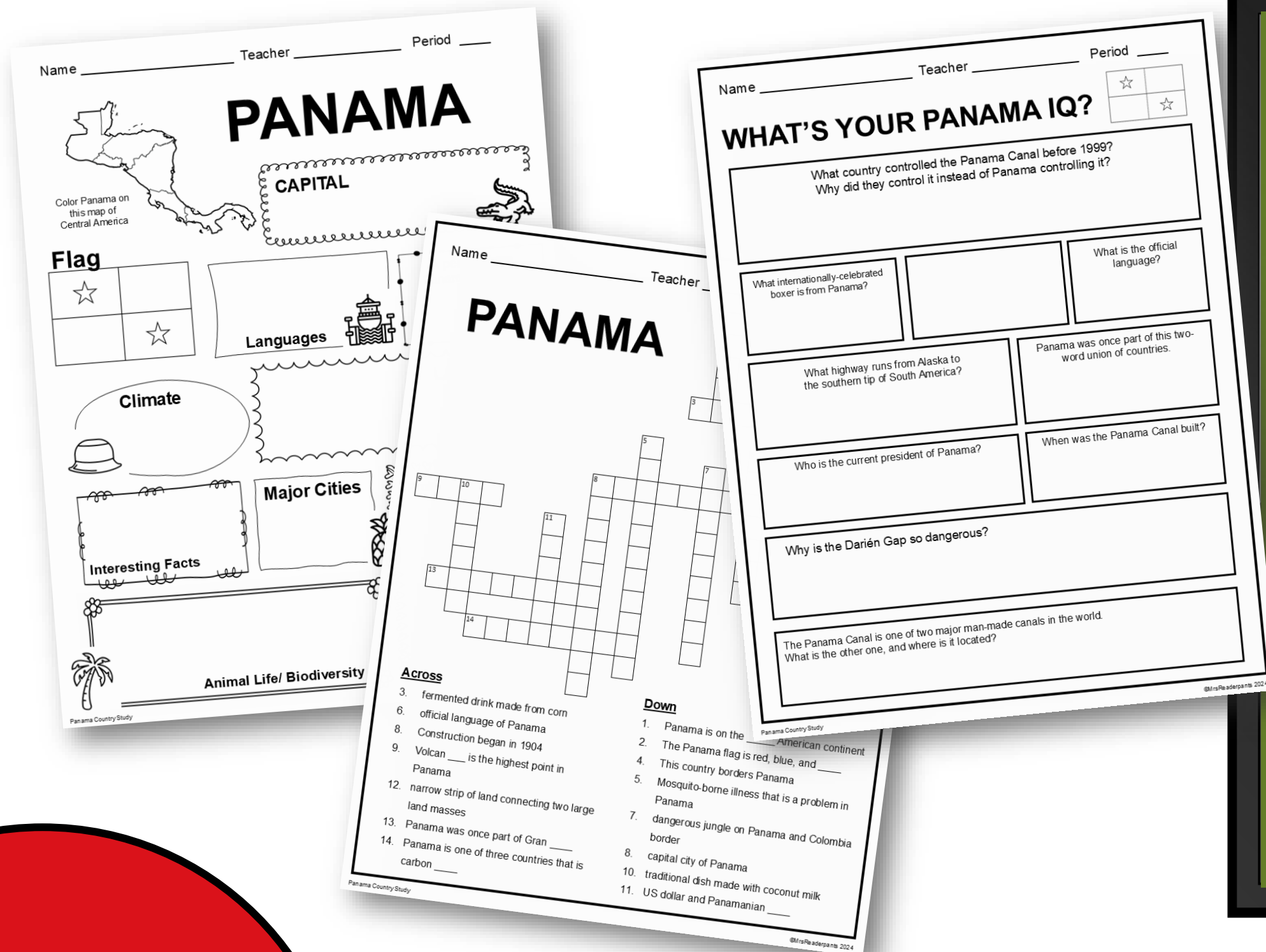


INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

PANAMA COUNTRY STUDY



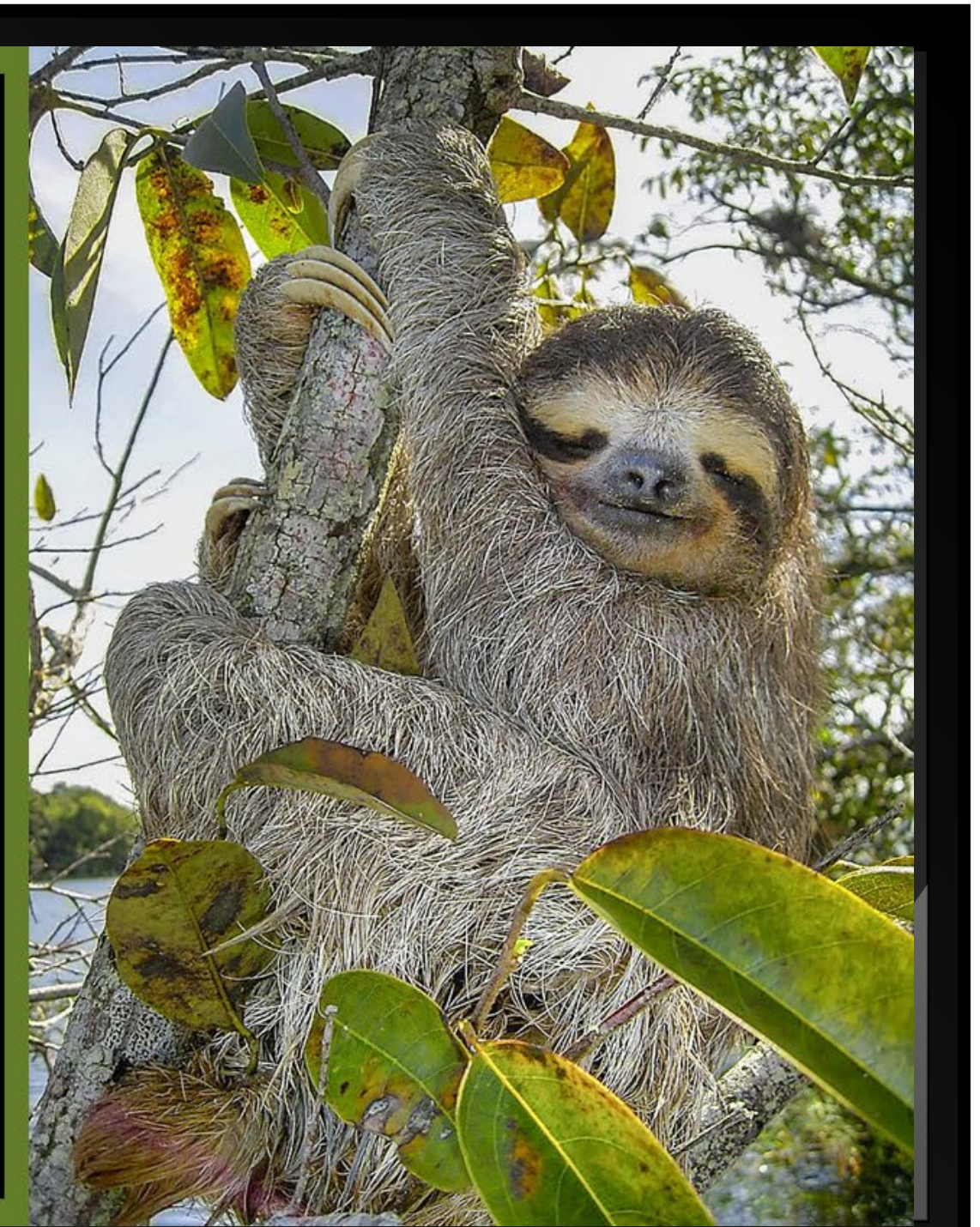
INTERESTING FACT

Carbon negative countries are those countries that remove more carbon from the air than they emit.

Only three countries in the world are carbon negative:
Bhutan, Suriname, and Panama.

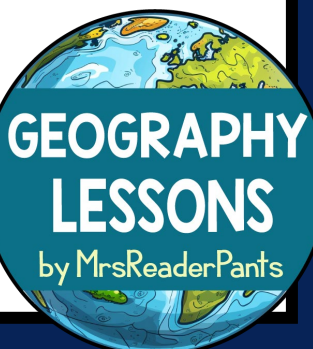
All three of these countries are relatively small and have significant forest and rainforest coverage.

three-toed sloth



GRADES
6-9

Includes 3 worksheets, answer keys, and a 35-slide presentation




PANAMA PRESENTATION

35 slides teach students to find Panama on a map, plus information about the people, places, climate, economy, government, education, and problems.

LOCATION

Panama water borders:

- Caribbean Sea
- Pacific Ocean




Panama land borders:

- Costa Rica
- Colombia

PANAMA - DETAILED MAP

Look closely at this map.

What information can you discern about Panama from this map?



What is the capital city? How much coastline do you see? What about islands?

Where is the Gulf of Panama? Do you see the Panama Canal?

HOMESCHOOLING?

FOODS TO TRY

- Rondón is a traditional dish or soup found in many Latin American and Caribbean countries
- Rondón recipe
- Name means: F & F Tower in Panama City (nickname is the Corkscrew)

Depending on the recipe:

- coconut milk
- meat (may be chicken, beef, pork, or lamb)
- crabs, shrimp
- Vegetables (potatoes, corn, onions, cassava)
- various spices



PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

- Income inequality

THE DARIÉN GAP

- 66 miles of thick forests, mountains, and rivers along the Panama and Colombia border
- One of world's most dangerous migration routes



fer-de-lance (highly venomous to humans)



- Very difficult to go through this area – every year, refugees from South America die trying to pass through
- Pan American Highway runs from Alaska to the southern tip of South America – the only place it breaks up is in the Darién Gap
- Dangers include mudslides, swift rivers, flash flooding, crime, no safe drinking water, dangerous wildlife
- No police or medical assistance if you need help – a broken leg could be fatal
- Dangerous wildlife includes: crocodiles, jaguars, venomous snakes, scorpions, spiders, insects

I am a certified teacher and homeschooling parent, too!

This resource is a “cleaned-up” version of what I used when homeschooling my own 7th and 9th grade sons.

DO YOU REMEMBER...?

Review questions appear every few slides.

These may be recall questions (What is the capital?) or discussion questions (Would you want to visit Panama?)

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Panama was once part of Gran _____.



Name two popular sports in Panama.

DO YOU REMEMBER?



Gamboa is a small town near the Panama Canal.

What is the official language of Panama?

How long does it take a ship to travel through the Panama Canal?

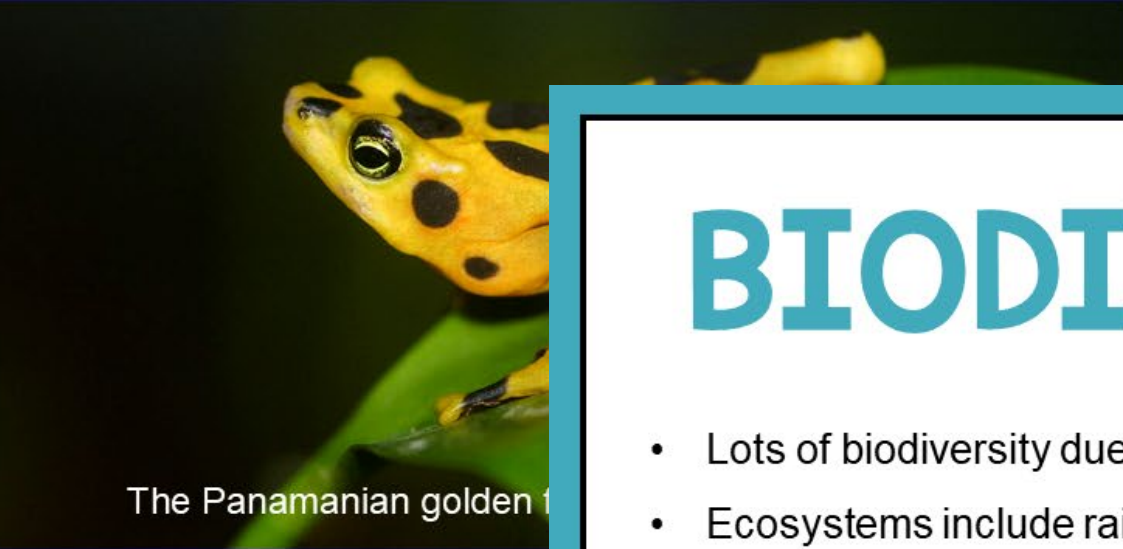
EVERY SLIDE HAS REAL PHOTOS OR MAPS



Mangroves of Isla Cañas

CLIMATE

- Tropical maritime climate
- Hot, humid, cloudy
- Long rainy season (May - January)
- Shorter dry season (January - May)
- Panama does get hurricanes, but fewer



The Panamanian golden frog

BIODIVERSITY

- Lots of biodiversity due to a variety of ecosystems
- Ecosystems include rainforests, wetlands, cloud forests, coral reefs, and highlands
- More than 10,000 known plant species in Panama
- Over 1000 bird species in Panama
- Animal species include: crocodiles, jaguars, sloths, monkeys, tapirs, anteaters, snakes, tarantulas, scorpions
- Numerous protected national parks
- Many species are endemic to Panama (can only be found in Panama and nowhere else in the world)



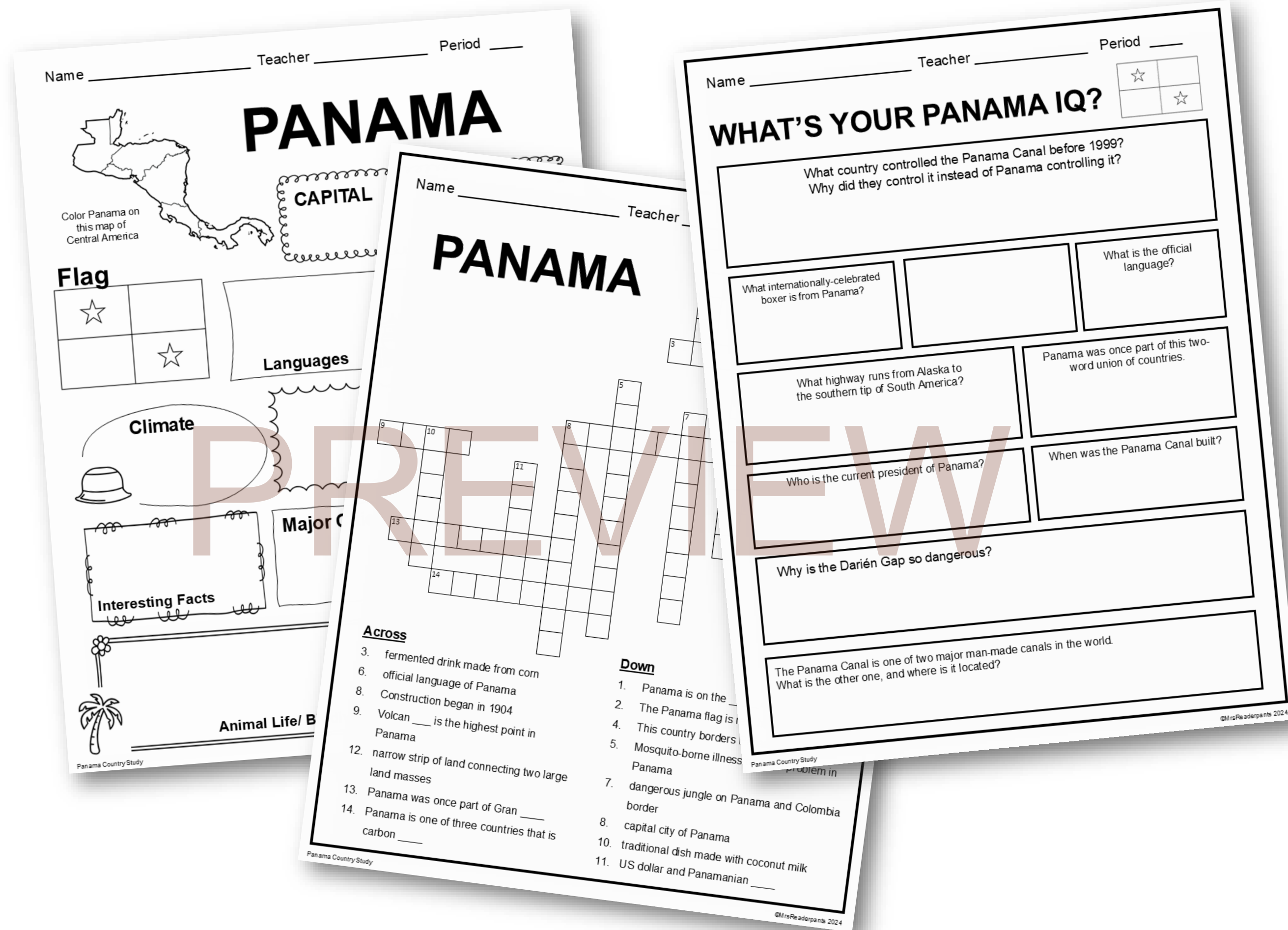
No clipart!

Every slide contains real photos or maps.

3 PDF ACTIVITIES

Three printable activities help review information in the presentation.

Activities are editable in PPT, Google Slides, and PDF formats.




ANSWER KEYS INCLUDED

Name _____ Teacher _____ Period _____


PANAMA

Color Panama on this map of Central America



CAPITAL
Panama City

Flag



Languages
Spanish (official); many people are bilingual

Climate
Tropical, rainy and dry seasons, cooler in highlands/mountains

Major Cities
Panama City
Colón
David
La Chorrera

Problems
• Corrupt
• Below educa
• Drug
• Defo
• Limit
• mer
• Po ar

Animal Life/ Biodiversity
sloths, jaguars, monkeys, macaws, Resplendent quetzels, crocodiles, sea turtles, sharks, mosquitoes, wild tropical flowers

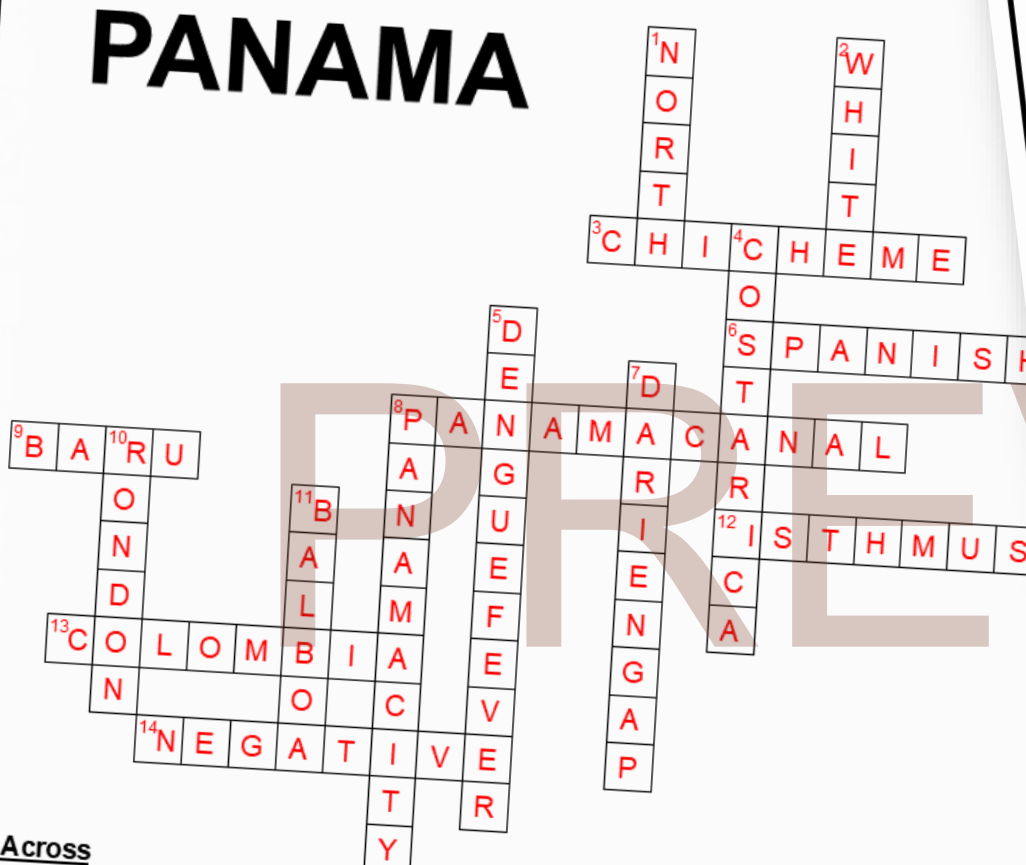
Interesting Facts
One of fastest-growing economies in Latin America; Darién Gap is very dangerous

LAND
Visit Panama City, ocean activities, islands, cruise through Panama, birdwatching, hiking in mountains

Other text: A person from Panama is called a Panamanian.

Name _____ Teacher _____ Period _____

PANAMA



Across

- fermented drink made from corn
- official language of Panama
- Construction began in 1904
- Volcan _____ is the highest point in Panama
- narrow strip of land connecting two large land masses
- Panama was once part of Gran _____
- Panama is one of three countries that is carbon _____

Down

- Panama is on the _____ American continent
- The Panama flag is red, blue, and _____
- This country borders Panama
- Mosquito-borne illness that is a problem in Panama
- dangerous jungle on Panama and Colombia border
- capital city of Panama
- traditional dish made with coconut milk
- US dollar and Panamanian _____

Name _____ Teacher _____ Period _____

WHAT'S YOUR PANAMA IQ?

What country controlled the Panama Canal before 1999? Why did they control it instead of Panama controlling it?
United States, because they paid to have it built

What internationally-celebrated boxer is from Panama?
Roberto Durán

What is Panama's highest point?
Volcán Barú

What is the official language?
Spanish

What highway runs from Alaska to the southern tip of South America?
Pan-American Highway

Panama was once part of this two-word union of countries.
Gran Colombia

Who is the current president of Panama?
Answers may change, but as of July 2024, the president is José Raúl Mulino

When was the Panama Canal built?
1904-1914

Why is the Darién Gap so dangerous?
Dangerous wildlife, flash floods, have to cross swift rivers, no medical assistance, crime, rugged terrain, mudslides

The Panama Canal is one of two major man-made canals in the world. What is the other one, and where is it located?
Suez Canal – connects Mediterranean Sea with Red Sea in north (the Suez Canal is owned and operated by Egypt)

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN PRESENTATION

Slide 11: blue

Slide 12: blue, red, and white

Slide 21: Gran Colombia; football (soccer), boxing, basketball, baseball

Slide 22: Spanish; 8-10 hours to go through the Panama Canal by ship

Slide 23: education ranks below-average internationally; healthcare is modern in cities but less accessible in rural areas; dengue fever is a problem

Slide 30: animals include monkeys, sloths, 1000 bird species, crocodiles, venomous snakes, tarantulas, scorpions, jaguars; isthmus is a narrow strip of land that connects two large land masses

Slide 31: Darién Gap is dangerous due to lack of drinking water, mudslides, flash floods, dangerous wildlife, crime, no medical assistance; carbon negative

Slide 37: Capital: Panama City; Currencies are Panamanian balboa and US dollar

Slide 38: Panama is moderately-corrupt, ranking 101 out of 180 countries on Corruption Perceptions Index; problems include poor sanitation in rural areas, corruption, drug trafficking, increase in crime, deforestation

Slide 39: Answers will vary. This is a great whole-class or small-group discussion.

All activities and "Do You Remember" slides in the presentation include answer keys.

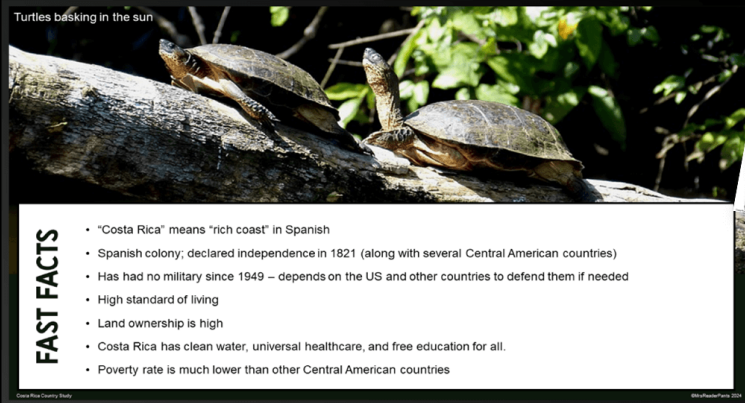
MORE COUNTRY STUDIES

Looking for more Central America Country Studies?

I have a [bundle of all seven Central American countries](#).

INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

COSTA RICA COUNTRY STUDY




FAST FACTS

- "Costa Rica" means "rich coast" in Spanish
- Spanish colony; declared independence in 1821 (along with several Central American countries)
- Has had no military since 1949 – depends on the US and other countries to defend them if needed
- High standard of living
- Land ownership is high
- Costa Rica has clean water, universal healthcare, and free education for all.
- Poverty rate is much lower than other Central American countries

Includes 3 worksheets, answer keys, and 40-slide presentation

GRADES 6-9



INCLUDES GOOGLE SLIDES

NICARAGUA COUNTRY STUDY


NACATAMALES

Nacatamales are a special dish from Nicaragua that people usually eat on weekends and important events.

They look like little packages wrapped in banana leaves, but you can't eat the leaves!


Inside, there's a mixture of corn dough with vegetables, spices, rice, and meat that makes it super tasty.

It takes two whole days to make, and it's important to follow the recipe steps very carefully to get it just right.



Includes 3 worksheets, answer keys, and 40-slide presentation

GRADES 6-9




INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

VENEZUELA COUNTRY STUDY

ORINOCO RIVER DELTA


- A **river delta** is a wetland area that forms where a river meets another body of water, such as a lake, another river, or the ocean.
- River deltas are rich in animal and plant biodiversity.
- The Orinoco River is a major river in South America.
- In Venezuela, the Orinoco empties into the Caribbean Sea. The area where the two bodies of water meet is the Orinoco River Delta.
- The Orinoco River Delta contains brackish water, which is a mix of saltwater and freshwater.



Capybaras are among the many animals living in the Orinoco River Delta.

Includes 3 PDF activities, answer keys, and 45-slide presentation

GRADES 6-9



INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

PERU COUNTRY STUDY


MACHU PICCHU

Machu Picchu was built around 1450 AD.

Built high in the Andes Mountains, Machu Picchu was unknown to the outside world until American explorer Hiram Bingham "discovered" it in 1911.

You can only reach Machu Picchu by hiking up the Incan Trail or by train.

Machu Picchu is an incredible structure. It shows just how advanced the Incas were in engineering, math, and architecture.



Includes 3 PDF activities, answer keys, and 42-slide presentation

GRADES 6-9

