

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

Cuba and The Caribbean



- Map: Cuba
- Map: In the Caribbean Sea
- KidsPost Reprint: “Cuba welcomes baseball players who left country illegally”
- Student Activity: Faces of Cuba
- E-Replica Activity: Meet the People | *Americans with Cuban Roots*
- Student Activity: Sea and Name

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Cuba is a tropical island inhabited by 11 million primarily Spanish-speaking individuals. The blood of indigenous people, Spanish conquerors, African slaves, Chinese workers, and American and European entrepreneurs make Cubans an ethnically rich people. Young people between the ages of 0 and 14 years compose 16% of the population.

This resource guide provides maps and a flag of Cuba for geography and social studies lessons. The KidsPost article introduces the Cuban love of baseball, the disruption of families due to travel restrictions



SARAH L. VOISIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

imposed between the U.S. and Cuba, the impact of the embargo and steps toward change. “Sea and Name” is a game to check students’ knowledge of Caribbean people, geography and marine life.

Photographs capture the daily life, environment and culture of Cuba. The native bee hummingbird, ground iguana, land crab, painted snail and the trogon, Cuba’s national bird, can be found in Cuba’s forests, valleys, gardens and coastline. Faces of Cuba can be used to introduce visual literacy and acquaint students with our differences and similarities to neighboring people.

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Cuba

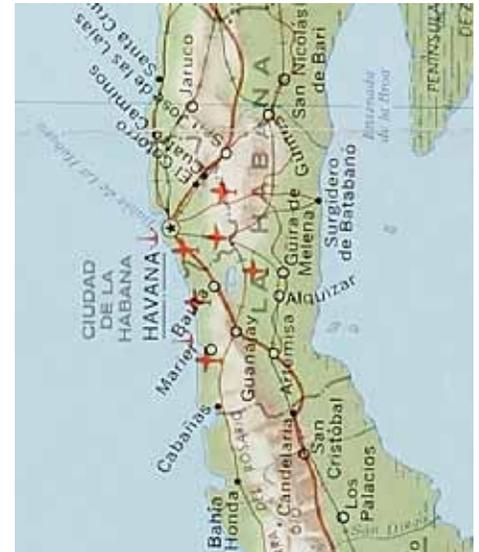


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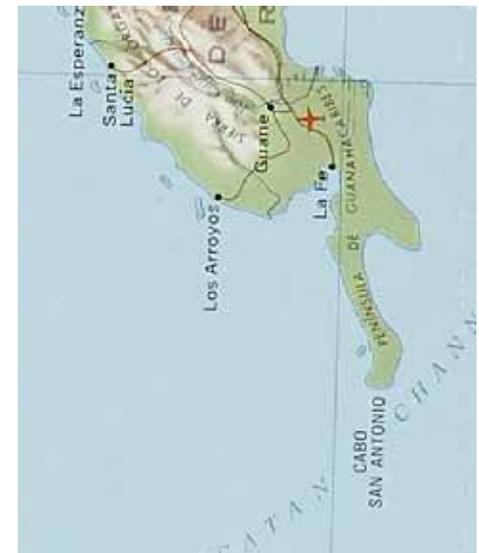
Southeast



Havana and North Coast



Southwest



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In the Caribbean Sea



Largest of the Caribbean islands, Cuba is the most westerly of the Greater Antilles. About the size of England, it is 780 miles long and 119 miles at its widest. Its tropical climate is moderated by the trade winds.

It is 90 miles south of Key West and 90 miles north of Jamaica. Mexico and Haiti are neighbors to the west and east. Cuba's second largest island is Isla de la Juventud in the southwest.

A quarter of the country is mountainous and covered with forests of pine and mahogany. Pico Turquino at 6,578 feet is the highest peak.



DICK FURNO/THE WASHINGTON POST



Several flags have flown over Cuba, including the U.S. flag during the Spanish-American war. Adopted in 1902, the Cuban flag is composed of a star, stripes and a red triangle. The blue stripes represent the three old divisions of the island and the two white stripes refer to the strength of independence. The red stands for the blood shed in the struggle for independence as well as equality, fraternity and freedom. "La Estrella Solitaria" symbolizes the absolute freedom among the Cuban people.

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KIDSPOST

Cuba welcomes baseball players who left country illegally

Dodgers' Yasiel Puig, Cardinals' Brayan Pena were among players allowed back

A lineup of Cuban-born baseball stars made a triumphant return to the island as part of the first Major League Baseball trip in years.

Once officially bad-mouthed in Cuba for leaving the country illegally, Yasiel Puig of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Brayan Pena of the St. Louis Cardinals and José Abreu of the Chicago White Sox were swarmed by fans and members of the state media Tuesday at the start of a three-day mission to warm relations between Major League Baseball (MLB) and Cuba.

The major leagues and Cuban baseball have been moving to rebuild ties since Presidents Barack Obama and Raúl Castro declared a year ago that they would reestablish relations between the two governments.

"I'm very happy to be here," said Puig, who fled in 2012 and had been barred from returning until this week's trip. Pena, who is from Havana, Cuba's capital, was met by at least 20 family members.

The players were scheduled to hold youth clinics while baseball



DESMOND BOYLAN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brayan Pena of the St. Louis Cardinals hugs his grandmother Rosa de las Nives, 85, in Havana.

officials talked business. MLB leaders said they hope to one day create a legal route for players to leave Cuba for the major leagues.

Only one U.S. team has played a spring training game in Cuba

since March 1959. The Baltimore Orioles faced Cuba's national team in Havana in March 1999. MLB has not returned since.

— **Associated Press**
December 16, 2015

Faces of Cuba

Images of Cubans, young and old, taken by *Post* photographer Sarah L. Voisin, give readers a glimpse into daily life and special celebrations. The dates of publication are given.

December 16, 2015



Cruz Rancol, 85, runs out of her Old Havana house in August in pursuit of a chicken that had gotten away. The two boys in the center are balancing a board on their laps while playing dominos.

December 24, 2015



Amelia Prieto waits in her father's car outside of their apartment building before going to her birthday party.



Amelia has her photo taken with the other girls at her quinceañera party. The invited guests were taken by rented bus to a villa about 25 miles away for a private pool party.



August 25, 2015

Orlando Enrique Rosales, 24, does tricks on a recent Sunday evening in Havana. "For people who don't have much in their life, [skateboarding has] done a lot," he said.

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Inside e-Replica

Meet the People | *Americans with Cuban Roots*

The United States is a country composed of people with roots in many countries, cultures and faiths. These individuals immigrated to the U.S. seeking a better life in times of famine, war and uncertainty. This idea is expressed succinctly on the Seal of the United States — *E pluribus unum* — Out of many, one.

Whether first-, second- or third-generation, many Cuban-Americans have become known in their chosen fields. They include artists, athletes, writers, educators and members of Congress. Below is a list to begin your consideration of the contributions of Cuban-Americans to society.

Jim Acosta	CNN senior White House correspondent
Ralph Alvarez	Former president and COO, McDonald's
Desi Arnez	Bandleader, <i>I Love Lucy</i>
Liz Balmaseda	Journalist, Pulitzer Prize recipient
Jeff Bezos	Founder of Amazon.com, owner of <i>The Washington Post</i> (Stepfather is Cuban)
Nilo Cruz	Playwright, first Latino to win Pulitzer Prize for Drama
Ted Cruz	U.S. Senator, R-Texas
Dr. Carlos M. N. Eire	Yale University professor, author of <i>Waiting for Snow in Havana</i>
Gloria Estafan	Singer, songwriter, actress, businesswoman, writer
Raul J. Fernandez	Co-owner Washington Wizards, Capitals, and Mystics
Andy Garcia	Actor, director; Academy-Award nominated
Gio Gonzalez	MLB pitcher, The Washington Nationals
Soledad O'Brien	Journalist, chair of Starfish Media Group
Antonio Prohias	Cartoonist/creator, <i>Mad Magazine's</i> Spy vs. Spy
Marco Rubio	U.S. Senator, R-Florida
Dara Torres	Swimmer, Olympic gold medalist
Bob Vila	TV host, This Old House



Conduct an e-Replica search to see if any of these individuals have been in the news recently. Summarize what he or she has done, ideas expressed or causes supporting.

Read other sources to learn more about one of the individuals listed or another Cuban-American. Write a short introduction to this person.

OPTIONAL. Is a Cuban-American studying in your school or living in your community? Ask if you can conduct an interview to learn more about his or her story.

Name _____ Date _____

Sea and Name

Write the name of a person, place or item that meets the description. Call out when you have completed one row across, diagonally or down.

Name the capital of Cuba	Distance of Cuba from the United States	Two bodies of water that surround Cuba	Location of the Florida Reef Track	Name of the largest island in the Caribbean Sea
Name of the Department U.S. Federal Government that oversees our fisheries	What NOAA stands for	Give an example of NOAA data	What someone snorkeling will see over a reef	Name three islands in the Caribbean Sea
The official government of Cuba	Number of islands in the Caribbean		Name a natural resource found in the Gulf of Mexico	Name a U.S. National Park in a Gulf state
Person who discovered Cuba	An important commercial fish found in the Gulf of Mexico	Three of the 5 U.S. Gulf states	Name of a marine ecosystem	Name of a leader of Cuba
Name and location of the largest Barrier Reef in the world	Name and location of the second largest Barrier Reef in the world	Name two kinds of music played in Cuba	Name a Central American country that is close to Cuba	Three products grown on Caribbean islands