

Article Features

In addition to the text of the articles, there are many special features that add information.

Most articles have at least one photograph, illustration, or map. Many have more than one.

At the end of most articles, there is a feature called “More to explore.” This feature tells you which articles to go to to get more information about the topic or about something that was mentioned in the article.

“Did You Know?” boxes provide quick facts about many different articles throughout the set.

Certain articles have additional special features.

► More to explore
Flower • Marigold • Plant • Sunflower

Did You Know?
Daisies are perennials, which means that they bloom year after year without having to be replanted.

6 | Daisy

...slaves of their own. These slaves worked on large farms that supplied food for the army and the royal court.

The center grew larger and stronger throughout the 1700s. After Great Britain and other countries outlawed the slave trade in 1808, Dahomey started selling palm oil instead of slaves.

At the end of the 1900s, France conquered Dahomey. The French combined it with other regions to form a colony that was also called **Dahomey**. This colony gained its independence in 1960. It kept the name of Dahomey until 1975, when it became **Benin**.

► More to explore
Benin • Slavery

Daisy
Daisies are flowers with flat heads that surround a round center. Daisies belong to the aster family, which also includes chrysanthemums, dahlia, marigolds, sunflowers, and zinnias.



Common types of daisy include the oenothera daisy, the English, or rose, daisy, and the Shasta daisy. These daisies grow in Europe, North America, and other parts of the world. Oenothera and English daisies grow in gardens and in the wild. The Shasta daisy is mainly a garden plant.

Daisy plants often grow to about 2 to 3 feet (61 to 91 centimeters) tall. Two types of flower make up each flower head. Ray flowers are what people call

► More to explore
Flower • Marigold • Plant • Sunflower

Dakar

Dakar is the capital of Senegal, a country in West Africa. It is the largest city in

36 | Africa

Africa is the world's second largest continent. More than 50 countries make up the continent. More than one eighth of the world's population lives in Africa.

Asia, through eastern Africa. In Africa, they are deep, long, narrow valleys.

22 | Cameroon

The West African country of Cameroon takes its name from the Rio dos Cameroles (River of Shimo), the name of the capital.

184 | Connecticut

The state of Connecticut was named for the Connecticut River. Algonquian Indians called the river *Quinnchauguc*, meaning "land on the long tidal river." Connecticut is nicknamed the Constitution State because its early settlers wrote a set of laws to govern themselves that later provided ideas for the U.S. Constitution.

People
At the time of the first U.S. census, in 1790, almost all of Connecticut's people were English. In the 1800s, Irish, French Canadian, Italian, Polish, and other European immigrants settled in the state. Today more than four fifths of Connecticut's residents are of European heritage. African Americans and Hispanics each make up about 3 percent of the population. The state's Asian American and Native American groups are small.

Geography
Connecticut is the southernmost New England state. It is bordered by Massachusetts on the north, Rhode Island on the east, New York on the west, and the Long Island Sound on the south.

Connecticut has highlands in the west and east with a lowland in the middle. The northern part of the western highlands is called the Litchfield Hills. They include Mount Franklin, which is the state's highest point at 2,380 feet (725 meters). The central lowland includes the fertile Connecticut River valley. The eastern highlands are low, wooded hills with many rivers.

Economy
Real estate, finance, and the insurance industry are major parts of Connecticut's economy. Hartford is known as the Insurance Capital of the World because of the many insurance companies with offices there. Manufacturing businesses in Connecticut produce jet aircraft engines, computer equipment, chemicals, machinery, and other goods. Hart-




Population
(2005 estimate)
16,988,000

Area
183,569 sq mi
(475,442 sq km)


Capital
Hartford

Form of government
Republic

Major cities
Hartford, Meriden, Danbury, Waterbury, Middletown, Bridgeport

Facts About CAMEROON



Population
(2005 estimate)
16,988,000

Area
183,569 sq mi
(475,442 sq km)

Capital
Yaoundé

The continents, countries, U.S. states, and Canadian provinces have colored backgrounds to tell you what kind of unit it is. The continents are purple, the countries are yellow, and the states and provinces are green. These articles also have fact boxes. The fact boxes contain basic information, including population and area figures.

Some of the countries also have timelines of major events in the country's history.

The U.S. presidents have timelines of major events in the lives of each president.

154 | Bush, George

Bush, George
After serving two terms as vice president, George Bush became the 41st president of the United States in 1989. The main event of Bush's presidency was the Persian Gulf War.

Early Life
George Herbert Walker Bush was born on June 12, 1924, in Milton, Massachusetts. His family later moved to Greenwich, Connecticut. George was the second of five children born to Prescott Sheldon Bush and Dorothy Walker Bush. His father was a banker and later a U.S. senator.

In 1942 Bush joined the U.S. Naval Reserve. As a Navy pilot, he flew many missions in the Pacific during World War II. In 1945 Bush married Barbara Pierce. After the war he attended Yale University and earned a degree in economics. Bush then moved to Texas.

Political Career
As a member of the Republican Party, Bush ran for the U.S. Sen-

Timeline

1924	1966	1974	1989	1992	1993
Bush is born in Milton, Massachusetts.	Bush becomes the 41st president of the United States.	Bush is elected to the Central Intelligence Agency.	Bush is elected vice president.	Bush is elected 41st president of the United States.	The United States and allies defeat Iraq in the Persian Gulf War.

June 12, 1924 Bush is born in Milton, Massachusetts.

1966 Bush is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

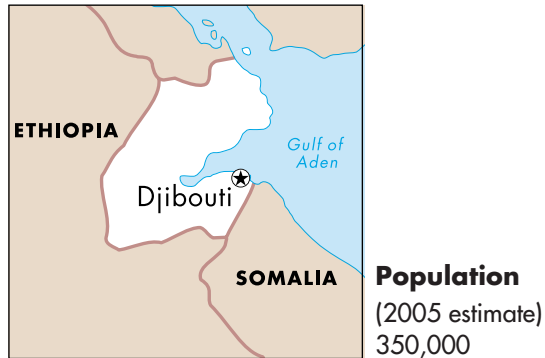
1974 Bush is elected to the Central Intelligence Agency.

1989 Bush is elected vice president.

1992 Bush is elected 41st president of the United States.

1993 The United States and allies defeat Iraq in the Persian Gulf War.

Djibouti



Djibouti is a city in northeastern Africa on the Gulf of Aden, a part of the Indian Ocean. Djibouti is the capital of a small country that is also named Djibouti. Most of the country's people live in Djibouti city.

Djibouti city has a mixture of old and modern buildings in African and French styles. The economy of the city depends on trade through its port. Transporting goods on a railway to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, also brings money to the city.

Djibouti city began as a port in about 1888. In that year the French built a station for fueling ships in the harbor. A city soon rose up. The colony called French Somaliland grew around the city. In 1892 Djibouti city became the capital of the colony.

Djibouti became an independent country in 1977. Djibouti city was its capital. The city grew rapidly in the late 20th century. Many people went there to escape droughts and wars in nearby countries.

► **More to explore**
Djibouti

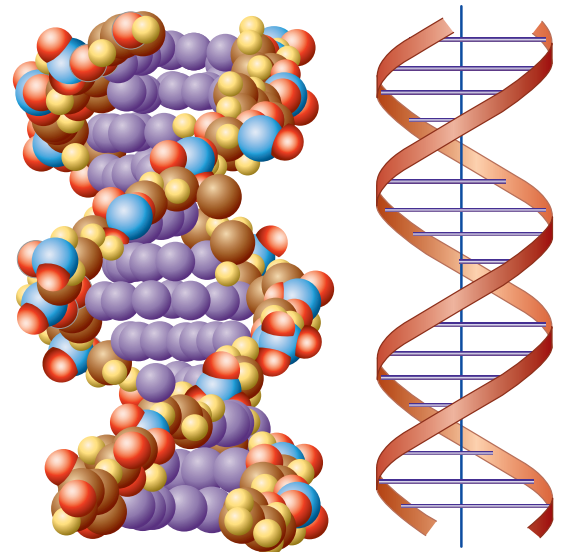
DNA

DNA is the material that carries all the information about how a living thing will look and function. For instance, DNA in humans determines such things as what color the eyes are and how the lungs work. Each piece of information is carried on a different section of the DNA. These sections are called genes.

DNA is short for deoxyribonucleic acid. It is in every cell of every living thing. DNA is found in structures of the cell called chromosomes. Chromosomes are tiny. Scientists need to use very powerful microscopes to see them.

Functions

When DNA works correctly, it helps keep the body working properly. DNA helps cells to make the substances called proteins, which the cells need to live. DNA also allows living things to reproduce. The genes in DNA pass along traits from parents to children.



Part of a long DNA chain shows the twisted, ladderlike structure.

Gravity

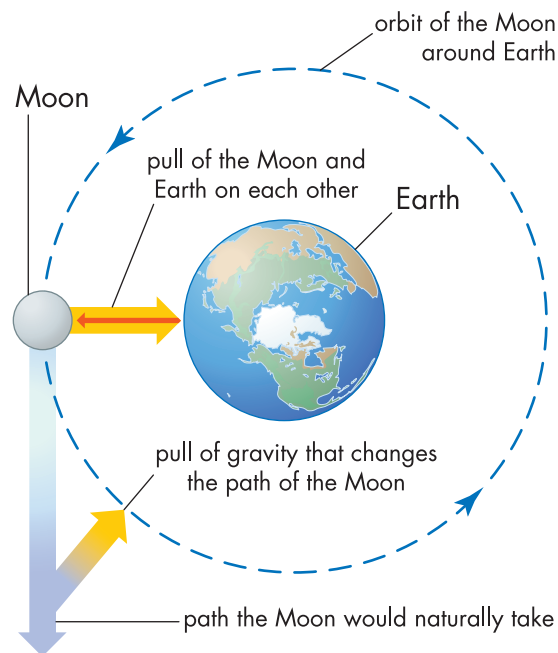
All objects attract other objects because of a force called gravity. Gravity is a pulling force that works across space. That is, objects do not have to touch each other for the force of gravity to affect them. For example, the sun, which is millions of miles from Earth, pulls on Earth and the other planets and objects in the solar system.

Gravity on Earth

On Earth gravity pulls objects toward the center of Earth. This is what makes objects fall. It is also what gives an object weight. Weight is a measurement of the force of gravity between an object and the surface it stands on. If a person stands on a scale, gravity pulls the person against the scale. The scale shows the strength of this force, or the person's weight.



Gravity is what gives weight to objects on Earth. Scales measure the pull of gravity as weight.



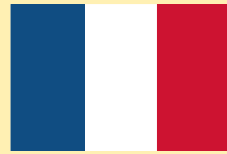
Gravity keeps the Moon moving in an orbit around Earth.

Gravity in Space

In the solar system the planets all orbit, or travel around, the sun in a constant path. They would move in a straight line, but the force of gravity pulls them toward the sun. At the same time, the speed of the planets in their orbits keeps them from falling into the sun.

Spacecraft and satellites travel around Earth in a similar way. Earth's gravity keeps them in orbit, and their speed keeps them from falling back to Earth.

When astronauts are inside a spacecraft in orbit, they experience weightlessness. The astronauts float freely because they are traveling around Earth at the same speed as the spacecraft. But even though Earth's gravity does not pull them toward the floor—as it does on Earth—they have not escaped it. Earth's gravity



France

A large country in Western Europe, France is known worldwide for its rich history and culture. The capital is Paris.

Geography

France shares borders with Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, and Andorra. The Mediterranean Sea lies to the south, and the Atlantic Ocean lies to the west.

In the north and west the Seine and Loire rivers run through broad plains. In the southeast the French Alps contain France's highest point—Mont Blanc, which rises 15,771 feet. In the southwest the Pyrenees Mountains lie between France and Spain.

The north of France has cool to cold winters, warm summers, and moder-



ate rainfall. On the Mediterranean coast winters are sunny, and it rarely rains in summer.

Plants and Animals

Forests cover about one fourth of the land. Pine, fir, ash, oak, beech, maple, chestnut, and olive trees are common. The country's wild animals and birds include foxes, beavers, wildcats, deer, wild pigs, hawks, and storks.

People

Most of the people are French. The French language is one of the world's most widely spoken languages. The population also includes small groups of North Africans and other Europeans. The Basque people live in southern France. More than three fourths of the people are Roman Catholics. Other religious groups include Muslims, Protestants, and Jews.

Economy

France is one of the major economic powers of the world. Its economy is based on services, including tourism and banking. Manufacturing is also important. France produces machinery, cars, aircraft, medicines, food products, iron and steel, cosmetics, clothing, and other goods.



The River Rance runs through the town of Dinan in northwestern France.

Though agriculture is a small part of the economy, France is a top producer of wheat, cattle, pigs, and chickens. It is also well known for its cheeses and wines.

History

People lived in what is now France more than 100,000 years ago. The Gauls, a Celtic people, migrated to the area in about 1200 BC. By about 50 BC the ancient Romans had conquered the region, which they called Gaul.

As the Roman Empire weakened, German tribes invaded Gaul. The Franks were the strongest of those tribes, and they gave France its name. The greatest Frankish ruler was Charlemagne, who came to power in 768. By the early 800s Charlemagne's empire covered most of Western Europe. When Charlemagne died, however, his empire was divided into three parts.

After 843 the western section became known as the kingdom of France.

Wars over Land and Religion

In 1066 the French duke of Normandy conquered England. Because of that connection to France, English kings later claimed parts of France for themselves. This led to many battles between the two countries.

One particularly difficult period was the Hundred Years' War, which began in 1337. France was close to defeat when a peasant girl named Joan of Arc led the French army to victory. By the end of the war in 1453, the English had lost nearly all of their land in France.

During the 1500s Protestantism spread across Roman Catholic France. Wars broke out between Protestants (known as Huguenots) and Roman Catholics.

Facts About FRANCE



Population
(2005 estimate)
60,733,000

Capital
Paris

Area
210,026 sq mi
(543,965 sq km)

Form of government
Republic

Major urban areas
Paris, Marseille,
Lyon, Toulouse,
Nice