



Contact:

Rebecca Boykin
Rand McNally
9855 Woods Drive
Skokie, IL 60077
rboykin@randmcnally.com
847-329-6171

Rand McNally *Student World Atlas* Helps Keep Learning Fresh after the Holiday Break

New atlas features more than 100 maps with activities to engage students

SKOKIE, Ill., Jan. 14, 2016 – Call it the midwinter back-to-school doldrums: Many students find it difficult to launch into learning so quickly after the holiday break.

One way to keep learning fresh is by introducing new learning tools, such as Rand McNally's new *Student World Atlas*. Available now, the *Student World Atlas* offers maps, photos, and graphics, plus activities for ages 9 to 13, designed to help kids gain a stronger understanding of essential geography skills and world awareness. The atlas also includes an extended section with fun facts using maps, photos, and charts of U.S. regions to help students learn more about where they live.

Rand McNally's editors have listed a few tips below to help usher in the school year's second half:

Use the break itself as inspiration

Whether travel took your family short or long distances, encourage your kids to share the most interesting thing they learned on the trip. Ask them one thing they learned either from a relative, or from something they read or saw. This exercise encourages critical thinking.

Emphasize reading

After a two-week hiatus from their daily schedule, students will need time to get back in the groove. Free time during break was all about seeing movies and playing video games. Limit those activities post-break in favor of increased reading time at home.

Embrace new learning goals

Sit down with your kids, and set learning goals for the new year. For example, create some benchmarks around geography education to help challenge them. Make global awareness a priority at home. Teaching global competency skills can help students become better educated about the world around them.

Trying these strategies can help inspire learning as a cure for the post-holiday break blahs. The *Student World Atlas* is available now in stores and at store.randmcnally.com.

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