

STUDENTS!

A student from this classroom has time traveled from the year 2045 and has left each group a gift! They wanted it to be well hidden, so they have left a series of clues for you to solve before you receive your gift. The treasure hunt begins now! Read your first clue below.



Dear students,

Here you have a piece of wool, a small piece of paper, and a balloon.

You must figure out a way to pick the paper off of the table without touching it. Once you have

completed the task, show your teacher to receive the next clue.

GOOD LUCK!

Write a problem from choice 1 and from choice 2 and put inside a balloon. When students use the wool or fabric to statically charge the balloon to pick up the paper, have them pop the balloon. Students then solve the problems and draw the hands inside the picture of the clocktower to represent the time as 12:15.

Problem 2 Choices:

$$5 \times 3 =$$

$$15 \times 1 =$$

$$45 \div 3 =$$

$$11 + 4 =$$

Problem 1 Choices:

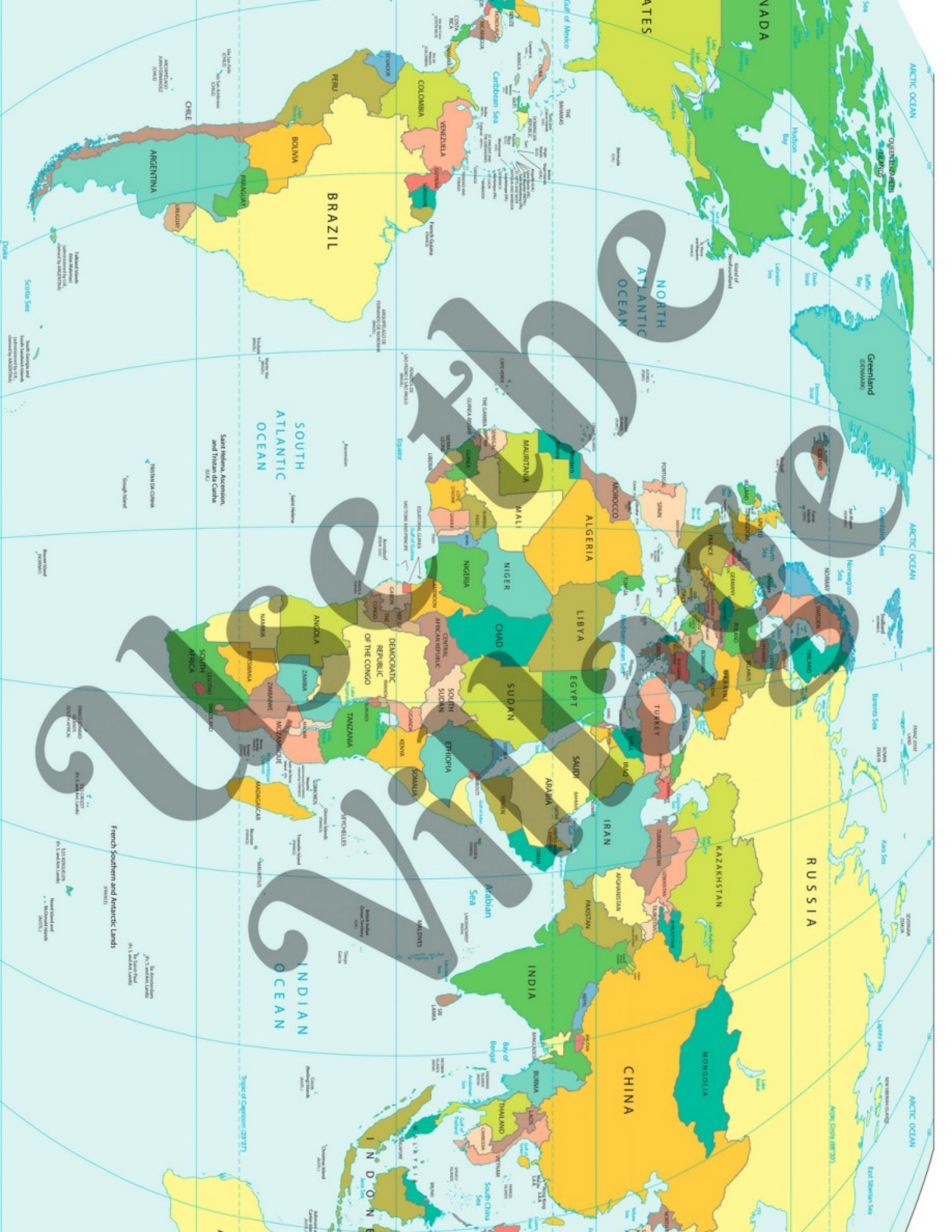
$$6 + 6 =$$

$$12 \times 1 =$$

$$24 \div 2 =$$

$$3 \times 4 =$$





New Year's Traditions are different all around the world. Here are a few examples. I wonder where those countries are located?



Spain: Eating 12 grapes at midnight for good luck, one for each bell strike.

Denmark: Jumping off chairs at midnight to "leap" into January for good luck.

Japan: Ringing bells 108 times to dispel evils and welcome the New Year.

Japan

Denmark

Spain

Read the passage below. Write the **first letter of each sentence** in order. Add spaces to reveal a three-word message. Show your teacher the message to receive your next item.

Great adventures begin with a question. Every new year brings a fresh start. Together, we can solve tricky puzzles. Think carefully about each clue. Help your teammates when they need it. Each idea can bring us closer. Keep trying when a task is hard. Explore new ways to learn. Your team is ready for the next step.

Objective: Students work in teams to complete a series of tasks and puzzles. Each completed task earns them the next clue, leading to the final prize.

Materials:

- Balloons (one per team)
- Wool fabric
- Small paper or tissue paper square for each team
- Small pieces of paper with math problems written on them (to be placed inside each balloon)
- Blank clock face worksheets
- World map worksheets and cut-out country names
- Passage with a hidden message
- Locked box (one per team) containing a small prize
- Keys to open the boxes

Steps to Conduct the Game:

Step 1: Static Electricity Balloon Challenge

Task for Students: Use the wool fabric to charge the balloon with static electricity and then use it to make the paper float.

Teacher's Role: Once a team successfully completes the challenge, provide them with the balloon to pop and retrieve their math problem.

Step 2: Clock Challenge

Task for Students: Solve the math problems to determine the time 12:15 and draw it on the blank clock face.

Teacher's Role: Check the clock face worksheet for the correct time. If correct, hand out the world map and country names to the team

Step 3: World Map Quest

Students locate Spain, Denmark, and Japan on the world map and place the country labels. Check their answers, then give the team the hidden-message passage. Use a larger classroom map if needed.

Step 4: Hidden Message Discovery

Students read the first letter of each sentence in order. The letters spell GETTHEKEY: **GET THE KEY**. After the team shows you this answer, give them the key to their treasure box.

Step 5: Unlocking the Treasure

Students use the key to open their box and discover the prize. Celebrate each team's cooperation and give every student a chance to participate.

Teacher Notes

Prepare materials and clues before the activity. Supervise the balloon activity and collect broken balloon pieces promptly. At the clock challenge, the minute hand should point to 3 and the hour hand should sit just past 12. Offer hints when needed and encourage students to explain their thinking.