

# Continent Mat Bundle

## Guide to Presentation



# **Continent Mat Bundle**

*(suitable for children 3 to 6 years of age)*

## **Contents of Continent Mat Bundle:**

- Guide to Presentation
- 48 x 32” canvas Continent Mat with storage bag
- 26 wooden Continent Mat Animals
- 26 Continent Mat Animal Cards
- 12 three-part Continent & Ocean Cards
- Continent Dice

## **Guide to Presentation Table of Contents:**

<b>Continent Mat Bundle</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Continent Mat Animals Chart</b>	<b>2</b>

*The Continent Mat Bundle is designed for the Primary Classroom. The materials should be introduced after learning about land and water and initial presentations with a globe. The Continent Mat actively engages children in learning to identify the continents. It uses classic Montessori color-coding for the continents and includes three-part cards for the continents and oceans. The bundle also includes 26 wooden Continent Mat Animals and a set of Continent Mat Animal Cards. The wooden animals can be matched to their home continents and help contextualize the mat’s map as a representation of places where animals, plants, and people live. The Continent Mat Animal Cards can be used for object-to-picture matching.*

## Continent Mat Bundle

**You will need:** A globe (with solid colored continents) or Map of the Hemispheres, Continent Mat, Continent Mat Animals, Continent Mat Animal Cards, Continent Dice, Continent & Ocean Cards, toy boat or airplane

**Purpose:** To teach the names of the continents through stimulating and kinesthetic activities for children in the second period or “show me” stage of learning.

*Please note: The following steps are to be introduced as separate lessons.*

1. Bring out a globe with colored continents or the Map of the Hemispheres. Name the continents. Show the children the Continent Mat as another way to look at the world. Point to a continent on the globe or Map of the Hemispheres, name it, and ask the child to find it on the Continent Mat.
2. Have the children take off their shoes and follow commands like, Stand on North America, Hop to South America, and Take a giant step over to Africa.
3. Using the Continent Mat Animals, give commands like, Put the elephant in Africa and Put the panda bear in Asia.
4. Use a toy boat or airplane to sail or fly to different continents on the mat. You can roll the Continent dice to select the continent or pick from the Continent Cards.
5. Use the Continent Dice to roll a continent and find an animal that lives there from the Continent Mat Animals or the Continent Mat Animal Cards (the animal’s home continent is featured on the back of the card for control of error). Place that animal on the continent saying, A giraffe lives in Africa.
6. Use the Continent Mat Animals and their cards for object-to-picture matching. The Continent Mat Animal Cards feature a border color-coded to the animal’s continent on the front and the continent and its name are prominently featured on the back for control of error when naming the animal’s home continent.
7. Use the Continent Song to engage the children with the mat. They can point to or hop to each continent as they sing the song. Let them know that Australia, the final continent in the song, also goes by the name Oceania.
8. Two children can take off their shoes and play twister on the mat as a third child rolls the dice and names a body part.
9. Use the three-part Continent & Ocean cards to match the continent or ocean’s card to the mat working through to using the label alone to identify the continent or ocean as sight word reading is being practiced.

# CONTINENT MAT ANIMALS

AFRICA



chimpanzee



elephant



giraffe



hippopotamus



okapi

ANTARCTICA



penguin

ASIA



Bactrian camel



orangutan



panda bear



tiger

EUROPE



golden eagle



hedgehog



ibex



red squirrel

NORTH AMERICA



alligator



black bear



rattlesnake



turkey

OCEANIA



frilled lizard



kangaroo



kookaburra

SOUTH AMERICA



jaguar



macaw



sloth



tapir



vicuña