



Topical Tidbits

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Canada

Hello! Bonjour!

Canada, our neighbor to the north, is celebrating a few important events this year. First, the country is marking 150 years as a confederation. Secondly, Montreal, a city in south-east Canada, is commemorating 375 years since Fort Ville-Marie was founded in 1642. And last of all, the National Hockey League is celebrating its 100th year. Many exciting celebrations are planned around the country. Maybe you could host your own “Canada” party. Enjoy this issue of *Topical Tidbits*.

Interesting Facts:

- Canada is the second biggest country in the world, after Russia (measured by total area). It is divided into ten provinces and three territories.
- Canada and the U.S. share the longest international border in the world. It is 5,525 miles long.
- English and French are the official languages. After Paris, Montreal is the second-largest primarily French-speaking city in the world.
- Nine out of ten Canadians live in the U.S.—Canada border region.
- The British monarch is the head of state and is represented by a governor-general, who has very limited powers. Laws are made by Canada's elected federal government, which includes a parliament and a prime minister.



O Canada!

There are ten provinces and three territories in Canada. This postcard shows where they are located on the map and the flag of each. Read the clues below and write the correct number of the province on the line. (Not all will be used.) Then match each clue to a stamp by writing the letter in the yellow circle. Answers are at the bottom of the page.



- A. ____ The Winter Olympics were held in the city of Calgary in this western province in 1988.
- B. ____ The 2010 Winter Olympics were held in the city of Vancouver in this far western province.
- C. ____ A heavy portion of this northernmost territory's population is made up of Inuit.
- D. ____ The novel *Anne of Green Gables* takes place in this eastern province, which is the smallest.
- E. ____ The French fortress of Ville-Marie is where the city of Montreal started in this province.
- F. ____ This east central province is home to Canada's federal government.
- G. ____ More than 490 NHL players have been born in this landlocked province which is the highest per capita output of any Canadian province, U.S. state, or European country.



Answers:
 Clues: A, 2, B, 1, C, 11, D, 9, E, 6, F, 5, G, 3
 Stamps: (going down and to the left) D, C, A, F, E, B, G



Canada's Symbols

Draw a line matching each description to the correct stamp.

1. These are carved by the west coast First Nations people to represent families or nations and used to tell stories.

2. These stone towers that look like people are used by the Inuit people as signs to guide their way. They were used as the official symbol of the Vancouver Winter Olympics in 2010.

3. This is the official tree of Canada. The leaf of this tree is found on the country's flag.

4. The national police of Canada are nicknamed "Mounties." Their official name is The Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

5. This is the official mammal of Canada.

6. The official WINTER sport of Canada uses a puck instead of a ball.

7. The official SUMMER sport of Canada uses sticks and a ball and is one of the oldest organized sports in North America.



Canada

