



# Welcome to the World

**SECTION 1** The World at Your Fingertips

**SECTION 2** Many Regions, Many Cultures

**Region** The peoples of the world live in an astonishing variety of ways.







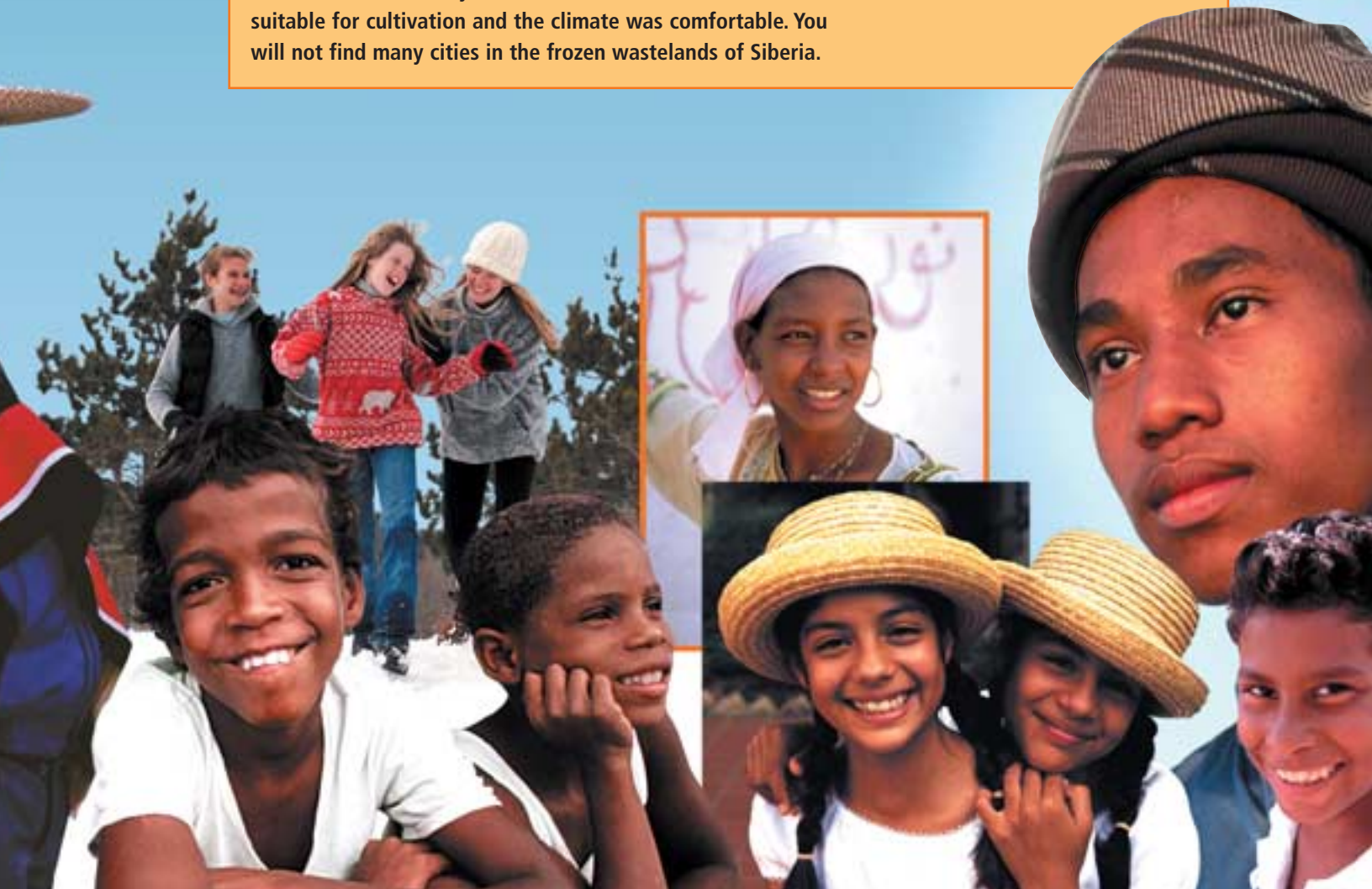
## FOCUS ON GEOGRAPHY

# How have geographic features influenced settlement patterns?

**Movement** • People settle where they can most easily and comfortably meet their needs for clean water, food, work, communication, trade, and transportation. Before there were good roads, boats were the easiest way to travel or send and receive goods. As a result, people often settled near rivers, lakes, and oceans. They also often settled where the land was suitable for cultivation and the climate was comfortable. You will not find many cities in the frozen wastelands of Siberia.

## What do you think?

- ♦ Why are there few settlements in the desert?
- ♦ Why is there often a city where two rivers meet?





# READING SOCIAL STUDIES

## BEFORE YOU READ

### ►► What Do You Know?

You live in the world, but how much do you know about it? The best way to find out is through social studies. *Social studies* is an umbrella term. It covers history, geography, economics, government, and culture. History, you probably know, is the study of the past. How clearly can you define the other terms? How do you think they can help you to learn about the world?

### ►► What Do You Want to Know?

Think about what else you need to know before you can come up with clear, complete, and accurate definitions. Record any questions you have in a notebook before you read this chapter.

**Region** • Citizens have more rights under some governments than others. ▼

## READ AND TAKE NOTES

**Reading Strategy: Categorizing** One way to make sense of information is to organize it in a chart. Writing your notes in a chart with categories can help you remember the most important parts of what you have read.

- Copy the chart below into your notebook.
- As you read the chapter, note the definition of each term listed on the chart.
- Write these definitions next to the appropriate heading.



**Region** • Prepared for a flood, this house was built to suit its environment. ▲

Term	Definition
history	
geography	
economics	
government	
culture	