **Northern Siberia: Tundra & permafrost cover 40% of Russia; taiga in the south**
* Fishing, hunting seals & walruses, herding reindeer
* Few people
* **Southern Siberia: Plains, plateaus & mountains**
* Home to Siberian Tiger (endangered), bear, reindeer, lynx, wolf, elk, etc.

**Kamchatka Peninsula**

* **Mountainous**
* **Over 120 volcanoes (20 active)**
* **Part of “Ring of Fire”** 
  + **(zone of active volcanoes that forms the western, northern, and eastern edges of Pacific)**
* **Kronotsky volcano, an 11,975-foot volcanic peak**