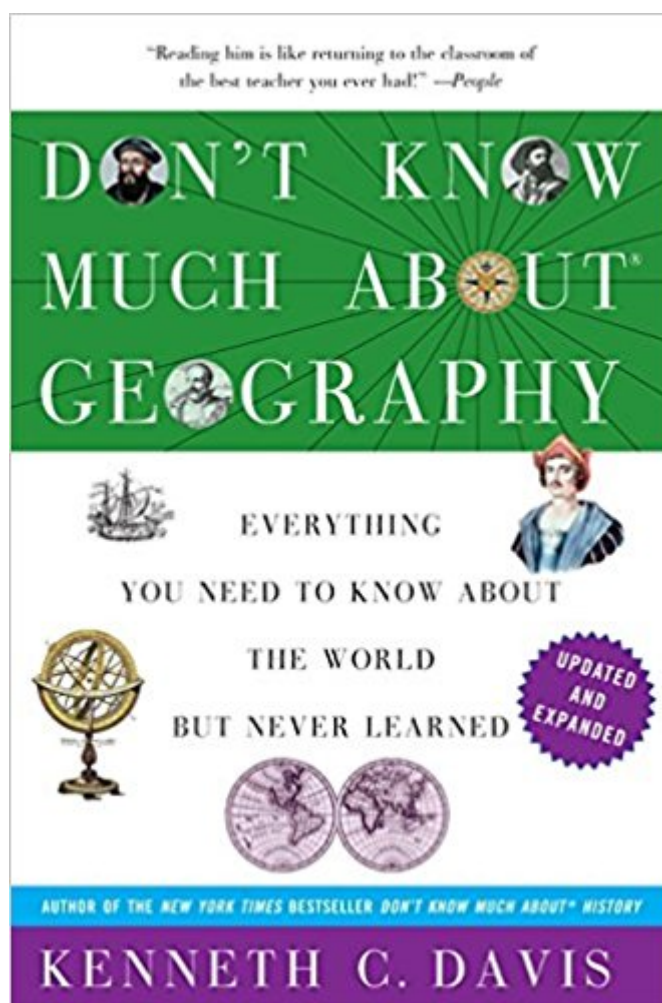


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Don't Know Much About Geography: Revised And Updated Edition (Don't Know Much About Series)



Synopsis

Don't Know Much About Geography by New York Times bestselling author Kenneth C. Davis is a fascinating and fun exploration of our planet. Geography is the hub from which other disciplines radiate: meteorology, ecology, geology, oceanography, demographics, cartography, agricultural studies, economics, and political science. In addition to presenting geographical trivia that will impress your friends, Davis explores 21st-century topics of global concern, including the role of the Internet and technology in transforming the lives of people around the world, how so-called developing nations develop, sustainability, and the debates over climate change and evolutionary science. This completely revised and updated version of Don't Know Much About Geography is an entertaining and illuminating grand tour of planet Earth.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

You might think you need to look at a map to learn "everything you need to know" about geography, but Kenneth C. Davis proves otherwise. In this hugely entertaining and informative program, Davis takes a different approach to learning about the world by pointing out its relevance--and importance--in every sphere of human life. Geography, Davis explains, has been sadly misunderstood, which accounts for the fact that Americans consistently score lowest among peoples of industrialized nations when it comes to "knowing where we are." He sets out to show listeners how this "mother lode of sciences, the hub of a circle from which all the other studies radiate" informs disciplines ranging from meteorology, climatology, and oceanography to

economics, ecology, and political science. Rather than looking at geography as a parade of facts about where things are located, he encourages an approach that considers human and natural history in its larger context--and the universe as a large canvas upon which the fascinating story of life is drawn. Using his familiar question-and-answer method, Davis offers interesting anecdotes to explain, for example, who invented the compass; why wars are always fought over geography; the differences between country, republic, nation, and state; why the tallest mountain in the world is getting even taller; and much more. Succinct discussions coupled with Davis's lively writing style makes this a perfect candidate for audio presentation. Indeed, listening to this program without the aid of visuals underscores the sense conveyed that geography is as much about how we think about the world as where things are in physical space--that it is about the "tender connections that keep the earth alive." (Running time: three hours, two cassettes) --Uma Kukathas --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The author of the successful *Don't Know Much About History* returns to correct his countrymen's lack of knowledge about geography, a lack established when Americans aged 18 to 24 scored lowest on a 1988 test of geographic literacy given to young people of all industrialized nations. Davis writes with an entertaining, breezy touch and encompasses such interesting considerations as the origin of the belief in a race of s. Besides essential geographic information, chapters cover the history of geographical studies, an overview of large cities of the past and present, the effect of climate on developing civilizations and astronomy. Helpful lists, ranging from glossaries to current and former names of countries and U.N. membership are included. Davis's eminently readable treatise should help remedy an ignorance that has even been discussed in the U.S. Senate. Author tour. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Don't Know Much About Geography is a very interesting and easy to listen to audiobook. The problem with the book, which is well-known, is that it contains many factual errors. That's why it's hard to recommend this book. But I enjoyed listening to it and learned more than I expected. Many basic subjects of geography are covered, and I never tire of this subject. Geography affords the opportunity to include a lot of excellent trivia, and this book does not disappoint in that regard. I won't spoil anything by telling these trivia facts. I think this is a worthy book to listen to providing that you can tolerate the errors, and it would be embarrassing to take the errors as fact and then represent them as such to others.

This book helped me by taking me around the world without even leaving! A great outlook on different people lives, cultures & food. I also loved the debates about climate change. I truly recommend this book its a good read.

The lack of fact--checking is evident. Many other reviewers have pointed out inaccuracies. One howler is the claim that the mass suicide of Jewish patriots at Masada occurred in AD 472.

I consider myself fairly knowledgeable on the subject, but there were a number of tidbits I learned.

Seemed like he recycled stuff from other books just to add pages. Also, the book was more of a history book than a geography book.

"Don't Know Much about Geography" was . . . mediocre. Arguably, a good refresher on the physical science you learned in 8th grade. The author surveys many of the basic concepts like "the ice age," geographical terms, and introduces a little "geo-sociology," explaining how geography influenced society. Towards the end of the book, the author reverses his path and begins a discussion of "socio-geography," explaining how man influences geography. A fun little book but not filled w/ much substance. As a minor point, the author gets a little sloppy w/ his writing. Each chapter has its fair share of basic grammatical miscues like the following sentence, which contains at least two errors in grammar and construction: "The 1980's were by far the hottest decade ever recorded." All in all, it was . . . mediocre.

It makes learning about geography fun and interesting.

I love this book and the information it gives regarding the very early maps. Until I read this I never thought about how the "early" maps were developed and added onto over the years. Very interesting how maps evolved into what we are spoiled with today.

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