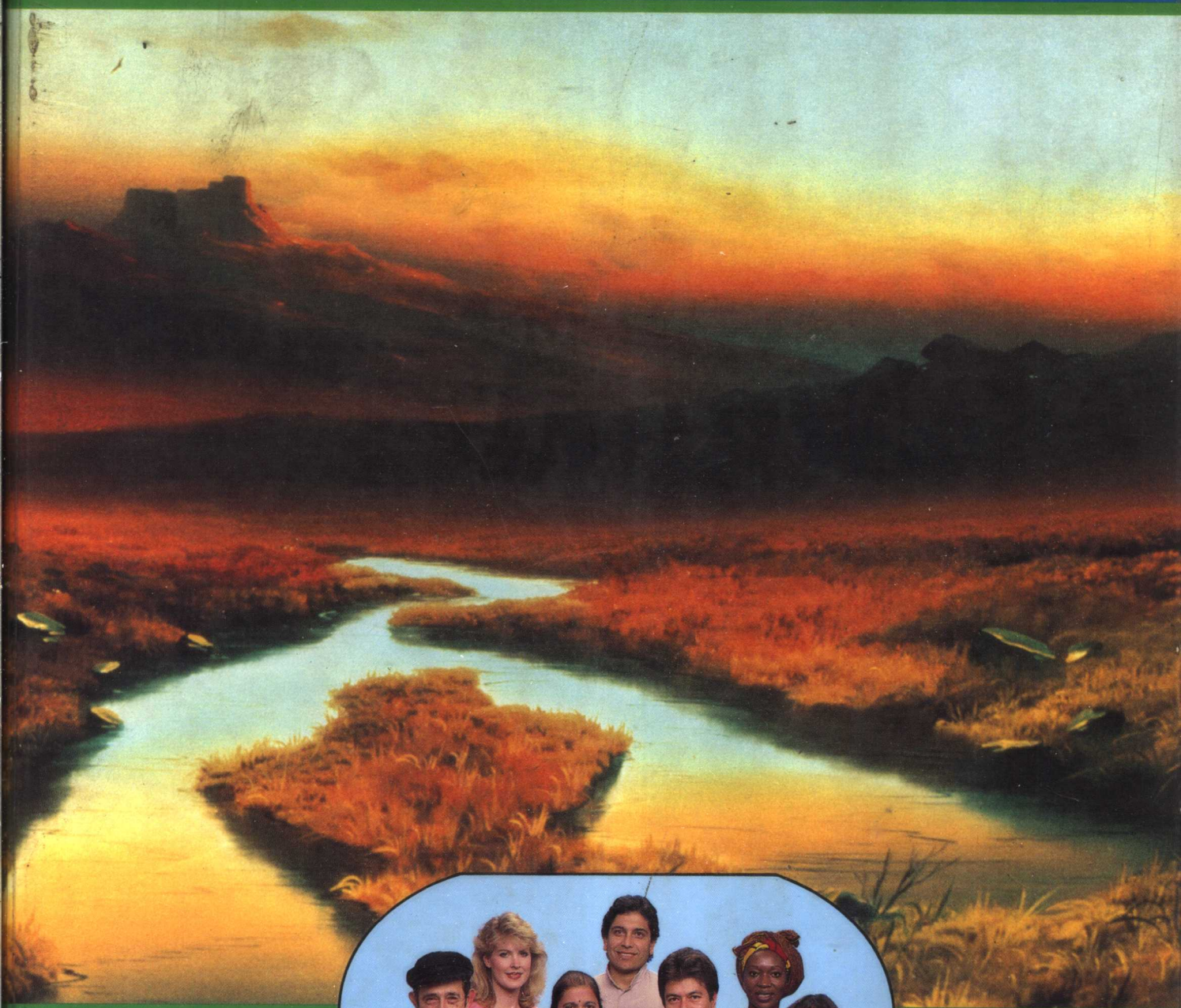


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PEOPLE AND PLACES



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PEOPLE AND PLACES
ARMSTRONG HUNKINS



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PREFACE

Merrill's *World Geography: People and Places* blends physical and human geography, helping students understand themselves and their relationship to Earth and to other peoples of the world. The text, introduced by a one-page Prologue that stresses the reasons for studying geography, is made up of 10 units divided into 31 chapters. The first three units introduce basic concepts within the disciplines of physical and human geography. Each of the remaining units focuses on a major world region, reinforcing the concepts introduced in the first three units.

Each unit opens with a descriptive photograph, an indicator map, a brief introduction to unit content, and a unit table of contents. Each concludes with a two-page Unit Review that includes a brief summary of unit generalizations; review questions; suggestions for group and individual activities; and a one-page skill-developing activity.

Each chapter opens with a colorful full-page photograph that highlights a theme from the chapter. Themes presented in the chapter are listed as a preview. An introduction helps set the tone for the narrative, which presents facts and concepts in a readable and interesting style. Supporting, reinforcing, and supplementing the narrative is a great variety of maps, full-color photographs, illustrations, graphs, diagrams, and charts. To promote ease of reading and comprehension, each chapter is divided into numbered sections and subsections, the headings of which serve as a content outline. Each section is followed by a Content Check that includes a list of concept terms, a list of important people and places, recall questions, and a challenge question that requires higher-level thinking and problem-solving skills.

At the end of each chapter is a Conclusion that summarizes the chapter narrative in light of any future changes faced by Earth and its people. This is followed by a two-page Chapter Review that consists of a summary of key points; a vocabulary exercise; three sets of questions that test knowledge, comprehension, and higher-level thinking and problem-solving skills; a geographic skills exercise; and several challenge questions.

Supplementing the basic chapter and unit content are four types of one-page special features—Thinking Like a Geographer, which discusses the important skills or vocabulary of geographers; Strange But True, which describes unusual geographic phenomena; Focus, which highlights studies of or stories about physical, cultural, economic, or historical geography; and The Urban World, which treats urban geography concepts as they relate to certain cities of the world. In addition, throughout *World Geography: People and Places*, special attention is given to skills development. Not only are social studies skills defined, taught, applied, and practiced in Unit Reviews, but each chapter contains a graphic skills feature as well.

At the end of the text is an Appendix that includes an atlas with general reference maps, a data chart that provides statistics and shows the flags of each independent nation of the world, a glossary that defines all boldfaced terms that appear in the text, and a comprehensive, cross-referenced index.

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PROLOGUE

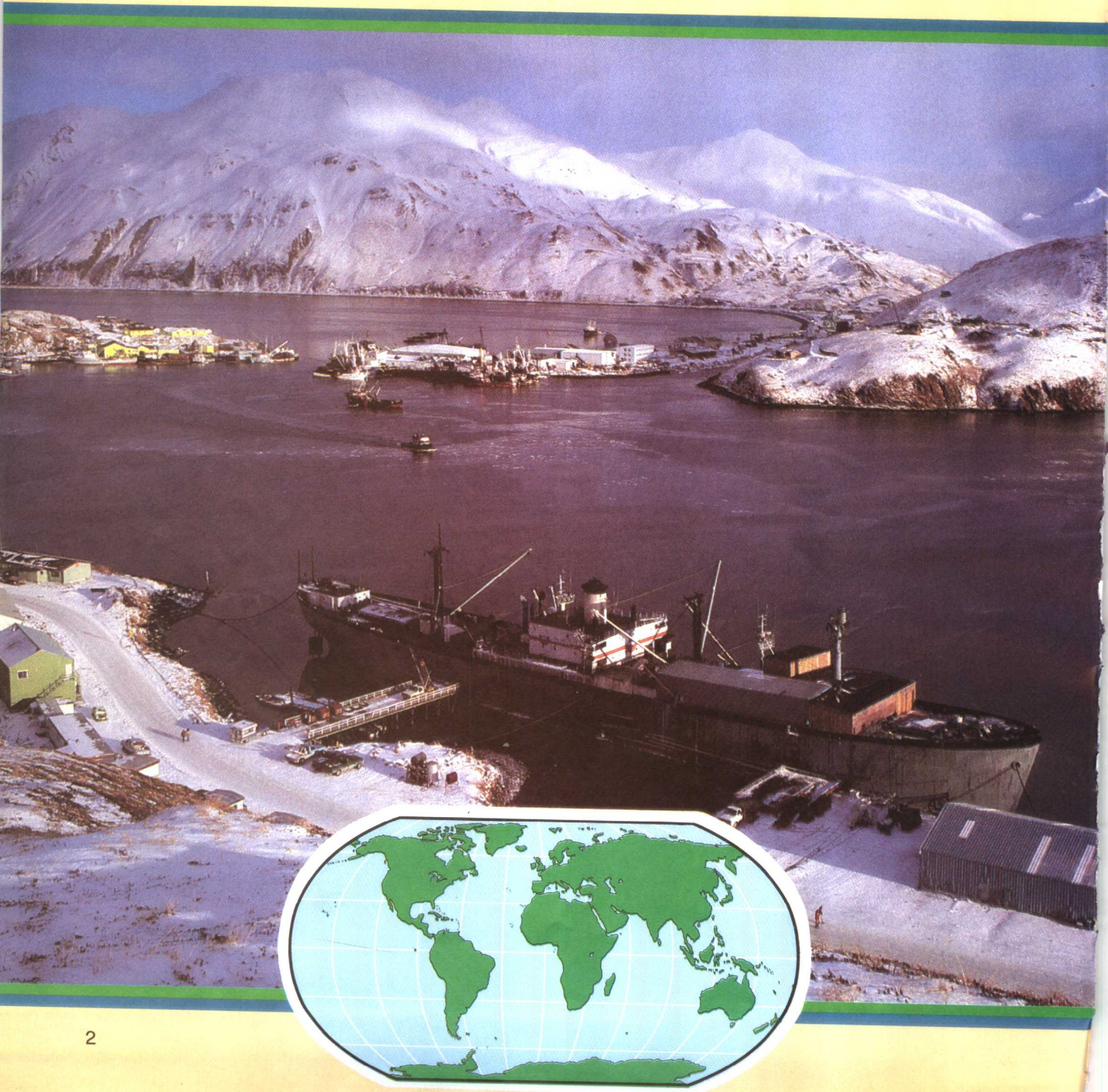
[People] can no longer be studied apart from the ground which [they] fill, or the lands over which [they] travel, or the seas over which [they] trade, than polar bears or desert cactus can be understood apart from its habitat. [People's] relations to [their] environment are infinitely more numerous and complex than those of the most highly organized plant or animal. So complex are they that they constitute a legitimate and necessary object of special study.

The “special study” American geographer Ellen Churchill Semple spoke of in her 1911 book, *Influences of Geographic Environment*, is what is now called human geography. At the time, Semple was among a group of noted scientists that wanted geography to include more than just the study of Earth and its physical features. They believed that the study of relationships between Earth and the people who lived there was as important as physical geography.

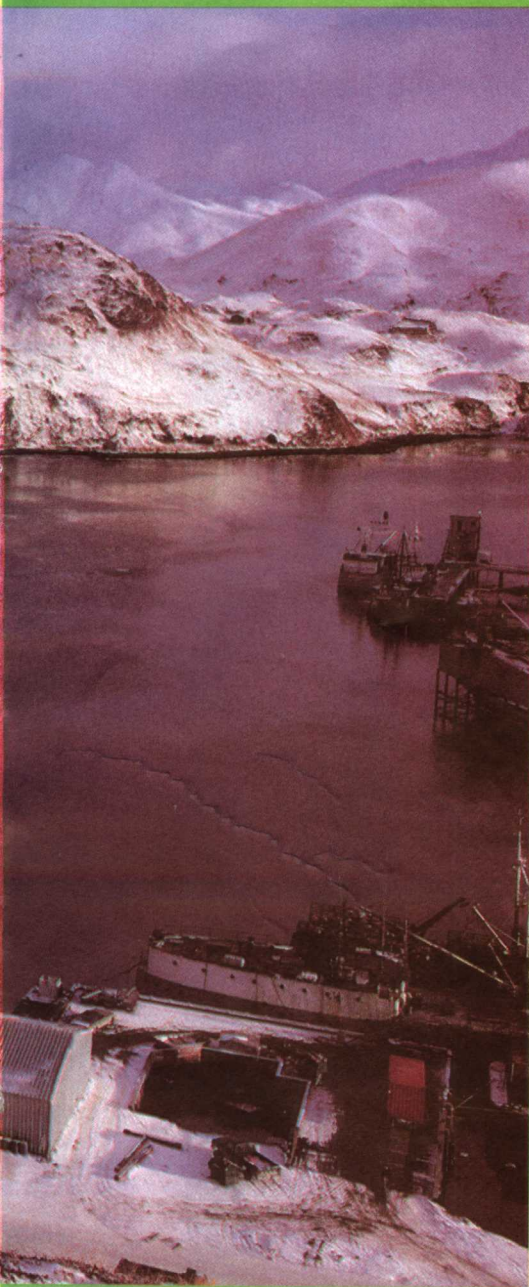
Today, nearly a century later, the need for special study of both Earth and its people is even stronger. Educators and government leaders join geographers in promoting more geographic education for everyone. They strongly believe that, in the world we live in today, people need not only to understand themselves and their relationship to Earth but also their relationships to peoples all over the world.

In today's world people depend on each other for the needs of their daily lives. It is not unusual for an American teenager to wake up to an alarm clock manufactured in Taiwan, style his or her hair with a product from France, dress in jeans sewn in Honduras, and ride in a car made in Japan. With increased transportation, communication, and trade linking even the most faraway parts of Earth, people need to learn about cultures other than their own and know the environments in which they live. This will help them interact effectively not only in trade but in political and social situations as well. *World Geography: People and Places* seeks to provide the insights needed to begin understanding Earth's awesome environments and the world's fascinating cultures.

FOUNDATIONS OF GEOGRAPHY



UNIT 1



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Geography involves a special way of looking at planet Earth and its people. It looks at relationships between groups of people, between places, and between people and places.

The study of geography involves describing, explaining, and making forecasts about people and places. To do these tasks, the geographer uses special methods of inquiry and several different tools.

The most important tools are maps. Maps show information in picture form. They can show any of Earth's features that can be measured or counted. They give the geographer and the student of geography the information they need to learn more about this planet and the people who live on it.

Ship docked at Dutch Harbor in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska

CHAPTER 1

