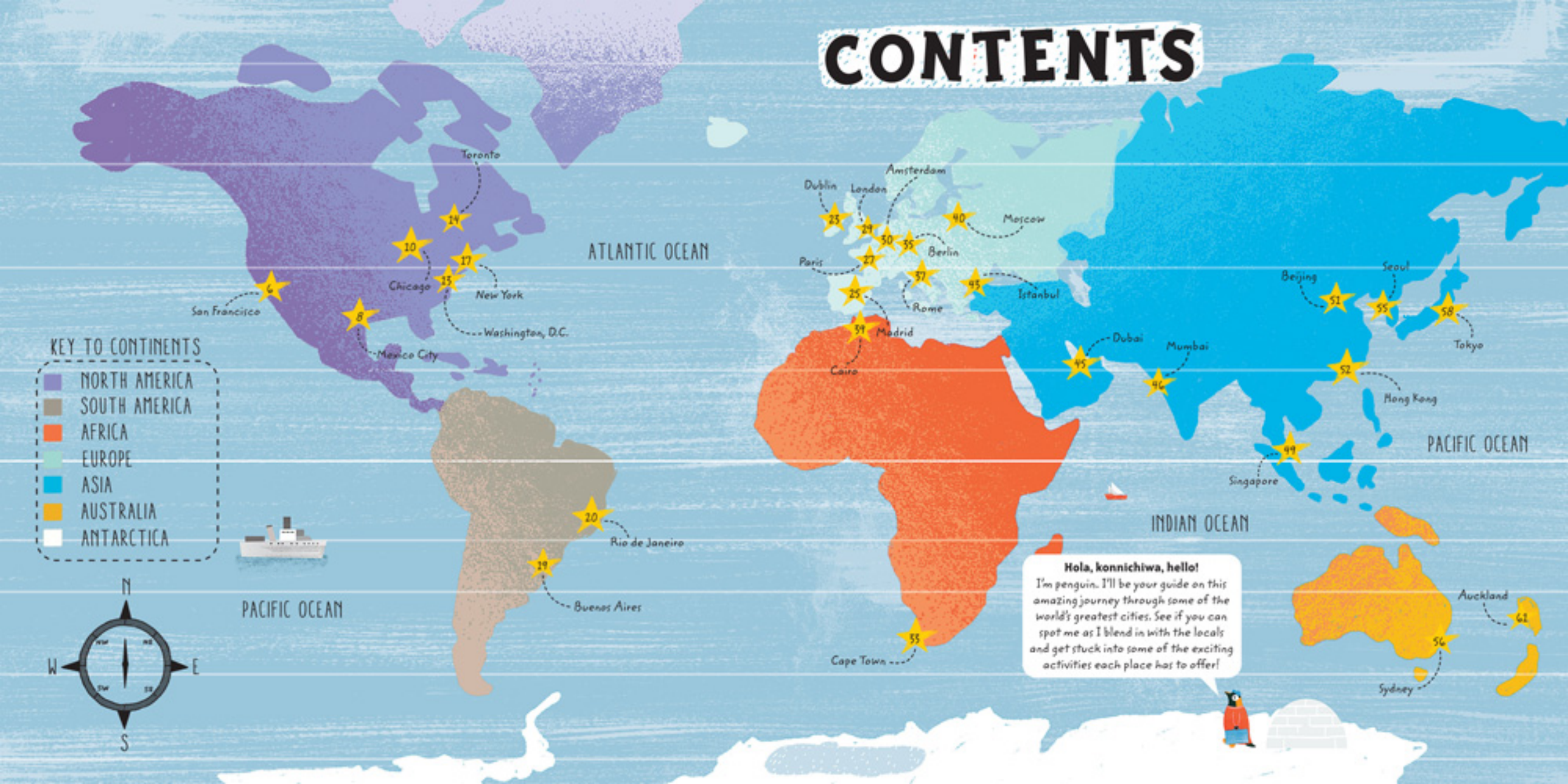
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Hola, konnichiwa, hello!
I'm penguin. I'll be your guide on this amazing journey through some of the world's greatest cities. See if you can spot me as I blend in with the locals and get stuck into some of the exciting activities each place has to offer!

MEXICO CITY



Hola! (Oh-lah)

This vast, sprawling city in Central America was built by the Spanish on the site of the ancient Aztec city of Tenochtitlan. Today the Spanish and Indian communities have blended together to create a colourful mix of traditions and cultures.

COUNTRY Mexico
CURRENCY Mexican Peso
Language Spanish
Population 8.9 million

The ancient Aztecs were a bloodthirsty lot. They believed they had to sacrifice human lives to keep the sun gods happy and to help their crops to grow. They killed as many as 50,000 people a year (that's one every ten minutes!).

AZTECS



In Aztec times you could enjoy some of these tasty treats!

Aztec Shopping List
500g of ants (extra crunchy)
5 large lizards
1 mixed bag of frogs and toads
2oz of beetle grubs and caterpillars



PYRAMIDS OF TEOTIHUACÁN

To the north of the city you will find the mysterious pyramids of Teotihuacán. No one knows who built the pyramids but they became an important religious site for the Aztecs.





A PIÑATA is a clay or papier-mâché pot filled with toys and sweets. At festivals, blindfolded children take it in turns to try and break open the pots with a long pole, then race to collect the scattered sweets.



Mexico is famous for its lively parties or 'fiestas'. On the 2nd of November, The Day of the Dead, people remember friends and relatives who have died. Each family puts on a great banquet and lights candles to guide the spirits of the dead to the feast.





DAY OF THE DEAD FESTIVAL



CHAPULTEPEC PARK

ANGEL OF INDEPENDENCE





"ZÓCALO" MAIN SQUARE



Mexican food is a delicious blend of Indian and Spanish styles. The most popular foods are maize tortillas (a flat bread), beans and chilli.



MEXICAN HAT DANCE

THE BLUE HOUSE OF ARTIST FRIDA KAHLO





TORTILLAS, JALAPEÑOS AND GUACAMOLE

New York

Hi!
Did you know that New York City is known as 'The Big Apple' and that it used to be the capital of the USA? It also has one of the world's most famous skylines with towering skyscrapers like the Empire State Building and the beautiful Chrysler Building.

COUNTRY USA
CURRENCY US Dollar
Language English
Population 8.7 million

Ellis Island was the gateway for millions of immigrants to the United States of America between 1892 and 1954. As they arrived they would see the towering Statue of Liberty. The statue was a gift from France, built in 1886 and represents the independence and freedom of America.

ONE WORLD TRADE CENTRE

BIG APPLE

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

ELLIS ISLAND

WALL ST

The famous financial district of New York.

STATUE OF LIBERTY

'Lady Liberty', as she is known, is so big that her nose alone is 4ft 6 inches long and she wears a size 879 shoe!

CHINATOWN

Broadway

TIMES SQUARE

CENTRAL PARK

CHRYSLER BUILDING

MANHATTAN

GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM

NYC

LITTLE ITALY

NEW YORK HOT DOG

STATEN ISLAND

BROOKLYN BRIDGE

BROOKLYN

THE BRONX

QUEENS

New York City is made up of 5 districts - Manhattan, The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. Manhattan sits in a natural harbour surrounded by water. New York City has many iconic attractions, from the bright lights of Times Square and Broadway, the home of musicals, to the world-famous Guggenheim Museum and New York Yankees baseball team.

LONDON

Hello!
In its 2,000-year history London has survived great fires, rebellions and plagues. Join me on my red bus tour as I have tea with the Queen, watch the changing of the guards and listen to tales of torture at the Tower of London.

COUNTRY England
CURRENCY British Pound
Language English
Population 8.7 million



MIND THE GAP

The London tube is the oldest underground system in the world. During the Second World War Londoners slept in the tunnels to protect them from the bombing raids.

Buckingham Palace is the official London home of the Queen. It has an incredible 775 rooms, 1,519 doors and 760 windows!









HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Big Ben is the name of the 13-ton bell inside the clock tower.





The Tower of London is one of the most haunted places in the country. The ghost of Henry VIII's second wife, Anne Boleyn, who was beheaded in 1536, has been said to walk around the tower carrying her head under her arm!



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL



TOWER OF LONDON

A traditional East End meal!



PIE AND MASH



PEARLY KINGS AND QUEENS

REMEMBER REMEMBER THE 5TH OF NOVEMBER!
In 1605 Guy Fawkes hatched a dastardly plan to blow up King James I and his parliament. The plot was uncovered just in time and is remembered each year on the 5th of November with fireworks and bonfires all across the country.



LONDON EYE

RIVER THAMES



TATE MODERN

DID YOU KNOW?
For 600 years wild animals from around the world were kept in the tower, including a lioness called Elizabeth and a grizzly bear called Martin!



THE SHARD

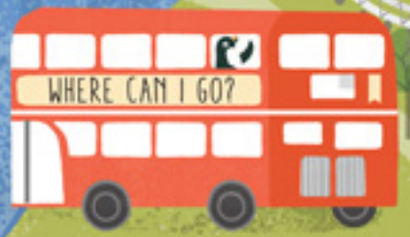


TOWER BRIDGE



CUTTY SARK

LONDON'S HIDDEN PAST
London was founded by the Romans in 9 AD. The town was called Londinium and had fortified walls, baths and an arena where savage gladiator fights took place. Evidence of London's Roman past can still be found including skeletons and coins.





CAIRO

Ahlan! (Ah-lan)
Exploring the ancient city of Cairo is like stepping back in time. Its narrow, dusty streets are a maze of mosques and shops selling everything from live chickens to tourist trinkets. Hitch a ride on a camel and go in search of the magnificent pyramids and treasures of the pharaohs!

COUNTRY Egypt
CURRENCY Egyptian Pound
Language Egyptian Arabic
Population 9.1 million





The Ancient Egyptians built giant pyramids as burial places and monuments to the pharaohs (kings). The pharaoh's body was preserved through a process called mummification and buried deep inside the pyramid along with all sorts of things they might need to survive in the afterlife.







The Great Pyramid was built for the Egyptian pharaoh Kofu around 2540BC. It is the only wonder of the ancient world that still exists today.



THE GREAT PYRAMID OF GIZA

CAIRO MUSEUM

Come face to face with the gold mask of Tutenkhamun, the famous boy pharaoh who ruled over 3,500 years ago.







RIVER NILE

Every year the Nile River floods the land and helps the farmers' crops to grow. Without the Nile all of Egypt would be desert.



TAHRIR SQUARE



THE HANGING CHURCH





Watch the spectacular twirling dance of the Whirling Dervishes at the medieval citadel.

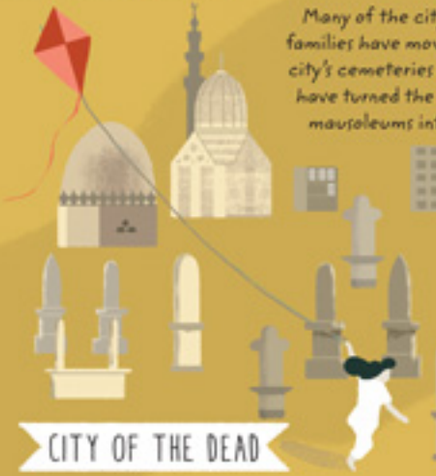




CITADEL

The domes and minarets of the city's mosques rise up into the sky. A minaret is a tall tower from which a muezzin (or crier) summons the people to prayer. The sound of this call floats across the rooftops and can be heard throughout the city.





Many of the city's poorer families have moved into the city's cemeteries where they have turned the tombs and mausoleums into homes.

CITY OF THE DEAD

ISTANBUL

Merhaba! (Mehr-hah-bah)
Istanbul is one the world's greatest and most ancient cities. Once a bustling trading port, the city has been the capital of the powerful Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires. Visitors today come to haggle in its open-air markets and admire its magnificent buildings.

COUNTRY Turkey
CURRENCY Turkish Lira
Language Turkish
Population 15.5 million



HAMAM

Public baths or 'hamam' have been an important part of Turkish life for hundreds of years.



A bazaar is the Turkish name for an open-air market. It contains many shops selling traditional items like carpets, silk slippers, exotic spices and a famous sweet flavoured with rose petals called Turkish delight.

GOLDEN HORN

GALATA



GRAND BAZAAR





A simit is a round Turkish bread similar to a pretzel. Street sellers carry huge trays of them on their heads like this.



Istanbul has had many different names over the years including Byzantium, Constantinople and Stamboul.



MEZZE PLATTER

Popular Turkish foods include kebabs made from grilled lamb, hummus (a dip make from chickpeas) and baba ganoush (mashed aubergine).



TOPKAPI PALACE
This is where the sultans (kings) once lived.

HAGIA SOPHIA





BLUE MOSQUE

BOSPHORUS

EUROPE

ASIA



Istanbul is the only city in the world that straddles two continents. Its western side is in Europe but hop on a ferry or cross the bridge over the Bosphorus River and you will find yourself in Asia!



TOKYO

Konnichiwa! (Kon-ee-chee-wa)
Tokyo began as a small fishing village called Edo around 5,000 years ago. Today it is the capital of Japan and one of the biggest, most populated cities in the world!

COUNTRY Japan **LANGUAGE** Japanese
CURRENCY Yen **POPULATION** 9.2 (or 36!) million

MYTHS AND LEGENDS
According to ancient legends the city's rivers are home to a strange beast called a 'kappa'. A kappa is a turtle-like creature that enjoys kidnapping children and drowning swimmers. But don't worry, they can be won over by offerings of their favourite food - cucumbers!

1,000 CRANES
In Japan it is said that if you make a thousand origami cranes you will be granted one special wish! What would you wish for?

Origami is the Japanese art of folding paper to create objects or animals.

ORIGAMI

TOKYO SUBWAY

has 'train pushers' called oshiya who make sure everyone fits in!

KANNON TEMPLE

IMPERIAL PALACE
Where the Emperor lives.

SKY TREE

Traditional Japanese outfits are called kimonos. The name kimono means 'thing to wear.'

SHIBUYA
The city's busy shopping district.

TOKYO TOWER

SUMO

Sumo wrestling is a national sport where men with big tummies have to push each other out of a ring. Sumo wrestlers eat around 20,000 calories per day, that's up to ten times what an average person needs!

The cherry blossom ('sakura') is Japan's national flower and is a very important part of Japanese culture. Each spring the blossoming of the cherry trees is celebrated with special parties called 'hanami'.

JAPANESE GARDEN

MT FUJI

Mount Fuji is an active volcano and the highest mountain in Japan. On a clear day it can be seen from the Sky Tree.

SUSHI

TOKYO BAY

FISH MARKET

Sushi is the national dish of Japan. It is made from raw fish wrapped in rice and seaweed.