Guess the Flag: Be a Flag Detective

Grades 3–6 · Geography / Social Studies · 40 minutes · Free · Works with or without devices

Overview

Students learn that flags are symbols built from clues (colors, stripes, shapes and emblems). They practice looking closely by comparing look-alike flags, match 12 flags from six continents to country names, and (optionally) play a free 10-flag online quiz that gives instant feedback. Everything needed is in this PDF.

Learning objectives — students will be able to:

- Identify at least 8 of 12 flags from six continents by country name.
- Name the continent for each flag on the worksheet, using a map or globe.
- Explain one visual clue that tells two look-alike flags apart.
- Use precise language: "This is the flag of Kenya" (not just "the red, green and black one").

Materials

- Page 2 “Flag Detective” clue sheet (project it or print 1 per pair). Page 3 worksheet (1 per student). Page 4 answer key + exit tickets.
- World map or globe. Pencils; colored pencils optional.
- Optional: devices or one projector for the free online quiz at flagemoji.com/world-flags-quiz-generator/ (no account needed; choose a region and level).

Procedure

Hook (5 min)	Show the Japan flag (page 3, #1). Ask: “What could a red circle stand for?” Explain that a flag is a symbol for a country, like a team logo, and designers choose colors and shapes on purpose.
Flag Detective (10 min)	Project page 2. Pairs study each look-alike pair and write one difference before you reveal the clue. Discuss: Which clues were easiest to see? (Order of colors, shade of a color, number of stars.)
Worksheet (12 min)	Students match the 12 flags on page 3 to the word bank, then add each continent using the map. Early finishers color the “Design your own flag” box and explain their symbols.
Quiz (8 min, optional)	Whole class on a projector or pairs on devices: play two rounds of the free online quiz. Try “Country → Flag” mode, or the Hard level, which uses look-alike flags like the ones on page 2. Pairs say their clue aloud before tapping.
Exit ticket (5 min)	Students complete a half-sheet from page 4: one flag they know, one new flag, one clue that helped.

Differentiation & assessment

- Support: give grades 3–4 a 6-flag version (cover the bottom row) and let them use the word bank with continents listed.
- Stretch: students research why one flag uses its colors and write two sentences; or play the quiz on Hard.
- Assess: worksheet (goal 8/12+ names, continents with map support) and the exit-ticket clue sentence.

Standards connection

National Geography Standards 1 (using maps and other geographic representations) and 10 (Earth’s cultural mosaics). C3 Framework, Geography: using maps to locate places (grades 3–5). Map to your local standards as needed.

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Drafted with AI assistance; reviewed and edited by FlagEmoji. Flags shown in a uniform 4:3 shape; official proportions vary.

Flag Detective: Spot the Difference

Each pair looks alike. Look closely and write ONE difference before your teacher reveals the clue.



Chad



Romania

My difference:

Clue: Chad’s blue stripe is darker (navy). Romania’s blue is brighter. Same colors, same order!



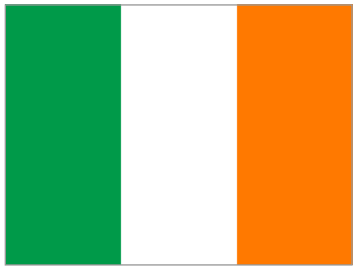
Indonesia



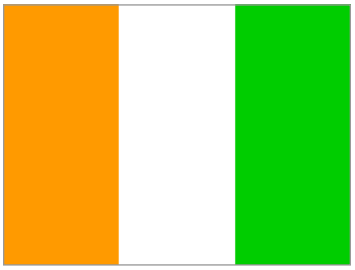
Poland

My difference:

Clue: Indonesia is red on TOP. Poland is white on top, red on the bottom.



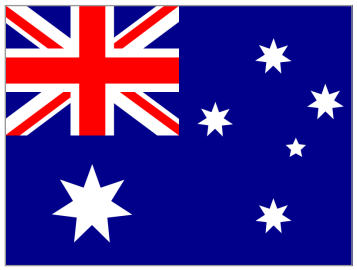
Ireland



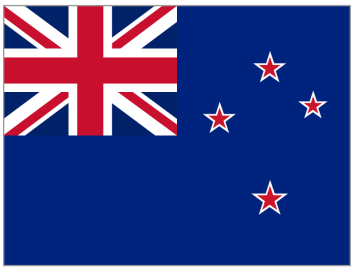
Côte d’Ivoire

My difference:

Clue: Ireland has GREEN next to the flagpole. Côte d’Ivoire has ORANGE next to the pole.



Australia



New Zealand

My difference:

Clue: Australia has 6 WHITE stars (one big star under the Union Jack). New Zealand has 4 RED stars with white edges.

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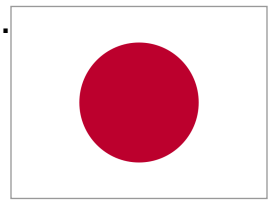
Name That Flag!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Write the country name under each flag. Then write its continent. Use the word bank and a map.

WORD BANK: Germany · Kenya · Australia · Mexico · Japan · France
India · South Korea · Brazil · Egypt · Canada · South Africa
Continents: Africa · Asia · Europe · North America · South America · Oceania

1.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

2.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

3.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

4.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

5.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

6.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

7.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

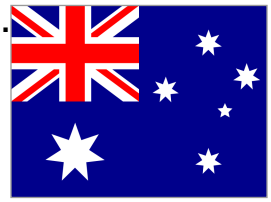
8.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

9.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

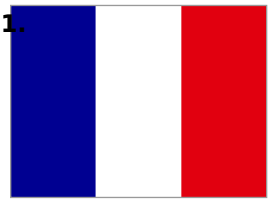
10.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

11.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

12.



Country: _____

Continent: _____

Design your own flag!

Draw a flag for your class. What does each color or symbol mean?

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Answer Key

 1. Japan — Asia

 2. Brazil — South America

 3. Canada — North America

 4. Kenya — Africa

 5. India — Asia

 6. Germany — Europe

 7. Mexico — North America

 8. South Africa — Africa

 9. Australia — Oceania

 10. Egypt — Africa

 11. France — Europe

 12. South Korea — Asia

Flag Detective clues: Chad's blue is darker than Romania's · Indonesia is red-over-white, Poland is white-over-red · Ireland has green at the pole, Côte d'Ivoire has orange · Australia: 6 white stars; New Zealand: 4 red stars.

Keep practicing: free online quiz (10 flags, choose a region/level, printable worksheet button): flagemoji.com/world-flags-quiz-generator/ · Free single-flag printables: flagemoji.com/printable-world-flags/

Exit Tickets (cut apart)

Flag Detective Exit Ticket

Name: _____

1. A flag I already knew: _____

2. A NEW flag I learned: _____

3. A clue that helps me remember it:

_____

_____

Flag Detective Exit Ticket

Name: _____

1. A flag I already knew: _____

2. A NEW flag I learned: _____

3. A clue that helps me remember it:

_____

_____

Flag Detective Exit Ticket

Name: _____

1. A flag I already knew: _____

2. A NEW flag I learned: _____

3. A clue that helps me remember it:

_____

_____

Flag Detective Exit Ticket

Name: _____

1. A flag I already knew: _____

2. A NEW flag I learned: _____

3. A clue that helps me remember it:

_____

_____

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