A CARTOGRAPHIC APPROACH

You may wonder: how do I get from the unfinished map to the finished map? We like to approach this in a step-by-step method. This is a sensible way to proceed to help you get all the information you want shown on the map. It insures that the map is legible and neat. We always stress neatness to our students. We tell them that the map is not just for them, but for other people to see and read also.

The following step-by-step method works well with all of our classroom maps. Try it with your students, and they will end up with a map they will be proud of!

A Step-by-Step Guide to WESTERN CANADA

To help you label and complete the maps in the CANADA CartoCraze unit, we have shown the activities for Western Canada broken down in the following series. This Step-by-step approach to the cartography of the maps can be applied to all the CartoCraze units.

LABELING PLACES!

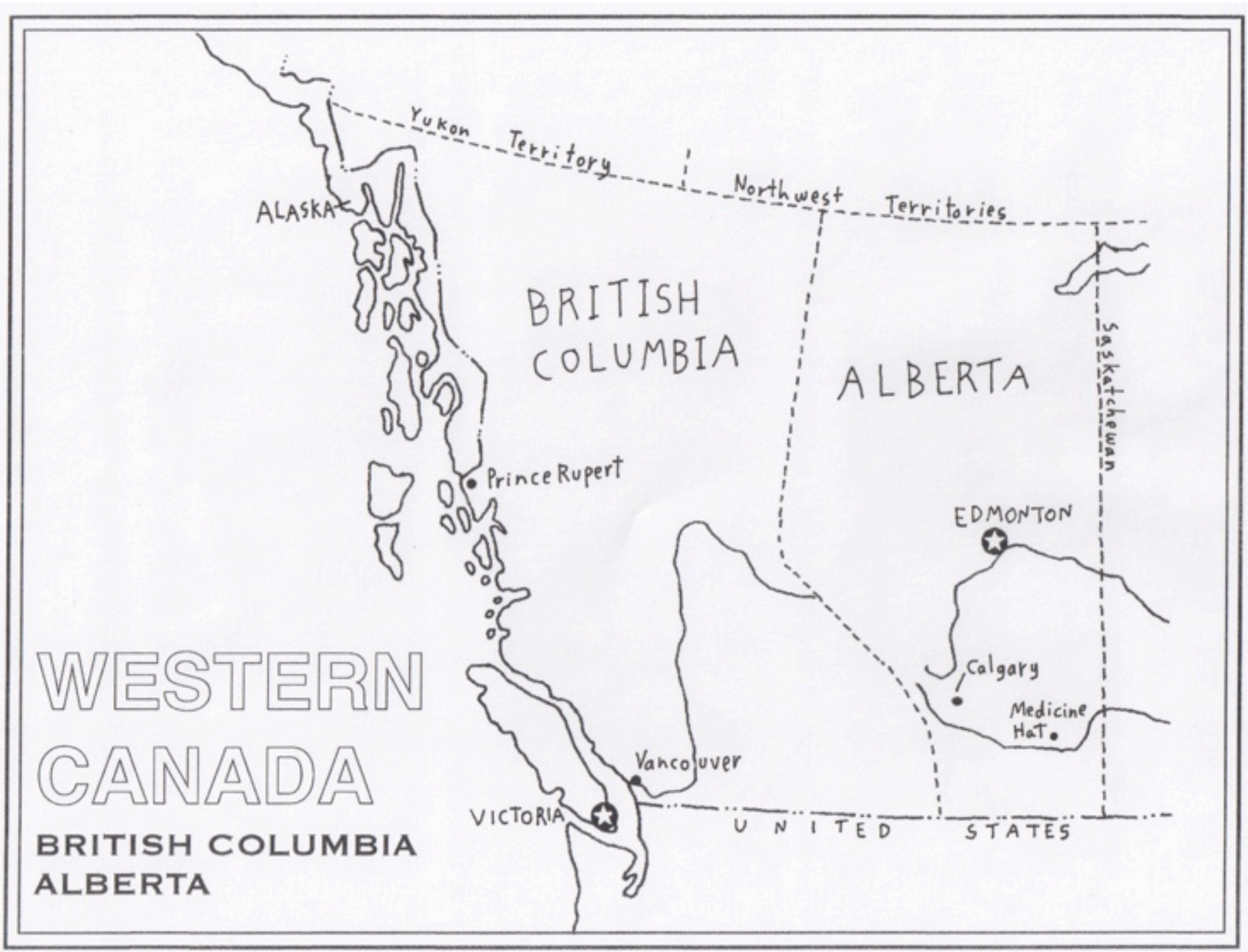
Print neatly!

For a good start, begin by labeling the Provinces:
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA

Next, label the capitals:
Victoria
Edmonton

Add a few large cities:
Calgary
Vancouver
Prince Rupert
Add others, such as Medicine Hat

You can also identify neighboring places, such as:
UNITED STATES
ALASKA
Yukon Territory
Northwest Territory
Saskatchewan


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
ALASKA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA
Saskatchewan
Prince Rupert
EDMONTON
Calgary
Medicine Hat
Vancouver
VICTORIA
UNITED STATES
WESTERN CANADA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA

WATER AND MOUNTAINS

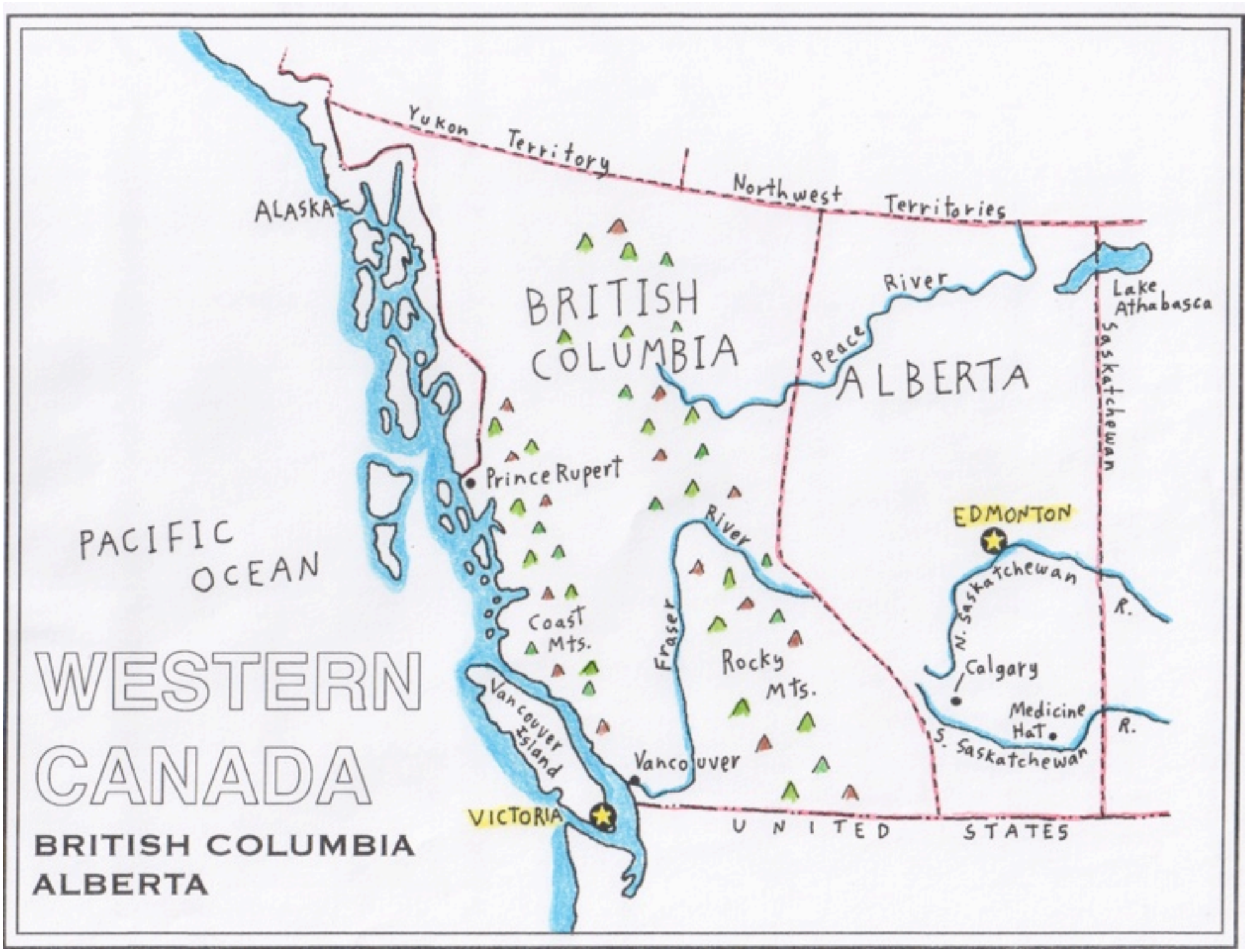
Continue labeling and begin to color!

For a good start, begin by labeling the bodies of water already on the map:
PACIFIC OCEAN
Lake Athabasca
Fraser River
North Saskatchewan River
South Saskatchewan River

Add other bodies of water, such as:
Peace River

Start adding color to the map. With a blue colored pencil:
Shade coastlines
Trace the rivers
Color the lake

Add some large mountain ranges to this map.
Sketch the triangular shapes and add some green and brown color:
Rocky Mountains
Coast Mountains


Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
ALASKA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA
Peace River
Lake Athabasca
Saskatchewan
Prince Rupert
PACIFIC OCEAN
EDMONTON
Fraser River
N. Saskatchewan R.
Coast Mts.
Rocky Mts.
Calgary
Vancouver Island
Medicine Hat
S. Saskatchewan R.
Vancouver
VICTORIA
UNITED STATES
WESTERN CANADA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA

DECORATIVE DETAILS

Add some artistic touches to your map!

Add a MAP KEY, listing the symbols and colors used on the map.

Design a Compass Rose.

Label the cardinal and intermediate directions on the Compass rose

Add some decoration to the map:

Color the border

Color the title

Color the Compass Rose

MAP KEY
CAPITAL
BODY OF WATER
MOUNTAINS
Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
ALASKA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ALBERTA
Peace River
Lake Athabasca
Saskatchewan
N
S
E
W
NW
NE
SW
SE
USA
Prince Rupert
PACIFIC OCEAN
Coast Mts.
Fraser River
Rocky Mts.
EDMONTON
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