Canada for Kids

You're unBEARable!

You're a LOONIE!
Did you know ...

- Canada has 10 provinces and 3 territories.

- Canada has 5 regions:
  - **Atlantic Canada** (Newfoundland, PEI, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick)
  - **Central Canada** (Quebec, Ontario)
  - **The Prairies** (Manitoba, Saskatchewan)
  - **Western Canada** (Alberta, B.C.)
  - **The North** (Yukon, NW Territories, Nunavut)

Can you colour in Canada’s flag and draw the missing maple leaf?

Did you know ...

- Red and white are the official colours of Canada.
- Canada’s Coat of Arms reads *A Mari Usque Ad Mare* which means “from sea to sea.”
- Canada’s maple leaf flag was only introduced in 1965.

Canada has the longest coastline in the world and borders three different oceans – Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic. It is so big that it has 6 time zones across the country.

Canada is almost 40 times bigger than the United Kingdom!
Did you know ...

- The word Canada comes from the Huron-Iroquois word “kanata” meaning village.
- Canada is the second largest country in the world.
- The capital of Canada is Ottawa, Ontario.
- Canada’s government is located in the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, Ontario.
- The largest city in Canada is Toronto, Ontario.
- Each province and territory has its own official flag.
- Canada is a bilingual country – French and English.
- Canada celebrates its birthday on July 1st (Canada Day), the day Canada became a country in 1867.
Did you know ...  
• Niagara Falls, in Ontario, is the most powerful waterfall in North America.  
• The CN Tower in Toronto held the record as the world’s tallest free standing structure for 34 years.  
• Quebec produces most of the world’s maple syrup.  
• Half of Canada is covered with forests.

Symbols of Canada

The beaver is the official animal of Canada.

Lacrosse and hockey are the official sports of Canada.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) are the official police force of Canada.

The Maple tree is the official tree of Canada.

• Inukshuks are stone towers that look like people. Inuit people in Canada’s north used them as signs to guide their way. An Inukshuk was used as the official symbol of the Vancouver Winter Olympics in 2010.

Canada’s population is about 33 million – about half the population of the UK. Canada is a multicultural country where people from around the world have come to live together peacefully. Around 4% of Canada’s population are Aboriginals, including Inuit and Metis (descendants from marriages of French and First Nations people.) There are over 600 recognized First Nations governments in Canada.
Animals of Canada

Some of the animals you might come across in Canada include:

- polar bear
- grizzly bear
- black bear
- snowy owl
- Canada geese
- blue jay
- moose
- caribou
- walrus
- wolf
- elk
- cougar
- loon
- porcupine
- raccoon
- skunk
- wolverine
Did you know ...

• Drumheller Valley in Alberta is home to many dinosaur fossils and is called “the Dinosaur Capital of the World.”
• Albertosaurus and Edmontosaurus are two dinosaurs named after places in Canada.

Did you know ...

• The Queen is Canada’s Head of State.
• The Queen’s head is on Canada’s coins and the twenty dollar bill.
• The one dollar coin is called a “loonie.”
• The two dollar coin is called a “toonie.”

Did you know ...

• Totem poles are carved by the west coast First Nations people to represent families or nations and to tell stories.

Did you know ...

• Canada has 4 distinct seasons - summer, winter, spring, autumn (fall.)
• In most places it is cold and snowy in the winter (between -15 and -40 C).
• It is hot and humid in the summer (30-40 C).

Winnie the Pooh got his name from a real bear, named after the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and was brought to London by a Canadian soldier in the First World War.
Why build a monument to the Canadian Air Force?

As Canada didn't have its own Air Force in the Great War, thousands of Canadians signed up to serve in the British Royal Flying Corps. Billy Bishop, a Canadian, shot down more enemy planes than any other pilot from the British Commonwealth during the First World War.

Did you know ...
- Canada had the fourth largest air force in the world by the end of the second World War.
- Canadian pilots in the RAF helped fight the Nazi air force during the Battle of Britain.
- Many aircraft, like the Lancasters and Hurricanes, used by the RAF and RCAF were built in Canada.

Did you know ...
- Canadians continue to serve side by side with Great Britain in conflicts around the world.

Can you colour the monument?
Do the colours on the monument remind you of Canada’s flag?

For more information and fun games visit www.rcafmonument.ca/kids.html
Billy Bishop was the top scoring Commonwealth ace in the First World War, shooting down 72 enemy aircraft. While he wasn't known for being a great pilot, he was an excellent shooter, which helped him earn a Victoria Cross - the highest award for valour.

Raymond Collishaw was Canada’s second highest scoring pilot in the First World War, with 60 victories. He was also commander of the Black Flight, a special all Canadian group of excellent pilots. Collishaw was known for helping out new young pilots.

Leonard Birchall is known as “the saviour of Ceylon” for warning the Royal Navy of a Japanese attack on the island of Ceylon. His plane was shot down and he became a prisoner of war. Birchall helped other prisoners survive the difficult life in the prisoner of war camp.

John E. Fauquier was the top Canadian bomber pilot. As commanding officer of Canada’s 405 squadron, his crews were so successful that they were the only Canadians to be accepted as part of the elite Pathfinder bomber group.

George “Buzz” Beurling was Canada’s highest scoring Ace in the second World War, with 31 victories. He gained most of his fame during the Battle of Malta where he shot down 27 enemy aircraft; more than anyone else during the battle.

Andrew Mynarski and Pat Brophy were crew members of a Lancaster plane shot down in the second World War. Mynarski gave his life trying to save his trapped friend, Pat Brophy. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery. Amazingly, Brophy survived the crash and joined the French Resistance to continue the fight against the Nazis.