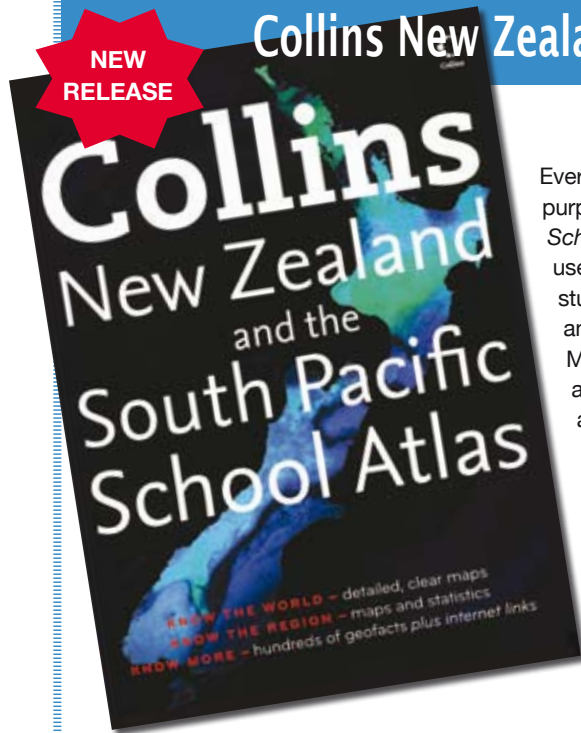


NEW
RELEASE

Collins New Zealand and the South Pacific School Atlas



A new classroom resource from  HarperCollins Publishers

Every now and then a new reference publication is developed that takes the original purpose to a whole new level. The *Collins New Zealand and the South Pacific School Atlas* is one such publication. This atlas has been specially created for use in New Zealand schools and is New Zealand and Oceania centric. It allows students to view the world from the perspective that New Zealanders see it and is based on up-to-date data and assistance from Statistics New Zealand, Ministry of Economic Development, NIWA, Rawiri Taonui, University of Auckland and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. All the mapping in the Atlas is generated from the highly regarded Collins Bartholomew digital databases and this is a new edition published this year – 2008.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Far from just being a series of highly accurate maps, this atlas incorporates many special features and sections including:

- *how the world is mapped*
- *latitude and longitude explained*
- *hemispheres explained*
- *what a map shows*
- *understanding scale*
- *useful websites for students to extend their knowledge.*
- *what is a map projection*
- *how to use grid references*
- *using compasses on a map*
- *what a key explains*
- *understanding symbols/names*

OTHER SPECIAL FEATURES INCLUDE:

- *location boxes highlighting the positioning of each map in a global context*
- *explanation boxes to make sure the correct feature is identified*
- *highest, largest, longest key facts are identified*
- *stunning photographs to bring the world to life*
- *plus population facts; flags; capitals; area; world statistics; city populations; airports ...*

NEW ZEALAND FEATURES INCLUDE:

- *North and South Island maps plus satellite images*
- *New Zealand population by ethnic groups*
- *Māori population by age*
- *New Zealand population by age (excluding Māori)*
- *Māori tribes of Aotearoa New Zealand*
- *New Zealand Weather and Land Use*
- *Economic resources, exports, imports, gas and coal fields, power generation, iron sands, gold mines...*

IDEAS FOR USING THE COLLINS NEW ZEALAND AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC SCHOOL ATLAS

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS ... ?

- A weekly challenge prepared by rotating groups. Clues are given, **eg** name the country that shares borders with Thailand and Cambodia. What is its population and capital city?

ASK THE RESIDENT EXPERT

- Groups or individual students are assigned a country to research using the atlas (and relevant websites) finding facts, capital cities, populations, language etc. During current events sessions, 'experts' are asked to enhance the news report with background information.

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURES AND LAND USE

- Have students locate their school district area on the New Zealand map. Can they now find it on the New Zealand Weather section? Discuss the way that colours are used to indicate information for a region. Use the map to answer the following:
 - *What are the average summer and winter temperatures for your district?*
 - *On average, how much rain falls per year?*

- *When does most rain fall in your district?*
- *What districts have the warmest summer temperatures and the coldest winter temperatures?*
- *Identify the wettest parts of New Zealand.*
- *What farming activities are carried out close to your district?*
- *Locate the regions of New Zealand that have the most indigenous (native) forest areas.*

LONGEST, HIGHEST, LARGEST, DEEPEST QUIZ

- Have groups or individual students use the World Facts section of the Atlas to prepare regular multi-choice quiz questions for other groups to answer and locate using the country map and index, **eg**
 - *the largest island in the world is (give 3 alternatives)?*
 - *the highest mountain in the world is ...?*

HOW ACCURATE CAN I BE?

- Set 'using the map's scale' measuring challenges to find distances between cities and countries. Type in 'distance in kilometres between ... and ...' into Google to check the answer (given in top bar).

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