

LESSON 1:**WHERE IS ANGEL ISLAND? AN INTRODUCTORY GEOGRAPHY LESSON****Focus Question**

What and where is Angel Island?

Objective

Students will reflect on their previous knowledge of immigration. Students will identify the location of Angel Island and its Immigration Station, and create a map with its relation to other geographic features in the San Francisco Bay area.

Grades

4 - 8

Time

45 to 50 minute period, plus homework

Materials

- Copies of historical photograph of immigrants arriving at Angel Island to individual students or small groups of students, or Xerox photo on to an overhead transparency and project with an overhead projector on to a wall or screen,
- Maps such as a map of the United States, San Francisco maps, Angel Island maps, road atlases, Angel Island and California State Parks materials or websites (if a classroom computer is available to the students).
- Student work sheet with instructions
- Blank outline map
- Fine-tip black pens
- Colored pencils

Standards

California History-Social Science Standards (See Standards Connections section)

Procedure**Introduction to Immigration**

1. Have students look at photograph of immigrants arriving at Angel Island but passing out photocopies or by projecting the image from an overhead transparency of the photo enlarged on the overhead projector on to a screen or blank wall.
2. Write on the board, the introductory journal entry for the day:
“Why might people move from one place to another?
Define the word “immigration,” and tell what you know about it.”
3. Have students spend about ten minutes writing on these topics. Have class share ideas.

4. Building on what students may have mentioned, use a classroom map of the world to guide the students to speculate on possible West Coast sites for port of entry from the countries of the Pacific Rim. Have students point out the possible sites that might have been used (San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle have all served as port-of-entry for the United States). Point out Angel Island in San Francisco Bay as a place that the class will be exploring.

Introduction to Angel Island

1. Using the teacher background information, introduce some of the history and geography of Angel Island. Depending on what your students have previously studied, teachers can point out the island's early use as a Native American settlement, or a civil war era settlement, or some of Angel Island wildlife. Stress that one of the things that Angel Island is best known for is the Immigration Station in operation from 1910 to 1940. When it opened in 1910, the new detention facility on Angel Island was considered ideal because of its isolation. There were buildings to house and care for detainees, a pier, and regular boat service to the mainland. During the next 30 years, this was the point of entry for most of the approximately 175,000 Chinese immigrants who came to the United States. Most of them were detained on Angel Island for as little as two weeks or as much as six months. A few were forced to remain on the island for as long as two years.
2. Direct students' attention to the geographic features of the San Francisco Bay; it is useful to have a large map. Then have students speculate if San Francisco was a destination, "Where might officials want to locate their processing center?" What are advantages of having an immigration station on the mainland, on an island?
3. Following this introduction to the site, give students their assignment to create their own map of Angel Island. They each should receive an outline map of Angel Island and a work sheet explaining the labeling, coloring, and the date that their map will be due. Students are to label fifteen items with capital letters using black pen and then color it using colored pencils. Students should color in one direction only. Students may work in pairs with maps including the pamphlet *Angel Island State Park, Your Passport to American History* in this guide, and other class resources. Student's maps will probably not be finished in class, and teachers should make copies of the island map in *Angel Island State Park, Your Passport to American History* map or make sure that student's have access to the internet to complete the map at home.

Assessment

Grading the completed maps may be based on the following: turned in on time, all sites labeled correctly, color quality (One direction and appropriate choice), all lettering in black caps, and effort.

Adaptations and Extensions

While a simple mapping activity, this lesson could also include other geography, history and natural history concepts. Teachers may want to assign additional tasks such as:

- Identifying the longitude and latitude of Angel Island,
- Charting the elevation of the island, using the scale to estimate distance along trails,
- Researching the Angel Island wildlife (native plants such as oak, bay, madrone trees, sagebrush, chamise, manzanita, toyon, and wildflowers, birds such as robins, hawks, blue herons, and pelicans, and other animals such as raccoons and deer),
- Researching the geographic features of Angel Island,
- Researching other historical sites on Angel Island (the Quarantine Station, Camp Reynolds, Fort McDowell, Nike Missile Base, etc.).

For more information, refer to California State Parks brochure on Angel Island State Park, available on line at <http://cal-parks.ca.gov/pages/468/files/AngelIsland.pdf>.

Resources (Web sites & Maps and brochures)

Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, www.aiisf.org

Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation's web site has background information on the history of the Immigration Station. Under "Island Information" there are also links to Angel Island maps available online.

Angel Island Association, www.angelisland.org

Angel Island Association's (AIA) web site contains lots of photos and background information on Angel Island. The history of other sites like the Quarantine Station, Camp Reynolds and Fort McDowell are covered in detail. Also included is information about the Miwok Indians and the natural history of Angel Island. Members of the Angel Island Association (AIA) are California State Parks volunteers that support Angel Island State Park as a whole. AIA schedules the tours, which are given by Angel Island State Park staff and volunteers.

Californian State Parks, <http://cal-parks.ca.gov/>

The California State Parks owns and manages Angel Island State Park. The State Parks website on Angel Island offers background information on the natural history, Native Americans, and the various sites on the Island, i.e. the Immigration Station.

Menlo School in Atherton, California, virtual tour researched by high school students.

http://sun.menloschool.org/~mbrody/ushistory/angel/natural_history/

San Francisco Bay Recreation map, second edition. Published by Great Pacific Recreation & Travel Maps, P.O. Box 872, Bellevue, WA 98009-0872

Golden Gate pamphlet published by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Golden Gate Recreation Area, California.

Pamphlet *Angel Island State Park, Your Passport to American History*

Prepared by Patricia B. Hartinger with the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation.

Student Handout

Name _____ Date _____

**MAP ASSIGNMENT
ANGEL ISLAND, CALIFORNIA**

Your task will be to create your own map of Angel Island and the surrounding area. Please follow these instructions to complete your map:

1. To label the map, use black ink and print in capital letters. Keep your lettering on the page as straight as possible.
2. Identify the land and water. Color your map with colored pencils and make your strokes go in one direction only.
3. Use any map sources in the classroom, library, home, or on a website to help identify and label the following:

Compass rose giving the directions

San Francisco Bay

Arrow pointing to the direction of the city of San Francisco

Another arrow pointing to the direction of the city of Oakland

Alcatraz Island

San Pablo Bay

Point Richmond

Tiburon

Raccoon Strait

Angel Island

Ayala Cove

Mount Livermore

China Cove

Immigration Station

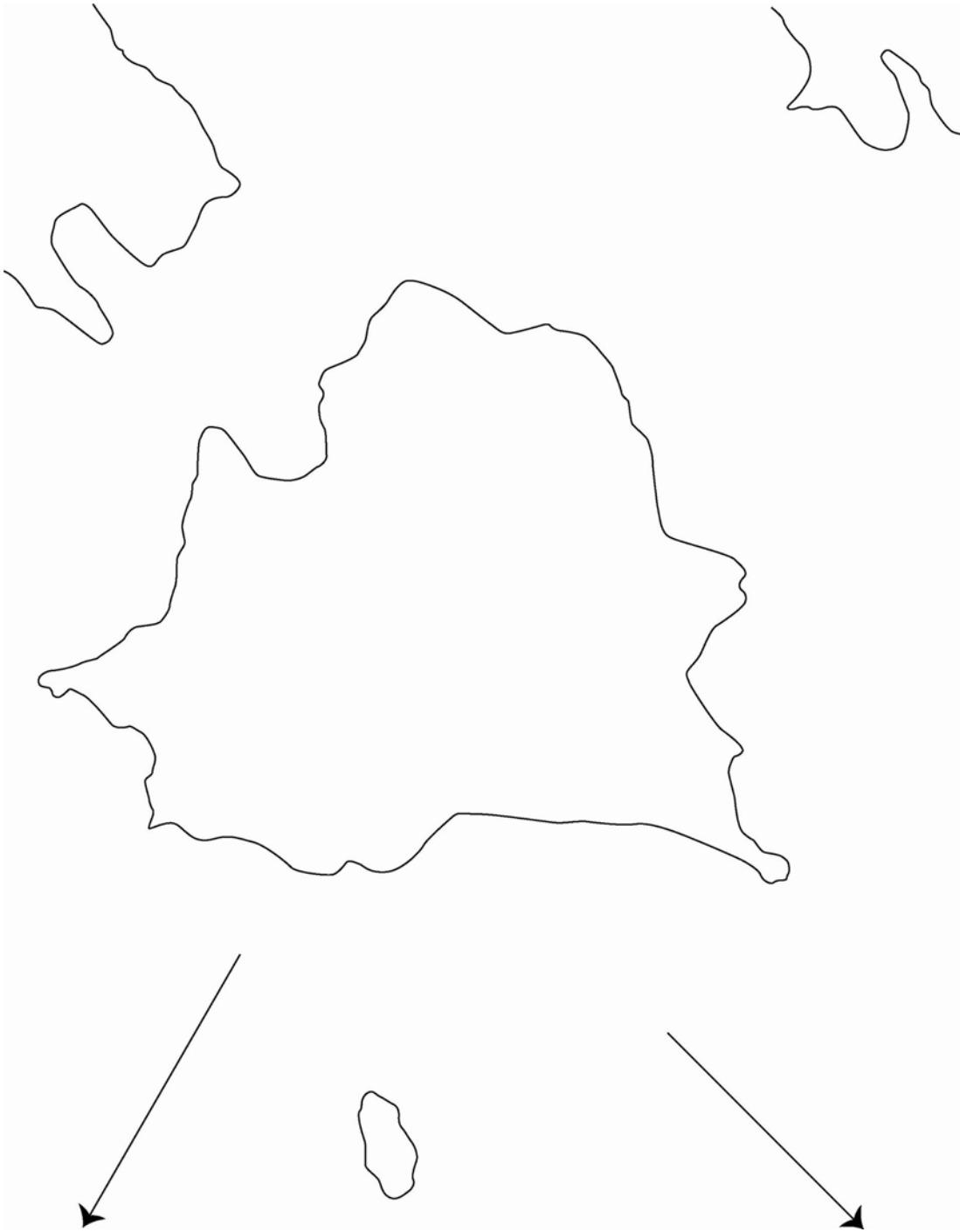
Point Blunt Lighthouse

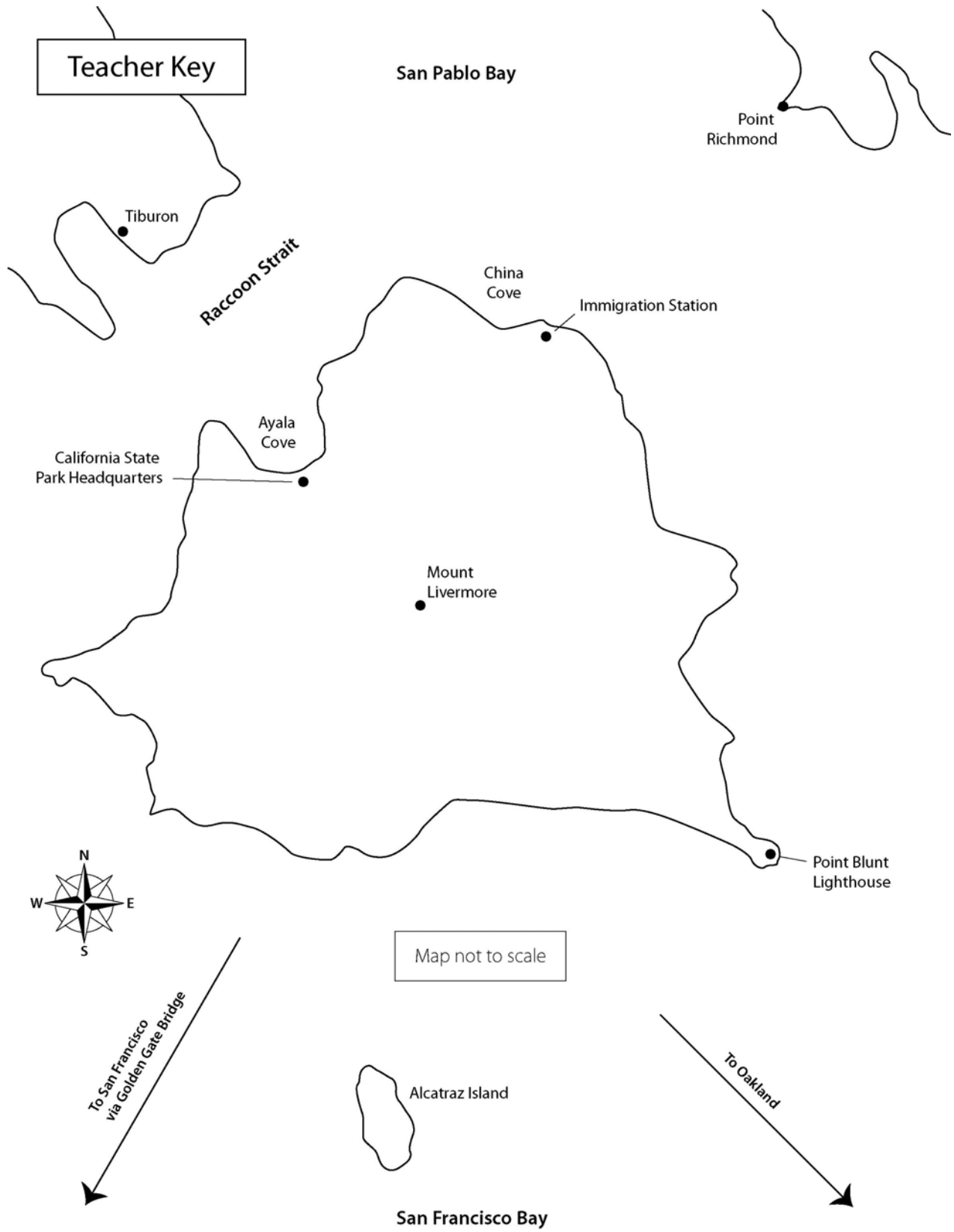
California State Park Headquarters

Student Handout

Name _____ Date _____

**Map Assignment
Angel Island, California**





ANGEL ISLAND MAP: TEACHER'S GLOSSARY

Angel Island – A hilly, grass and forest covered island, the largest in San Francisco Bay.

Following years of Spanish control of the island, the island served as both a U.S. military base and the site of two government facilities (Quarantine and Immigration Stations) for nearly 100 years starting in the mid-1800s. Angel Island got its name from Ayala who named the Island “La Isla de Los Angeles,” following a then common practice among Catholic explorers who named sites after religious feast days nearest to the time of discovery.

Alcatraz Island – Another well-known island in San Francisco Bay. The island served as a former federal prison, military fortification, lighthouse, and site of a 1969-1972 Native American Occupation.

Ayala Cove – Cove where ferries dock today. Named after Lt. Juan Manuel de Ayala, a Spanish captain who brought his ship into San Francisco Bay in 1775, this area was formerly used as a Quarantine Station where ships from foreign posts could be fumigated and immigrants suspected of carrying diseases could be kept in isolation.

California State Park Headquarters – Located at Ayala Cove

China Cove – Cove where ferries delivering people who were to be processed at Angel Island Immigration Station docked.

Immigration Station – Located on the North end of the island, the Immigration Station was in operation between 1910 to 1940 and processed hundreds of thousands of immigrants. During World War II, Japanese and German prisoners of war and enemy aliens were also held there.

Marin County - Marin County is linked to San Francisco by the Golden Gate Bridge and to the East Bay by the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. It is bordered on the north and northeast by Sonoma County and on the west by the Pacific Ocean.

Mount Livermore – The 781-foot-tall mountain top on Angel Island, named in honor of Caroline Livermore who was the Marin County conservationist who led the campaign to create Angel Island State Park.

Point Blunt Lighthouse – One of two active Coast Guard stations on the Southeast side of the island.

Point Richmond – This point on the East Bay of San Francisco Bay was once an island and is now a neighborhood of Richmond, California. For more information, visit:
<http://www.pointrichmondhistory.org/>

Raccoon Strait – The deep-water channel between Tiburon and Angel Island, named in honor of a British sailing ship HMS Raccoon which was damaged in Northern California and entered San Francisco Bay in 1814.

San Pablo Bay – Northern part of the San Francisco Bay, the largest estuary on the west coast of the United States. An estuary is a partly-enclosed coastal body of water. Estuaries have a free connection with the open sea but their salty sea water is diluted with fresh water from inland rivers and creeks. Angel Island is located in what is known as the Central Bay.

Tiburon – From Spanish, meaning “shark,” Tiburon is the closest town on the mainland to Angel Island in Marin County.