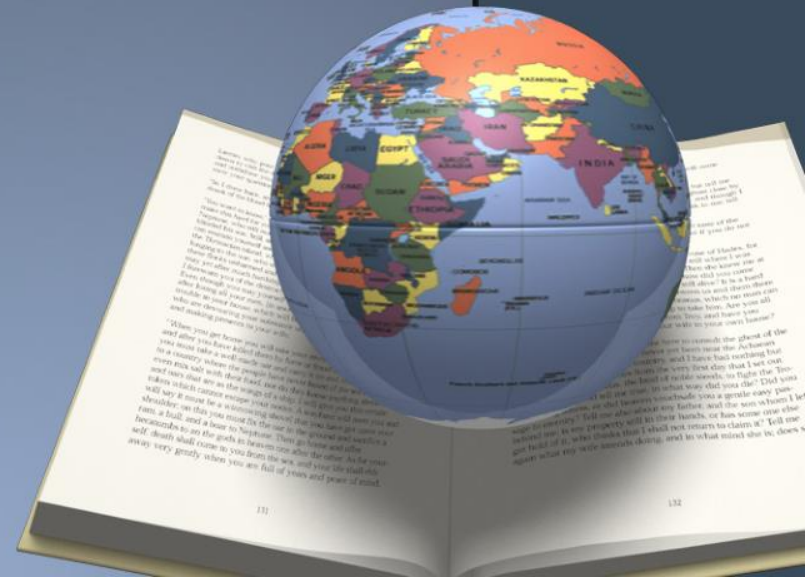


Why do we need to study geography?

- Link to the video below.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_pw8duzGUg





What is Geography?

Geography & Six Blind Men from India

A short story illustrating why we study geography



The Blind Men and the Elephant

It was six men of India
To learning much inclined,
Who went to see an
elephant (though all of
them were blind),
That each by observation
Might satisfy his mind



The Blind Man & The Elephant



The Blind Man & The Elephant

The second feeling of the tusk

Cried, "Ho! What have we here

So very round
and smooth and sharp?
To me 'tis very clear.

This wonder of an elephant
is actually a spear!"

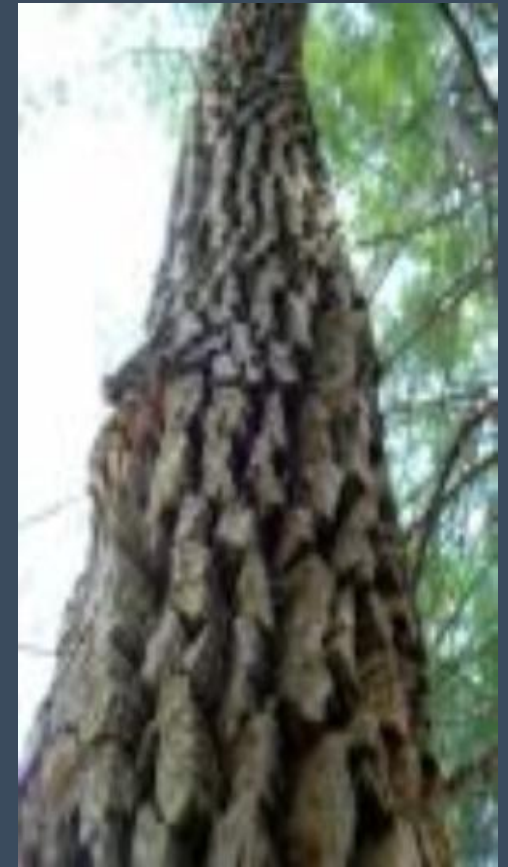
A globe of the Americas is positioned on an open book. The globe shows North and Central America, with labels for Canada, United States, Mexico, and various Central American countries. The book's pages are visible, with some text from a story or text block. The background is a dark blue gradient.

The Blind Man & The Elephant

The third approached the animal,
And happening to take
The squirming trunk within
his hands
Thus boldy up and spake:
“I see,” guoth he, “the
elephant,
Is indeed a squirming snake!:

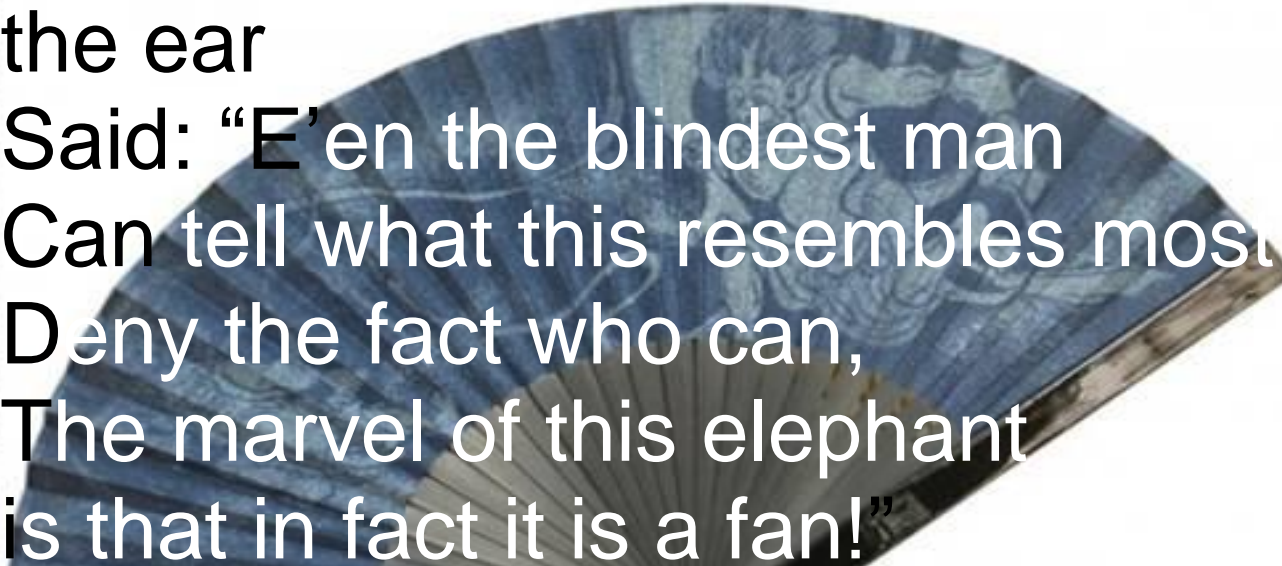
The Blind Man & The Elephant

The fourth reached out his
eager hand,
And felt about his knee;
what this wonderous beast
actually is, is mighty
plain to see.”
Tis clear enough this
elephant
truly is the trunk of a tree.”





The Blind Man & The Elephant



The fifth who chanced to touch
the ear
Said: “E’en the blindest man
Can tell what this resembles most.
Deny the fact who can,
The marvel of this elephant
is that in fact it is a fan!”

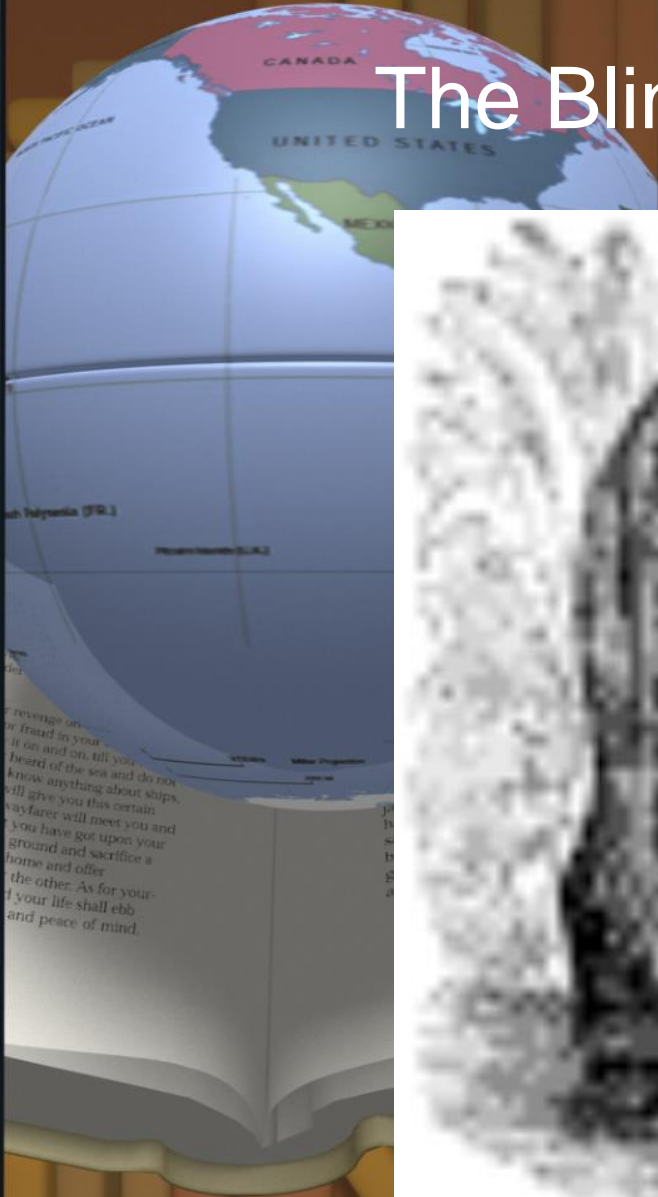
A composite image featuring a globe of the Americas in the upper left and an open book with text in the lower left. The globe shows North and Central America, with labels for 'USA', 'MEXICO', and 'GULF OF MEXICO'. The book's pages contain various lines of text, including 'I see, "guoth he, "the elephant is very like a rope!"'.

The Blind Man & The Elephant

The sixth no sooner had begun
About the beast to grope,
Then seizing on the swinging
tail

That fell within his scope,
I see, "guoth he, "the elephant
Is very like a rope!"

The Blind Man & The Elephant





The Blind Man & The Elephant

And so it is with 9th Graders
Who generally are mature.
They memorize facts about
the world

And think they have it for
sure,

But very like the blind men
will miss the point
If they don't see the BIG
picture

Let's take a look at what Geography is so that we can see the BIG picture.



- Remember: Each part is important to know, but all the parts together will help you understand.



Geography is:

- The word Geography comes from the Greeks
- Geo=earth
- Graphy=to write or describe
- The Greeks were some of the first people to scientifically try to describe the earth.

**Geography is:
(another definition)
in the world
geography text
book. Pg. 764.**

- The study of physical, biological, and cultural features of Earth's surface.



Geography is: Yet another definition



- The study of the relationships between and the distribution of things on the earth.
- What does this definition add to the other two?
- DISTRIBUTION—how things are spread out



Geography is: **FINALLY!**

- Geography: The study of EVERYTHING on earth from rocks and rainfall to people and places.

How do Geographers organize things?

- Let's try an experiment. List the members of your family.
- How were your family members organized? Chronologically?
- How is the classroom seating chart organized?
- Alphabetically?
- What are some other ways to organize things?





Now that you have a better idea of what Geography is, what are some geographic questions?

- Where is it?
- Why is it located there?
- How close or far away is it from other things?
- Is it found mostly in one area or is it spread out?



Five Themes of Geography