

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Continents

Today we're going to be talking about continents...in just a minute.

I live in a city. The city is in a state, and the state is in a country, and that country is on a continent.

Now, a continent is a large area of land. And there are seven continents on Earth. They're pretty easy to spot on a globe or map. From largest to smallest, the continents are: Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, and Australia.

Now, strangely, not everyone agrees about how many continents there are. Some consider Europe and Asia one continent called Eurasia, and others consider North and South America one continent simply called America. But where I live, in the old US of A, we usually count seven continents.

As you can see, the borders of continents are mostly geographical—bodies of water or mountains determine the shape of continents, unlike borders of countries, which are decided by people. Continents have different climates, cultures, and landscapes, and most continents are divided up into countries.

Why do you think some people consider Europe and Asia or North and South America to be one continent?