Geography Study Guide Orientation

"What is a scientist after all? It is a curious man looking through a keyhole, the keyhole of nature, trying to know what's going on." — **Jacques-Yves Cousteau**, *Christian Science Monitor* (1971)









Essential Questions:

- How do geographic tools help me interpret the physical and human characteristics of the earth?
- How does geography help me understand the connection between my community and the world?
- O How is geography relevant to me?

Overview

The next two weeks of geography class will allow you to get a smattering of both physical geography and human geography lessons. We will explore the world atlas by reviewing some map skills and finding countries and continents. We will also read a short novel by Kirkpatrick Hill called, The Year of Miss Agnes. It follows a new teacher in 1948 to a one-room schoolhouse in Alaska where she is in charge of teaching Athabascan children. As we read, we will look for examples of geography and maps, timelines, and elements of culture. In our last week of Orientation we will do several lessons together on how maps can be projected. But before we delve into any of these lessons described above, we will help MMA celebrate Maria Montessori's birthday (Monday, Aug. 31) by mapping where she lived and traveled throughout her life. What caused her to go abroad? We will display our findings in the mainland before her birthday so please get this assignment completed first this week.

Weeks 2-3 (August 24 - Sept. 4)

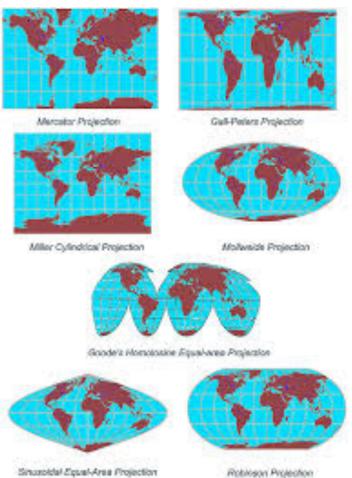
Complete the following:

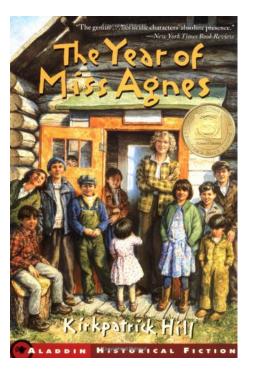
_____ **1. Where in the World was Maria Montessori?** – After reading about her life, identify 3 places where Maria spent time in her life. On an *index card/sticky note* write **WHERE** she was, **WHEN** she was there, and **WHY** it was significant to her life.



2. **World Atlas Introduction** – Getting to Know Your Atlas, Review Basic Skills (handout)

- _____ 3. The Year of Miss Agnes As we read the novel aloud, take notes (make a mind map) in your composition book for examples of: geography/maps, timelines, culture.
- _____ 4. **World Atlas: The World** –Continents, Countries, Oceans AND Physical Characteristics (handout)
- _____ 5. **Map Projections**—Introduction & Common Projections (handouts)





_____ *Extra Credit:* Make a map of our classroom with grid lines (letters and numbers on the axis lines). Identify 5 locations of places of your choosing by naming their coordinates.

Please turn in all work by Sept. 4.