

Interpreting Maps Use the following strategies to help students interpret the map:

1. Have students identify the four regions of Canada. *the Eastern Provinces, the Heartland, the Western Provinces, and the Canadian North.* Which regions border the United States? *all of them* Which region is the smallest? *the Eastern Provinces*
2. Use a dark dry-erase or transparency marker to black out the names of the provinces and territories. Choose a region. Ask students to name the provinces and territories in the region. As students name them, use a dry erase or transparency marker to label the provinces and territories. Continue with other regions until all provinces and territories are labeled.
3. **Research Activity** Divide students into four groups. Have each group research one of the four regions of Canada. Encourage students to prepare a poster about the region, including its geographic features, climate, resources, and other information of interest. Tell them their poster is part of a promotion for a national Canadian fair.

English-Language Learners Use the following strategies to help English-Language Learners interpret the map:

1. Use the same strategy to help students interpret this map (as listed in the questions, discussion points, and activities above).
2. **Critical Thinking: Making Comparisons** Students can practice compare and contrast language (like, similar, both, while, unlike, in contrast, etc.) while discussing the regions of Canada. Give students two regions and ask them to say one way they are similar and one way they are different. *possible answer—Both the Canadian North and the Eastern Provinces have significant islands, but the Eastern Province borders on the Atlantic Ocean, while the Canadian North borders mainly on the Arctic Ocean.*
3. **Graphic Organizer Activity** Have students make a cluster graphic organizer for each region. They should include the name of one of the four Canadian regions in the center of each cluster. From each center they should add circles containing the name of each province or territory in the region. They can also add circles showing key characteristics of the region based on the map and what they have learned from their textbook. *possible answer—the Eastern Provinces; Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick; maritime or near sea, short growing season, produces potatoes, located on the Atlantic coast*

Regions of Canada

