



PUERTO RICO

LOCATION

Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States. It is a tropical island located about 1,000 miles southeast of Florida. Most of the island is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea. The Atlantic Ocean is on the northern coast. San Juan, the capital, is located on the northern coast. Puerto Rico is part of a larger chain of islands in the Caribbean. Haiti and the Dominican Republic share an island located west of Puerto Rico. The British Virgin Islands stretch out to the east. Mona Island in the far west also belongs to Puerto Rico. Vieques and Culebra are islands off the eastern shore of the main island. Puerto Rico means "rich port" in Spanish.

CLIMATE

Average °F

Spring

Low: 73°

High: 86°

Summer

Low: 76°

High: 89°

Fall

Low: 75°

High: 88°

Winter

Low: 71°

High: 84°

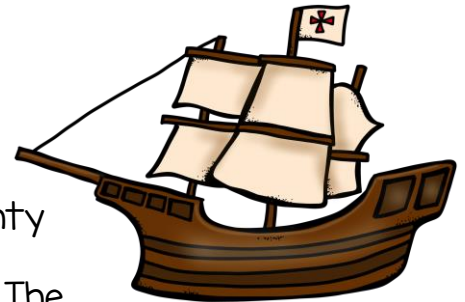
LAND

Puerto Rico is full of lush greenery and turquoise waters. Mountains are located in the middle of the island. The tall peaks of the Cordillera Central stretch from east to west. El Yunque is a rain forest that shades the mountainsides of northeastern Puerto Rico. Crops are grown in the fertile valleys. Rain falls in short bursts on the northern mountains of the slopes. Most rivers flow into the Atlantic Ocean. Caves and other limestone formations are northwest of the mountains. There are plains that line the northern and southern coasts of Puerto Rico. Sandy beaches surround the island. It is warm year-round on the island. Hurricanes and earthquakes are common.



HISTORY

The Taino people lived on the island that became Puerto Rico long before Europeans arrived. They called their island Borinquen, or "Land of the Mighty Lord." Christopher Columbus arrived in 1493 with seventeen ships. He claimed the island for Spain. The Spanish began to settle Puerto Rico in 1508. They brought disease, slavery, and war to the island. Puerto Rico remained under Spanish rule for over 400 years. The United States gained control of Puerto Rico in 1898 after the Spanish-American War. Puerto Ricans were granted U.S. citizenship in 1917. Puerto Rico became a commonwealth in 1952. This meant it would govern itself, but still be tied to the United States. In 2012, Puerto Ricans voted in favor of becoming a U.S. State. This has not happened yet though.





NATURE

Bats, mongooses, iguanas, and other lizards live in Puerto Rico. The national animal of Puerto Rico is the coqui, a tiny frog.

Puerto Ricans take pride in the *Paso Fino*, of "fine step," horses bred on the island. There are hundreds of species of birds in

Puerto Rico including woodpeckers, screech owls, and Puerto Rican parrots.

The national bird is the stripe-headed tanager. The Flor de Maga is the national flower.

LANDMARKS

The Castillo San Felipe del Morro is a fort that was built in the 1500s to protect San Juan. Visitors can still see the cannons that once fired across the bay. The Capilla del Santa Cristo de la Salud is a chapel that was built between 1753 and 1780. Legend says it was erected to honor a miracle. The Museum of the Americas and the San Juan Cathedral are popular sites. Rio Camuy Cave Park features trails through one of the world's largest cave systems. The caves were carved underground over the course of millions of years. The Arecibo Observatory has one of the world's largest telescopes. The Ponce Museum of Art has the largest collection of art in the Caribbean.

PEOPLE

Most people work in service jobs at places like hotels, shops, restaurants, banks, schools, and hospitals. Farmers harvest coffee, tobacco, sugar cane, and tropical fruits. Cows, pigs, and chickens are also raised by many Puerto Ricans. Some people catch snappers and lobsters with nets. The national sport of Puerto Rico is baseball. Puerto



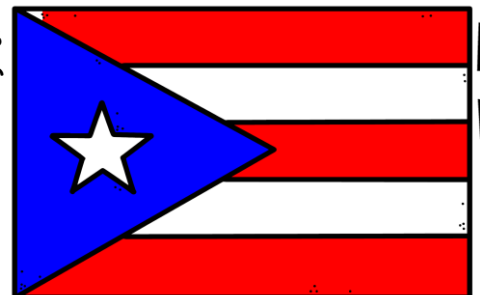
Rico native Roberto Clemente is remembered as one of the greatest baseball players of all time. Many players on U.S.

teams come from the island. Basketball, boxing, and horse racing are other popular sports. The environment is perfect

for swimming, surfing, snorkeling, and scuba diving. People also hike, camp, and bird-watch. Puerto Rican food is a blend of Spanish, Taino, African, and American tastes. Soups and stews are popular. *Asopao* is a thick soup made with chicken or seafood. *Carne guisada* is a traditional beef soup. *Lechon asado*, or roasted pig, is popular at special occasions. Plantains are often eaten as a side.

FLAG

The flag of Puerto Rico has five alternating bands of red and white. A blue triangle with a white star in the center is on the left side. The star represents Puerto Rico. The triangle and stripes stand for the Puerto Rican government and the freedom of its people. The Cuban flag inspired the flag. Puerto Rico's flag was adopted in 1952.



Name _____

PUERTO RICO

IDENTIFY: Use the word bank to label each description.

Atlantic	El Yunque	Florida
Taino	baseball	Flor de Maga
coqui	San Juan	Caribbean

	1. Rain forest in northeastern Puerto Rico
	2. Sea that surrounds most of Puerto Rico
	3. Puerto Rico is located about 1,000 miles southeast of this U.S. state
	4. National animal of Puerto Rico
	5. National sport of Puerto Rico
	6. Ocean on the northern coast of Puerto Rico
	7. The capital of Puerto Rico
	8. People who lived on the island that became Puerto Rico
	9. National flower of Puerto Rico

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.

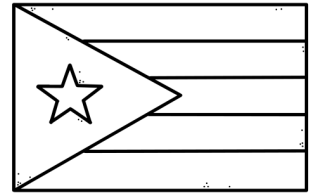
10. What is the meaning of Puerto Rico in Spanish?
- A. Beautiful land
 - B. Rich port
 - C. Green island
11. Which European explorer claimed the land that became Puerto Rico for Spain?
- A. Hernando de Soto
 - B. Vasco Nunez de Balboa
 - C. Christopher Columbus
12. Roberto Clemente was famous for playing which sport?
- A. Football
 - B. Baseball
 - C. Basketball
13. Asopao is which type of food?
- A. Soup
 - B. Dessert
 - C. Salad
14. What colors are on Puerto Rico's flag?
- A. Red, white, and blue
 - B. Orange and blue
 - C. Green, red, and black
15. What is the national bird of Puerto Rico?
- A. Woodpecker
 - B. Puerto Rican parrot
 - C. Stripe-headed tanager
16. What is Puerto Rico's average high in spring?
- A. 86°
 - B. 92°
 - C. 75°
 - D. 82°



Name _____

PUERTO RICO

-U.S. Territory-



Flag

Label each of the following on the map:

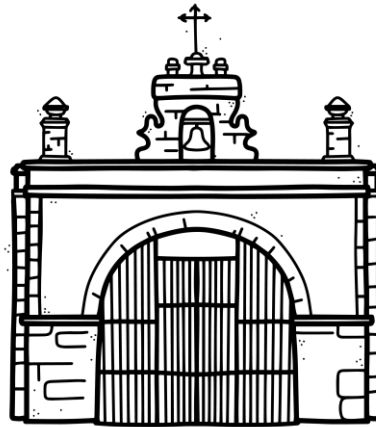
Atlantic Ocean
Puerto Rico
Caribbean Sea
San Juan



LANDMARKS



El _____
Tropical Rain Forest



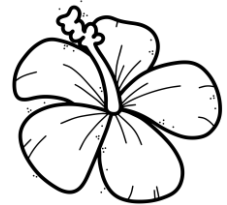
Capilla del _____
Cristo de la Salud



National Animal



National Bird



National Flower



PUERTO RICO

LOCATION

Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States. It is a tropical island located about 1,000 miles southeast of Florida. Most of the island is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea. The Atlantic Ocean is on the northern coast. San Juan, the capital, is located on the northern coast. Puerto Rico is part of a larger chain of islands in the Caribbean. Haiti and the Dominican Republic share an island located west of Puerto Rico. The British Virgin Islands stretch out to the east. Mona Island in the far west also belongs to Puerto Rico. Vieques and Culebra are islands off the eastern shore of the main island. Puerto Rico means "rich port" in Spanish.

CLIMATE

Average °F

Spring

Low: 73°

High: 86°

Summer

Low: 76°

High: 89°

Fall

Low: 75°

High: 88°

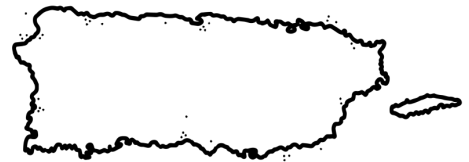
Winter

Low: 71°

High: 84°

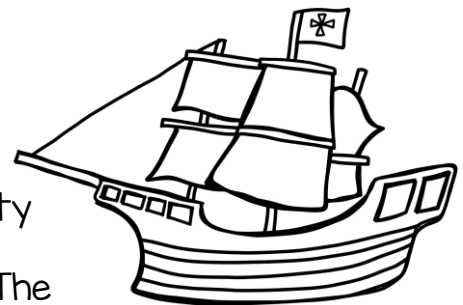
LAND

Puerto Rico is full of lush greenery and turquoise waters. Mountains are located in the middle of the island. The tall peaks of the Cordillera Central stretch from east to west. El Yunque is a rain forest that shades the mountainsides of northeastern Puerto Rico. Crops are grown in the fertile valleys. Rain falls in short bursts on the northern mountains of the slopes. Most rivers flow into the Atlantic Ocean. Caves and other limestone formations are northwest of the mountains. There are plains that line the northern and southern coasts of Puerto Rico. Sandy beaches surround the island. It is warm year-round on the island. Hurricanes and earthquakes are common.



HISTORY

The Taino people lived on the island that became Puerto Rico long before Europeans arrived. They called their island Borinquen, or "Land of the Mighty Lord." Christopher Columbus arrived in 1493 with seventeen ships. He claimed the island for Spain. The Spanish began to settle Puerto Rico in 1508. They brought disease, slavery, and war to the island. Puerto Rico remained under Spanish rule for over 400 years. The United States gained control of Puerto Rico in 1898 after the Spanish-American War. Puerto Ricans were granted U.S. citizenship in 1917. Puerto Rico became a commonwealth in 1952. This meant it would govern itself, but still be tied to the United States. In 2012, Puerto Ricans voted in favor of becoming a U.S. State. This has not happened yet though.





NATURE

Bats, mongooses, iguanas, and other lizards live in Puerto Rico. The national animal of Puerto Rico is the coqui, a tiny frog. Puerto Ricans take pride in the *Paso Fino*, of "fine step," horses bred on the island. There are hundreds of species of birds in Puerto Rico including woodpeckers, screech owls, and Puerto Rican parrots. The national bird is the stripe-headed tanager. The Flor de Maga is the national flower.

LANDMARKS

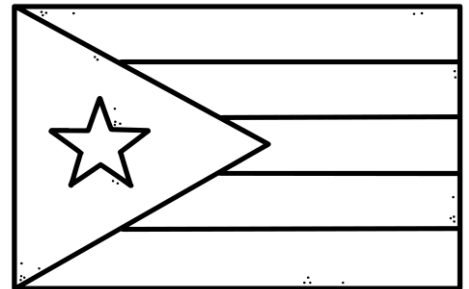
The Castillo San Felipe del Morro is a fort that was built in the 1500s to protect San Juan. Visitors can still see the cannons that once fired across the bay. The Capilla del Santa Cristo de la Salud is a chapel that was built between 1753 and 1780. Legend says it was erected to honor a miracle. The Museum of the Americas and the San Juan Cathedral are popular sites. Rio Camuy Cave Park features trails through one of the world's largest cave systems. The caves were carved underground over the course of millions of years. The Arecibo Observatory has one of the world's largest telescopes. The Ponce Museum of Art has the largest collection of art in the Caribbean.

PEOPLE

Most people work in service jobs at places like hotels, shops, restaurants, banks, schools, and hospitals. Farmers harvest coffee, tobacco, sugar cane, and tropical fruits. Cows, pigs, and chickens are also raised by many Puerto Ricans. Some people catch snappers and lobsters with nets. The national sport of Puerto Rico is baseball. Puerto Rico native Roberto Clemente is remembered as one of the greatest baseball players of all time. Many players on U.S. teams come from the island. Basketball, boxing, and horse racing are other popular sports. The environment is perfect for swimming, surfing, snorkeling, and scuba diving. People also hike, camp, and bird-watch. Puerto Rican food is a blend of Spanish, Taino, African, and American tastes. Soups and stews are popular. *Asopao* is a thick soup made with chicken or seafood. *Carne guisada* is a traditional beef soup. *Lechon asado*, or roasted pig, is popular at special occasions. Plantains are often eaten as a side.

FLAG

The flag of Puerto Rico has five alternating bands of red and white. A blue triangle with a white star in the center is on the left side. The star represents Puerto Rico. The triangle and stripes stand for the Puerto Rican government and the freedom of its people. The Cuban flag inspired the flag. Puerto Rico's flag was adopted in 1952.



Name _____

PUERTO RICO

IDENTIFY: Use the word bank to label each description.

Atlantic	El Yunque	Florida
Taino	baseball	Flor de Maga
coqui	San Juan	Caribbean

	1. Rain forest in northeastern Puerto Rico
	2. Sea that surrounds most of Puerto Rico
	3. Puerto Rico is located about 1,000 miles southeast of this U.S. state
	4. National animal of Puerto Rico
	5. National sport of Puerto Rico
	6. Ocean on the northern coast of Puerto Rico
	7. The capital of Puerto Rico
	8. People who lived on the island that became Puerto Rico
	9. National flower of Puerto Rico

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.

10. What is the meaning of Puerto Rico in Spanish?
 - A. Beautiful land
 - B. Rich port
 - C. Green island

11. Which European explorer claimed the land that became Puerto Rico for Spain?
 - A. Hernando de Soto
 - B. Vasco Nunez de Balboa
 - C. Christopher Columbus

12. Roberto Clemente was famous for playing which sport?
 - A. Football
 - B. Baseball
 - C. Basketball

13. Asopao is which type of food?
 - A. Soup
 - B. Dessert
 - C. Salad

14. What colors are on Puerto Rico's flag?
 - A. Red, white, and blue
 - B. Orange and blue
 - C. Green, red, and black

15. What is the national bird of Puerto Rico?
 - A. Woodpecker
 - B. Puerto Rican parrot
 - C. Stripe-headed tanager

16. What is Puerto Rico's average high in spring?
 - A. 86°
 - B. 92°
 - C. 75°
 - D. 82°



Name _____ KEY _____

PUERTO RICO

IDENTIFY: Use the word bank to label each description.

Atlantic	El Yunque	Florida
Taino	baseball	Flor de Maga
coqui	San Juan	Caribbean

El Yunque	1. Rain forest in northeastern Puerto Rico
Caribbean	2. Sea that surrounds most of Puerto Rico
Florida	3. Puerto Rico is located about 1,000 miles southeast of this U.S. state
coqui	4. National animal of Puerto Rico
baseball	5. National sport of Puerto Rico
Atlantic	6. Ocean on the northern coast of Puerto Rico
San Juan	7. The capital of Puerto Rico
Taino	8. People who lived on the island that became Puerto Rico
Flor de Maga	9. National flower of Puerto Rico

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.

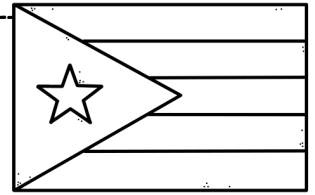
10. What is the meaning of Puerto Rico in Spanish?
A. Beautiful land
B. Rich port
C. Green island
11. Which European explorer claimed the land that became Puerto Rico for Spain?
A. Hernando de Soto
B. Vasco Nunez de Balboa
C. Christopher Columbus
12. Roberto Clemente was famous for playing which sport?
A. Football
B. Baseball
C. Basketball
13. Asopao is which type of food?
A. Soup
B. Dessert
C. Salad
14. What colors are on Puerto Rico's flag?
A. Red, white, and blue
B. Orange and blue
C. Green, red, and black
15. What is the national bird of Puerto Rico?
A. Woodpecker
B. Puerto Rican parrot
C. Stripe-headed tanager
16. What is Puerto Rico's average high in spring?
A. 86°
B. 92°
C. 75°
D. 82°



Name KEY

PUERTO RICO

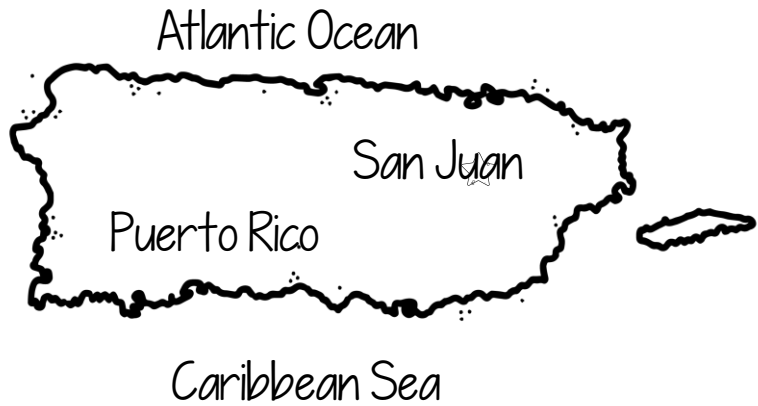
-U.S. Territory-



Flag

Label each of the following on the map:

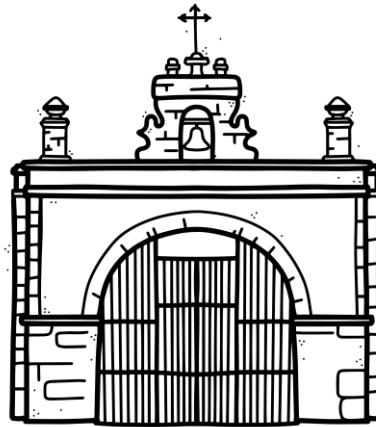
Atlantic Ocean
Puerto Rico
Caribbean Sea
San Juan



LANDMARKS



El Yunque
Tropical Rain Forest



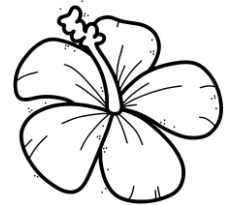
Capilla del Santo
Cristo de la Salud



National Bird
stripe-headed
tanager



National Animal
coqui



National Flower
Flor de Maga

THANKS!

©Teaching to the Middle

All rights reserved. Purchase of this unit entitles the purchaser the right to reproduce the pages in limited quantities for single classroom use only. Duplication for an entire school, an entire school system, or commercial purposes is strictly forbidden without written permission from the publisher.

You may like my [U.S. STATES BUNDLE](#)



www.kids.nationalgeographic.com
www.coolkidfacts.com
www.kidskonnnect.com
www.kids.Britannica.com

If you have any technical issues, please contact [TPT tech support](#)



*If you don't already, [Follow Me!](#)