

A DOMINICAN
PERSPECTIVE
Social Studies
BOOK 1

My Island

MOE**CPU**

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Contents

Introduction	4
1 Location	
Lines of Latitude and Longitude	5
The Land and its Formation	8
Climate and Weather	10
2 Natural Disasters	
Storms and Hurricanes	13
Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Floods	15
3 Tourism	
Eco-tourism	19
Community Tourism	26
Careers in Tourism	29
4 Symbols and People	
National Symbols	33
People	37
Glossary	48

Introduction

This Social Studies text is a response to an expressed need for information that adds relevance and meaning to the Dominican child's learning experience. Our intention is to prepare citizens who are firmly grounded in their Dominican heritage but who also understand that they are part of a global society, and as such, must be able to function at these different levels.

This textbook examines Dominica's location, climate and weather, tourism development and the significance of national symbols and service. These topics will serve as a medium through which skills of reasoning, speaking, listening, creating and writing will be developed. These skills will encourage our students to become

- critical, creative thinkers who can solve problems;
- hard-working with positive work ethics;
- independent persons who are able to work cooperatively with others;
- perceptive, valuing diversity as a source of strength and richness;
- appreciative of the environment and our heritage; and
- citizens who contribute to and benefit from the development of the community, the country and the region.

Physical conditions and location do not entirely determine a country's development. However, this text seeks to introduce students to the ways in which our lives are affected by our environment and consequently the need to preserve it.

In a book of this length, it is not possible to cover the Social Studies curriculum. Nonetheless, we expect that it will make a significant contribution to our children's knowledge and encourage them towards further learning.

1 | Location

A country's location can be identified through the use of lines of latitude and longitude, cardinal points and distance scales. Lines of latitude and longitude give a country's position on the earth. Cardinal points such as north, south, east and west, tell us where it is in relation to other countries. Distance scales tell us how far it is from these countries.

Our climate and weather are largely dependent on our location. In Dominica there is an abundance of sunshine and rain because the island lies close to the equator.

Lines of Latitude and Longitude

Lines of Latitude

Lines of latitude are lines which run west to east on a map or globe. These lines are imaginary, so they cannot be seen around the earth. Lines of latitude are parallel. they never meet, and are equal distances apart along their entire length.

The line of latitude which runs around the earth, midway between the North and South Poles is called the Equator. The Equator is numbered 0° and it divides the globe into the northern hemisphere and the southern hemisphere. The term hemisphere means half sphere. Look at Figure 1.1 and you will see two other lines of latitude. They are the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. The area between them is known as the Tropic Zone. Dominica is within the Tropic Zone.

Lines of Longitude

Like lines of latitude, lines of longitude are also imaginary. However, they run from north to south and they meet at the poles. These lines are also called meridians, and form great circles which pass through the poles. Of special importance is the fact that all great circles are of equal circumference. Figure 1.1 shows that the equator is also a great circle and is the only line of latitude which equals the great circles formed by the meridians.

The Greenwich Meridian is an important line which runs close to Greenwich, a town in England. It is numbered 0° and is used as a starting point from which lines of longitude are numbered.

Lines of latitude and lines of longitude intersect at various points. Neither lines of latitude nor lines of longitude are by themselves sufficient to enable us to find the exact position of a place. For example, a city may be on the Equator, but we may be unable to tell at what point on the Equator it is, without using a line of longitude. By using the sets of lines drawn on a map or globe, the location of a place can be found.

Dominica's location is $15\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N and $61\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W. This means that it is north of the Equator and west of the Greenwich Meridian. Remember that both the Equator and the Greenwich Meridian are numbered 0° and are the points from which numbering begins. Other territories in the Caribbean and elsewhere also have their **coordinates** which can be used to determine their exact location.

Cardinal Points

The cardinal points are read along the grid lines of a globe or map. North means direction towards the North Pole, while south means direction towards the South Pole. In the case of east and west, east is to your right and west is to your left when you are facing north.

Look at Figure 1.4. This is an example of a compass rose and it shows the main cardinal points which are north,

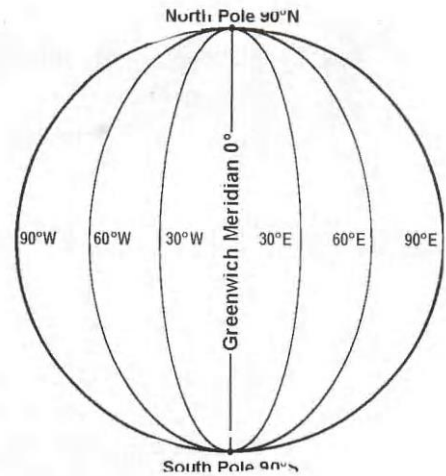
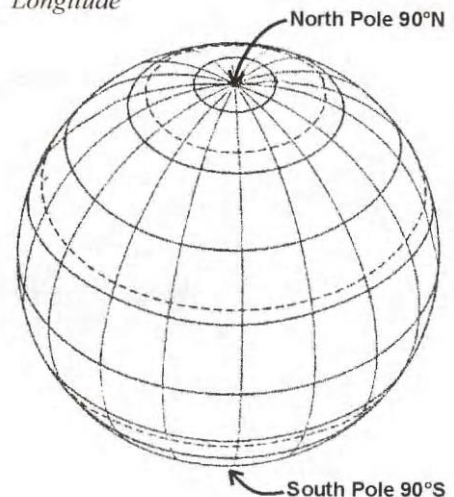


Figure 1.2 Lines of Longitude

Figure 1.3 Lines of Latitude and Longitude



south, east and west. There are also other points such as north-east, north-west, south-east and south-west.

Most maps show the cardinal points. To get an idea of the position of Dominica in relation to other territories in the Caribbean, you need to look at a map of the Caribbean. As you can see, Dominica is located between Guadeloupe (North) and Martinique (South).

Distance Scales

You will notice that there is a scale on every map, whether in your textbook or atlas. This scale is used to measure distances on the map. Scales also show how an actual ground distance is represented on a map.

Scales vary according to the map on which they are found. For example, a scale for a map where one centimetre represents 10 kilometres, means that one centimetre on the map represents 10 kilometres on the ground. Such scales are useful because they enable you to measure actual or approximate distances on a map. If you have a map of Dominica you should be able to measure the distance from Mahaut to Roseau. On a Caribbean map you can find the distance from Dominica to St. Kitts, or to Kingstown (St. Vincent).

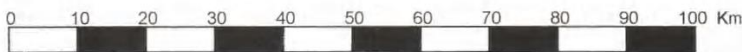


Figure 1.5 Distance scale.

To measure the distance between two places in a straight line, this technique can be used (see Figure 1.6)

Mark off the location of the two places and join them with a straight line.

Fold a piece of paper in two so that the edge is firm.

Place the folded paper along the drawn line and mark off the exact points on the paper.

Hold the paper with the markings against the scale.

Read the distance from the scale.

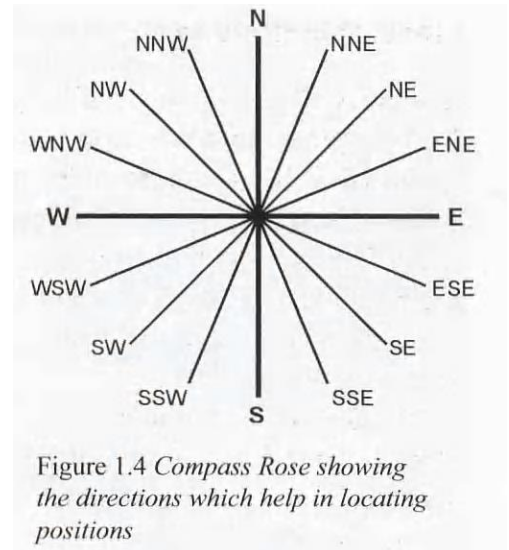


Figure 1.4 Compass Rose showing the directions which help in locating positions

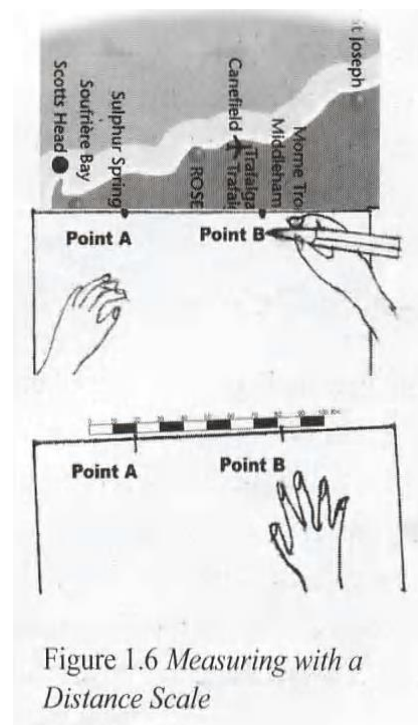


Figure 1.6 Measuring with a Distance Scale

This same method may be used to measure the distance from Castle Bruce to Portsmouth or Roseau to New York (USA).

The Land and its Formation

Formation of the Land

Dominica is of volcanic origin. This means that the island was formed as a result of volcanic activity which took place millions of years ago beneath the sea. As the volcanoes erupted, lava built up until ridges reached the surface of the sea to form dry land. The shape of the island changed constantly as peaks rose above the sea. These steep mountain cones were later eroded by the action of wind and rain. Ash and lava from continuous volcanic eruptions piled up into different layers of rock.

As eruptions blasted off the top of volcanic mountains holes were left. These are called craters or **calderas**. When water filled these cavities, crater lakes were formed. The Freshwater Lake is an example of a crater lake.

The Boiling Lake is another example of a crater lake, but unlike the Freshwater Lake it still shows evidence of on going volcanic activity. It continues to be heated by **magma**, which is **molten** rock deep in the earth.



Left, the Boiling Lake, located in the Morne Trois Pitons National Park in Dominica, and above, Freshwater Lake.

Dominica also has hot springs. This is another sign of volcanic activity. Hot springs contain dissolved minerals such as sulphur. The holes in the ground through which these minerals emerge are called fumaroles. Because large quantities of sulphur are deposited around **fumaroles** only certain plants can grow in these areas. Hot springs are found in Soufriere and Wotten Waven. Many people believe that hot springs have medicinal and recuperative properties.

Features of the Land

Have you ever seen Dominica from an aircraft? If you have, you would have noticed how rugged the island is. Towering mountain peaks and deep valleys can be seen almost everywhere. These are natural features which are typical of volcanic islands. There are also black sand beaches which were formed from the erosion of the volcanic rock.

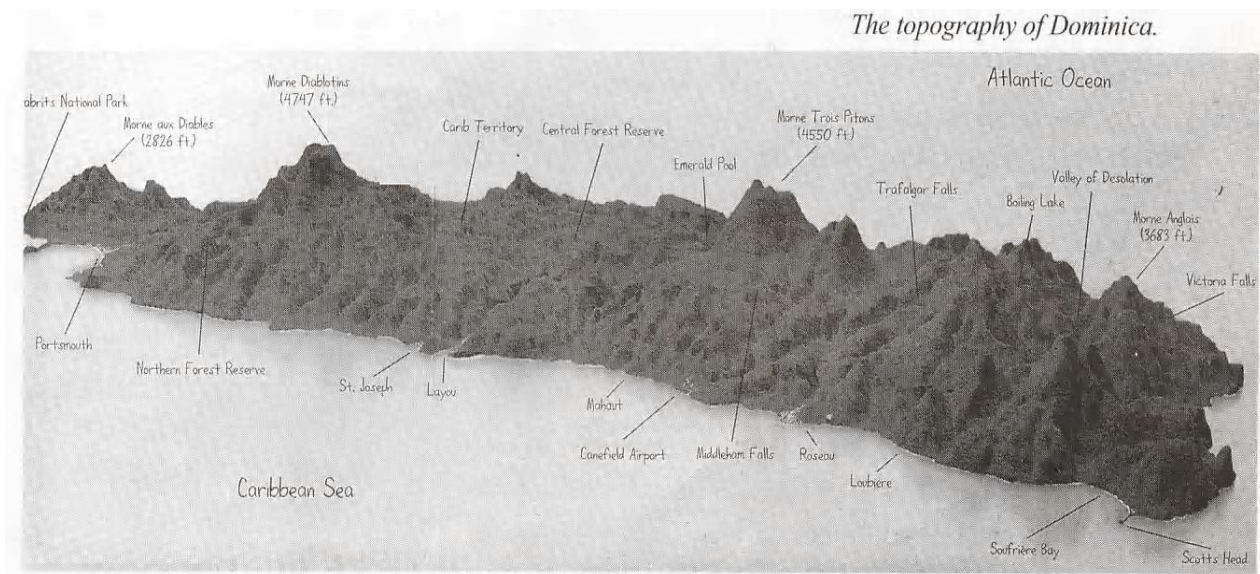
Mountains usually influence rainfall. Therefore, in the interior of the island, which is very mountainous, the rainfall is greater than in coastal areas. Streams and rivers are formed due to the constant heavy rainfall in the centre of the island.

It is no surprise that there are large areas of thick forest in the places with high rainfall. These are called tropical rain forests, and are the homes of many species of wildlife. Soil formed from volcanic activity is fertile since there are large amounts of minerals which help plants to grow.



Irvin C Durand © PIX Inc. 2000

A hot spring.



If you compare Dominica to Barbados, you will see a remarkable difference, particularly in the height of the land. In Barbados, there are a few hills on the east coast, but no mountains or rivers. This is because Barbados is a coral island formed from the bodies of dead coral **polyps** millions of years ago. Unlike Dominica, Barbados has white sand beaches. Can you say why this is so?

Activities

1. What is the difference between:
 - a. lines of latitude and lines of longitude?
 - b. the Equator and the Greenwich Meridian?
2. Use a scale to measure the following distances:
 - La Plaine to Delices
 - Scott's Head to Laudat
 - Castries, St. Lucia to Georgetown, Guyana
 - St. John's, Antigua to Havana, Cuba
 - Kingston, Jamaica to London, England
 - Port of Spain, Trinidad to Miami, USA
3. a. On a map of the Caribbean, use lines of latitude and longitude to locate the following places:

Roseau, St John's, Kingston, Bridgetown and Havana.

 - b. Identify the places which match the following coordinates:

18° N, 72° W; 11° N, 67° W; 11° S, 62° W;
25° S, 77° E; 3° S, 80° E.
4. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of living on
(a) a volcanic island, and (b) a coral island.
5. Research the formation of coral island. Compare their formation with that of volcanic islands.

Our weather and climate

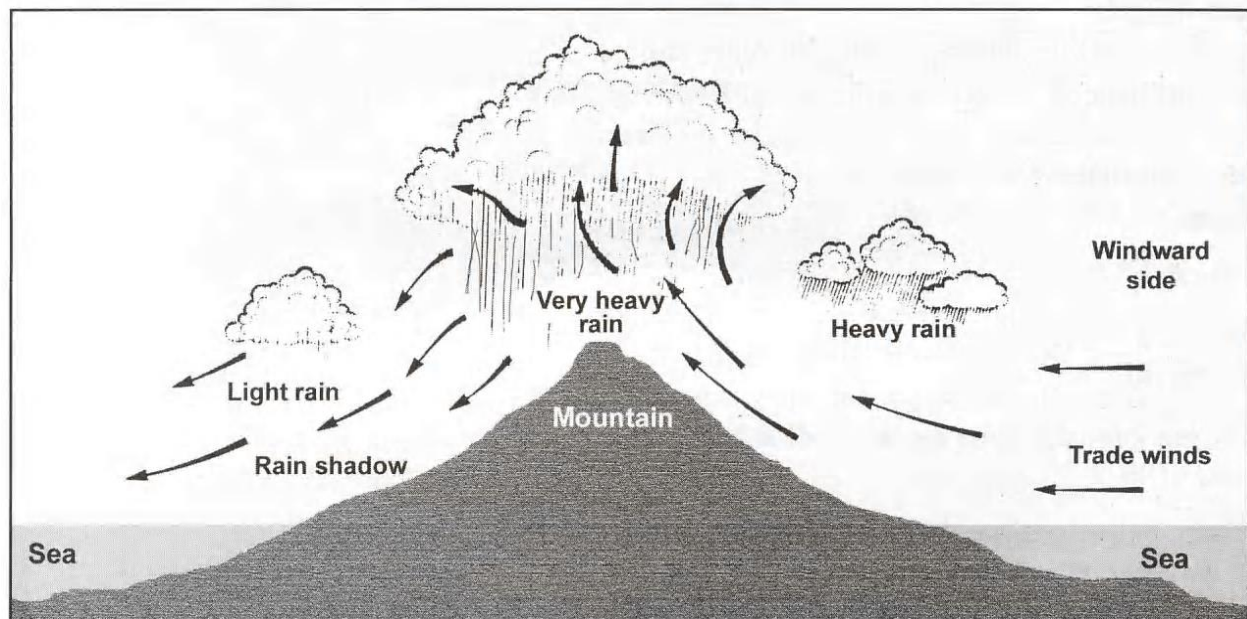
The climate which we experience is an important part of our natural environment. Climate refers to the conditions of weather which an island, continent or any area experiences

over a long period of time, usually thirty years. Some aspects of the climate of an area would include the temperature, the seasons of the year, levels of rainfall, and wind conditions.

On the other hand, weather refers to the general conditions of the atmosphere which are experienced on a day-to-day basis. Therefore, the weather conditions which Dominica experiences may vary from one day to the next in terms of rainfall, temperature and wind conditions.

Factors which determine our climate and weather

Countries in the Tropic Zone, including Dominica, have high temperatures all year round. However, the effects of the Caribbean Sea on the west coast and the Atlantic Ocean on the east coast of Dominica cause the island to experience moderate tropical temperatures sometimes during the year.



Dominica has a very mountainous **landscape** with heights, in some places, of over one thousand metres above sea level. Because of this, the island receives large amounts of rainfall all year round, particularly on the windward or eastern coast. This rainfall occurs when warm air currents from the Atlantic Ocean, laden with water vapour, are forced to rise over the

mountains. This causes the warm air currents to cool. The water vapour then condenses and falls as rain. This rain is known as relief rainfall.

How climate and weather shape our life

Climatic and weather conditions determine the type of **flora** and fauna of a country. In Dominica, our abundant rainfall supports a high level of agricultural production and contributes to the lush green vegetation which gives the island its reputation as “The Nature Island of the Caribbean”.

Our climate affects the clothes we wear, the food we grow and the sports we play. It also allows us to celebrate various outdoor festivals, like Carnival, all year round. However, countries in North America and Europe have winter from November to April. Their inhabitants visit Dominica and other Caribbean countries to enjoy the warm tropical climate.

The design of our houses, roads and other structures is heavily influenced by our weather conditions. The law requires that homes and other buildings be constructed to withstand hurricane force winds.

Activities

1. What do you understand by the terms a) weather, and b) climate.
2. Explain how our climate and weather influence our way of life.
3. Listen to the local weather report for five consecutive days and do the following:
 - a. record the temperature, humidity and rainfall
 - b. present this information in the form of a table
 - c. give the average temperature and rainfall for the period.

2 Natural Disasters

It would be good if we were completely protected from disasters. The fact is we are not. The likelihood of suffering and great loss individually or as a country is always with us. When you watch the news you will see this happens all over the world.

A disaster is any condition that includes ;loss of life or property on a large scale. If a farmer suffers great loss of his crops in a hurricane, it is a disaster. Disasters can be caused by acts of man or acts of nature. Natural disasters include earthquakes, hurricanes, storms and volcanic eruptions. Dominica's location makes it prone to storms and hurricanes.

Storms and Hurricanes

Storms

A storm is a type of weather condition that is not normal. Storms are considered to be conditions of wind speed and rainfall which increase beyond normal levels. They may also be accompanied by unusually high tide levels and dangerous sea currents. When the wind speed increases above forty-five miles an hour, it is considered to be a storm. If the wind speed reaches seventy-five miles an hour, it is a hurricane.

During the hurricane season June to November, the Caribbean experiences harsh weather conditions such as rainstorms, floods and violent winds. These storms affect us in several ways. These include

- destruction of crops;
- damage to roads;
- flooding of low lying areas;
- damage to coastal areas;
- damage to forest and wild life.

Hurricanes

Hurricanes usually form in the Atlantic off the west coast of Africa. They start as storms and move with the North East Trade Winds across the Atlantic Ocean. As the storms cross the warm waters of the Atlantic, they absorb water vapour and become stronger. By the time they arrive in the Caribbean, the wind speed may increase to forty-five miles an hour or more and the area of the storm may cover several kilometres. Further strengthening causes these storms to develop into hurricanes.

Hurricanes are the most severe storms that we experience in the Caribbean. When these occur, there is usually loss of life and damage to crops, buildings, and other types of infrastructure. For example, roads and bridges may be completely destroyed and communities cut off from each other. Telephone, television, electricity and water services are also disrupted.

In November 1999, Hurricane Lenny destroyed many houses in some coastal communities in Dominica, such as Newtown, St. Joseph and Scott's Head. Lenny was a most unusual hurricane since it came from the west, unlike other hurricanes which usually come from the east.

Since Dominica is usually affected by storms and hurricanes, we must always be prepared. Knowing what to do before, during, and after a hurricane can reduce the amount of damage to life and property.



Destruction by Hurricane Lenny in Dominica, 1999.



Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Floods

The crust of the earth is divided into huge plates of solid rocks which are many kilometres thick. Below the crust, temperatures may reach 1500° Celsius. This temperature is hot enough to melt rocks and elements like iron and aluminium. These molten rocks are like a thick liquid, and can flow very slowly. It is believed that the movement of this liquid rock disturbs the earth's crust and forces the plates to move. It is the movement of these plates which causes earthquakes.

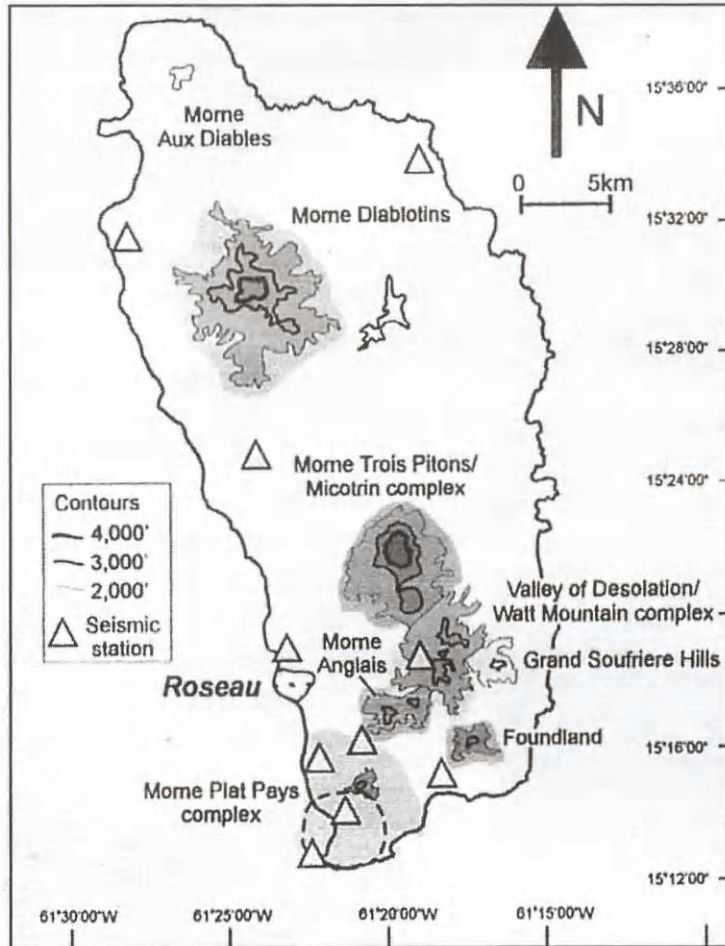
Volcanoes

Volcanoes are mountains which are formed when magma, the thick liquid rock deep in the earth, moves towards the surface of the earth. This magma is under extremely high pressure, therefore any crack in the earth's crust caused by



Soufriere Hills volcano erupting in Montserrat.

the earth's movement may lead to a volcanic eruption. As you learned earlier, Dominica was formed as a result of several volcanic eruptions. It is the only island in the Eastern Caribbean that has more than one major volcano. In fact, it has eight. Six of them are located in the south of the island. The large volcanoes such as Diablotin, Trois Pitons, Plat Pays and Anglais have erupted many times before.



Map showing the location of major volcanoes and seismic stations in Dominica

An active volcano is one which may erupt at any time and can be accompanied by earthquakes. A dormant volcano shows no visible sign of life, but may become active. An extinct volcano is dead. This means that it is not expected to show any sign of activity in the future.

Scientists are monitoring our active volcanoes, especially those in the south of the island, through the use of instru –

ments called seismometers. These are installed at seismic stations near the volcanoes. This monitoring programme should provide sufficient warning of an eruption to enable communities at risk to evacuate. In the Caribbean island of Montserrat, the Soufriere Hills Volcano erupted several times between 1995 and 1997. During this time the island was extensively damaged and there was loss of Life.

Earthquakes

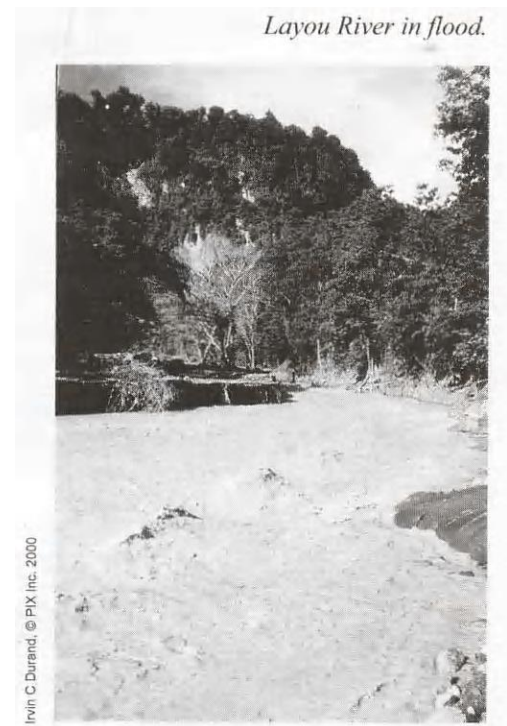
An earthquake is the shaking of the earth caused by movement in the earth's crust. Most movement occurs where two plates meet. This movement puts great strain on the crust of the earth. As a result, the earth shakes. We seldom feel most of the earthquakes because they are shallow.

Some earthquakes are linked to volcanic activity. In Dominica, as many as 100 shallow earthquakes per day were recorded between 1998 and 2000. These were caused by the activities of Morne Plat Pays and Morne Anglais. However, there was no loss of life, but only minor cracks to some buildings. Efforts are being made by the Office of Disaster Preparedness to increase the level of awareness and provide information about steps to be taken in the event of an earthquake.

Floods

Floods occur when streams or rivers overflow their banks and cover the surrounding land. They are natural events that can happen during heavy rains, storms and hurricanes. Deforestation increases the risk of floods.

Floods can cause loss of life, extensive damage to property and contamination of drinking water. A recent example is the landslide in the Carholm area of the Layou Valley which caused an embankment that blocked the river and resulted in a flood. The river changed its course and parts of the village of Layou located near the river mouth were flooded. There was severe damage to agriculture and roads in the area.



Activities

1. When are hurricanes most likely to occur in the Caribbean?
2. Have you ever experienced a hurricane? Share your experience with your class.
3. Interview an official from the Office of Disaster Management or the Meteorological Office about hurricanes.
4. Find out from the Office of Disaster Management what should be done in the event of
 - a. an earthquake
 - b. a volcanic eruption.
5. Find out about hurricanes which have had a major impact on Dominica over the last five years.

3

Tourism

Tourism is the temporary movement of people from their usual place of residence for pleasure or business. It also includes all the facilities and services that are provided to meet the tourists' needs. The tourists who visit our island come from countries who are from different races.

Known for its many natural attractions, Dominica is called the 'Nature Island of the Caribbean'. The island is in the process of developing a sustainable tourism industry. You may have already seen that we have a number of cruise ships call at our ports regularly. Dominica does not have white sand beaches like other islands of the Caribbean. Rather, it has black sand beaches, which remind us of its volcanic origin. This is part of its natural beauty that attracts visitors. These natural attractions should be used in a manner, which benefits us most.



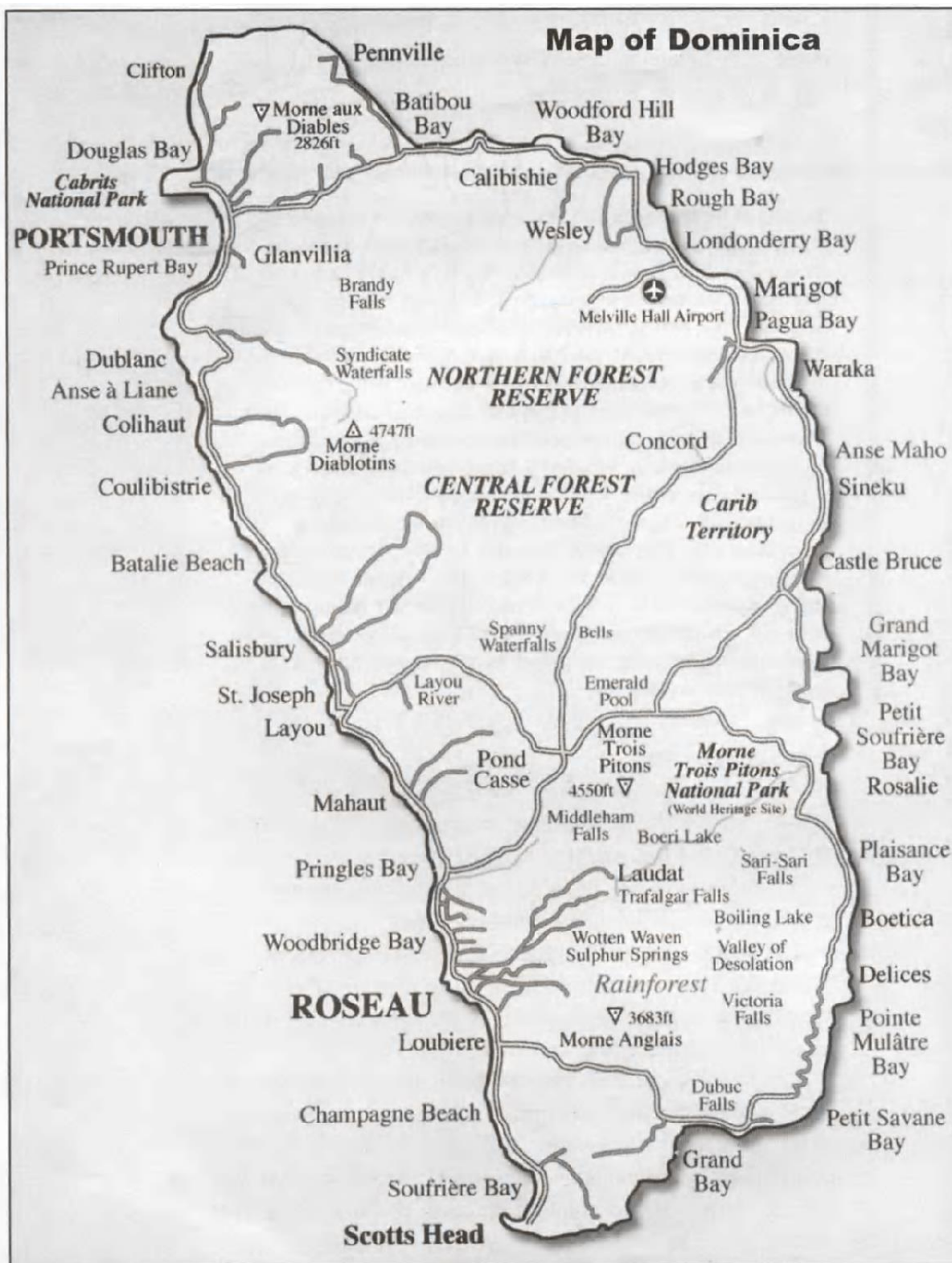
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Eco-tourism

Eco-tourism is being promoted in many areas of the world. It is a type of tourism that promotes the natural environment. Dominica has decided to develop an eco-tourism model because of its many natural features.

The **marine environment** also forms an important part of Dominica's eco-tourism product. This environment includes the whales, dolphins and other sea creatures as well as the under water plants and corals.

The island's **cultural heritage** (our dance, folklore and music), have been added to its list of eco-tourism attractions. This means that all Dominicans are part of the eco-tourism programme. It is necessary therefore, that we become aware of conservation practices and our role in the nation's tourism industry.



The main features of Dominica's eco-tourism attractions are the many beautiful sites located all over the island. These include rivers, lakes, parks, waterfalls, sulphur springs and trails.

Rivers

It is said that Dominica has 365 rivers and streams. Located in the north of the island is the Indian River. It is a clear waterway, which allows small boats and canoes to travel. The Indian River has an abundance of mangrove vegetation along its banks. The roots of the mangroves stretch from the riverbanks, out into the water and help to protect the banks of the river from erosion. Many species of migratory birds, as well as native ones, inhabit this area. The Indian River Tour Guide Association, a local tour organization, provides guided tours along the river.

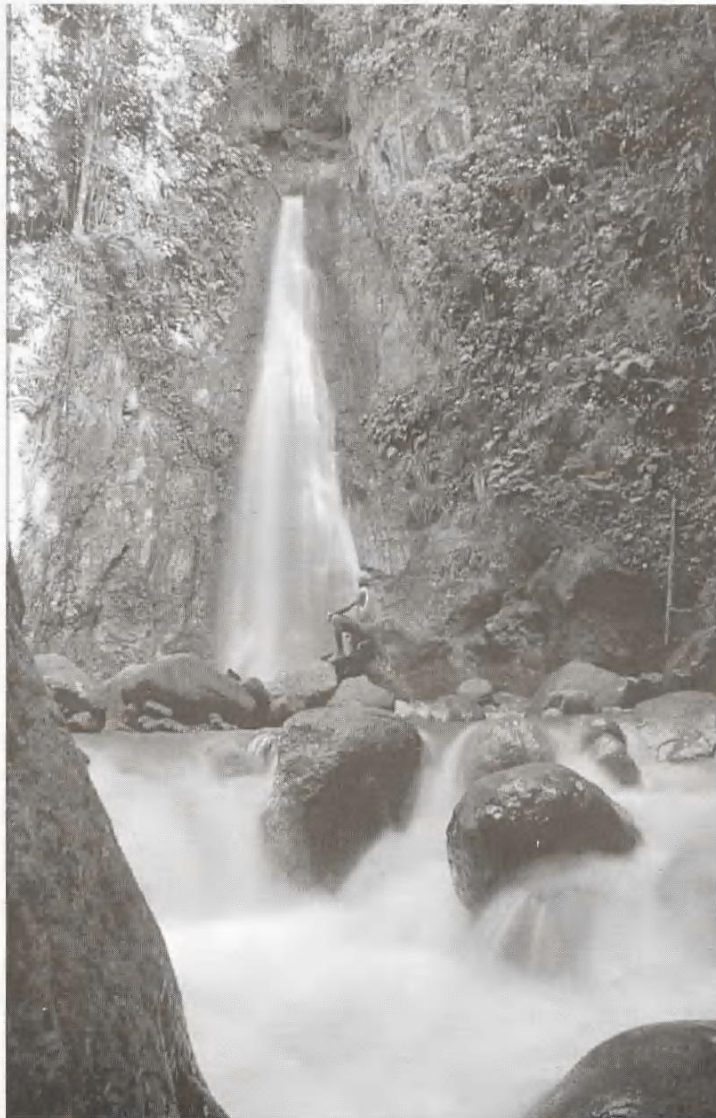


Indian River and surrounding vegetation

Other rivers of importance to the island's eco-tourism product are the Layou River, Pagua River, Geneva River and the Rosalie River. The Layou River is located in the Layou Valley and is the longest river on the island. The Pagua River is located between Marigot and Atkinson in the north east of the island. It is a popular bathing spot. The Geneva River, another popular bathing site, is located in Grand Bay in the south of the island. The Rosalie River is in the east of the island. Although it is a popular bathing site, **whirlpools** are formed at the point where the river enters the Atlantic Ocean.

Lakes and Waterfalls

Located in the interior of the island, in the heights of Morne Trois Pitons National Park, is the largest boiling lake in the world. As you read before, the Boiling Lake is a result of volcanic activity in Dominica. The water continues to boil and steam can actually be seen rising from the surface. The eight-hour round-trip hike to the lake starts in the village of Laudat, continues to Titou Gorge, up along mountain paths and down into the Valley of Desolation.



Syndicate Falls located in the Morne Diablotin National Park.

Irvin C Durand, © PIX Inc. 2000



The Freshwater and Boeri Lakes are both accessible through the village of Laudat. The Freshwater Lake sits in an old volcanic crater at the foot of Morne Macaque. The trail to the Boeri Lake starts at the Freshwater Lake then climbs to about 1200 metres.

Dominica has numerous waterfalls, which tumble out of mountains. Among them are Middleham, Victoria, SariSari, Trafalgar, Syndicate and Penrice waterfalls.

Dive Sites and Marine Life

Dominica's dive sites have been named among the best in the world by recognized international diving organizations. Some of the island's steep mountains extend into the coastal waters, making diving spectacular. Divers can see an abundance of corals and other marine life. These include sea urchins, sponges, brain corals, sea horses, frog fish, squids, black corals and anemones. The whales and dolphins in the coastal waters allow for whale watching which is a feature of Dominica's eco-tourism product.

The remains of an ancient volcano are another attraction for divers. This submerged crater is in the Soufriere/Scott's Head Marine Reserve in the south of the island. A popular spot in the Reserve is the Champagne Dive Site, where underwater vents cause thousands of bubbles to rise to the surface of the water. The Soufriere/Scott's Head Marine Reserve was established in order to safeguard the interests of everyone using this area for recreation and fishing.

Sulphur Springs

There are many sulphur springs in the Wotten Waven area located in the Roseau Valley. These springs provide natural mud baths that have skin-cleansing properties. Of interest also, is the Soufriere hot spring in the village of Soufriere. Deposits of sulphur can be seen as one follows the trails to the heights of the Soufriere Hot Spring Reserve.

National Parks

Dominica has been able to preserve its natural beauty because of the many national parks that have been established all over the island. The Morne Trois Pitons National Park was declared a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1997. This means that it is of importance to the whole world. Another park is the Cabrits National Park, which is located in the north of the island. It is a marine and terrestrial park. Fort Shirley, an old British Fort is located there. Another park is the Morne Diablotin National Park.



Tourists visiting sulphur springs in the Valley of Desolation.



Morne Trois Pitons National Park.

Irvin C Durand © PIX Inc. 2000

Trails

There are a number of well-known trails in Dominica, which pass through National Parks and Forest Reserves. The Syndicate Nature Trail is located in the Morne Diablotin National Park, which is best known for bird watching. The Sisserou Parrot (our national bird) and the Jacquot Parrot can be seen there.

Located in the North East of Dominica is the Carib Territory, home for Dominica's first inhabitants, the Caribs. This expanse of land is approximately 1480 square kilometres. The L'escaliere Tete Chien (Snakes Trail) is located in Sineku in the south of the reserve.

Activities

1.
 - a. Explain the term "eco-tourism".
 - b. Give reasons why Dominica is referred to as the "Nature island of the Caribbean".
2. Using a map of Dominica, locate the following nature sites:
 - a. Morne Diablotin National Park
 - b. Emerald Pool
 - c. Boiling Lake
 - d. Carib Territory
 - e. Victoria Falls
 - f. Trafalgar Falls
 - g. Cabrits National Park
3. Design a tourism promotion brochure highlighting one of the following: The Carib Territory; Cabrits National Park; Indian River, or a dive site. You may use photos, paintings, or drawings to illustrate your work.
4. Visit any two nature sites and do the following:
 - a. find out the names of the plant and animal species that are present.
 - b. record the number of visitors arriving at the site within an hour.
5. Find out about the ways in which we can preserve Dominica's natural beauty. Discuss this with your class.

Community Tourism

Community tourism is being developed as a form of alternative tourism in Dominica. This type of tourism provides for a wider distribution of benefits throughout the country. It encourages communities to participate fully in the industry by providing products and services for visitors and locals. Community tourism promotes preservation and responsible management of the environment by villagers and visitors. It also allows for tourists' participation in community activities.

A number of groups and individuals are involved in the development of community tourism. The National Development Corporation (NDC) is directly responsible for tourism development in Dominica. Its role includes giving information, and providing training and support to persons involved in the industry.

Another group, which will have an important role to play in the development of community tourism, is the Local Government Department. This department, through village councils, improvement committees and other groups, is responsible for promoting community development in all communities on the island.

At the community level, the village council is the local government. It is the first organization through which villagers express their concerns. It is responsible for the maintenance of village roads, sanitation and the general development of the village.

Since a healthy environment will ensure the safety of citizens and visitors, village councils will have to conduct educational programmes to inform villagers about health and safety issues and about attitudes that will impact positively on themselves and tourists.

Villagers will need to find creative ways to develop their dances, art, cuisine, and natural sites as tourists' attractions. Additionally, communities need to be aware of what visitors expect and be trained to deliver quality products in an attractive manner.



A Jing Ping band.



Dominican Cuisine is an important part of our community tourism product.

Roseau Cultural Group (RCG) President Aileen Burton at the official launching ceremony of the RCG's Souvenir Placemats at the Old Mill Cultural Centre on 8th February, 2001.

"The RCG strongly believes that a section of Roseau could be transformed on Journee Kweyol into a major tourist attraction, with persons wearing one traditional creole outfit or the other, and with roadside vendors cooking on coalpots or three stones using chaudières and producing tasty delicacies such as bakes, beignets, accras, callalou.



Aspects of community tourism

In Dominica, community tourism emphasizes cultural dance, folklore and music, cuisine, occupations and accommodation. Among the dances promoted are bélé and quadrille. The laywé of the Kwéyol choruses and the rhythm of the drums are part of our cultural displays.



Our cuisine includes titiree accras, roast breadfruit with codfish, and our national dish — Mountain Chicken.

The occupations of people in the community are one of the attractions in community tourism. Bakers, artists, farmers and fishermen get an opportunity to display their skill. day on a farm or a demonstration in basket making are some experiences, which can be offered.

Accommodation for the stay over visitors is another feature of community tourism. It allows villagers to convert extra rooms in their homes for rent as bed and breakfast accommodation. One of the advantages of this, is that visitors are able to fit into the community.

Advantages of Community Tourism

Some advantages of community tourism are increased
income for communities
more job opportunities
improved standard of living for people in the
community
improved sanitation
appreciation for the community by villagers and
visitors.

Activities

1. Explain what you understand by community tourism.
2. Describe two things, which are necessary for the success of community tourism.
3. Write a letter to the Minister of Tourism informing him/her of all the reasons why your community should be named a model for community tourism.
4. Find out from your grandparents or any other person in your community how to prepare one of our traditional dishes. Report to the class.
5. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of community tourism.
6. Describe the role/roles you can play in promoting community tourism in the area where you live.

Careers in Tourism

The tourism industry provides many opportunities for our people who want to find employment. However, those who wish to be involved should be well informed about the country. They should be courteous and able to communicate easily and clearly with others.

Young persons are being encouraged to take advantage of career opportunities, which are available in this fast growing industry. In the Caribbean, training opportunities exist at institutions in Barbados, Bahamas, Jamaica and Trinidad.

Career means a job, occupation or a line of business. In tourism, jobs are classified into three main levels. They are frontline, supervisory and managerial.

Among those who find employment in frontline positions are receptionists, porters, waiters and waitresses, housekeepers, tour guides and taxi drivers. Persons at this level are often the first to meet the tourist, therefore, it is important for these workers to create a positive image of the island and its people. Supervisory staff play an important role in ensuring the smooth running of the industry. They supervise the performance of frontline staff and also provide them with information and resources, which are necessary to carry out their duties. A chef is an example of a position at the supervisory level. Can you think of any others?

At the managerial level persons either own or direct various aspects of the industry. They hold positions as marketing managers who promote the business, hotel managers and owners. Although these managers are at the highest level in the industry, they are concerned about the employees at the lower levels and ensure that they are given the opportunity to contribute to the industry's growth and development.

Remember, all Dominicans may come in contact with tourists, it is up to us all to make tourists feel welcome. Tourism is everybody's business.

Activities

1. Read the poem on the opposite page and:
 - a. list the services that are mentioned, and
 - b. name the sectors to which they belong.
2. Give two examples of frontline jobs.
3. You have been asked to select a tourist attraction or heritage site in Dominica. What would you do to improve the site?
4. Ask someone who works in the tourist industry to talk to your class about his or her job.

Tourism is the Way Forward

Tourism is the way forward
This industry will give us bread
Just listen and I'll tell you why
And certainly you'll see
You must agree with me.
The hospitality sector
Provides lodging for visitors
Hotels, guesthouses and cabins
Bed and breakfast and inns will bring us much earning.
Our catering is oh so good!
From restaurants and food outlets.
We will put you in a mood
Our nightclubs are better yet.
We know you like the adventure
So we will plan in the future
For hunting, fishing, bird watching,
Mountain climbing, surfing, whale watching and diving.
Transportation is no problem!
Air planes, cruise liners, car rentals,
Recreational vehicles
Such as safaris,
Minibus, taxis and all.
Contact our travel agencies,
Tour wholesalers they will suffice.
Our tour operators and guides.
Will make your stay worthwhile, so come and stay a while.
Come for Creole Festival
And original carnival
We'll host all your exhibitions,
Conferences, conventions,
Trade shows and all your fairs.
We'll highlight our attractions
Parks and gardens for recreation
Museums, historical sights and
Cultural heritage, all what we can manage.



a while.



5. The following table shows Tourism sector contribution to Gross Domestic Product, in millions of Eastern Caribbean dollars, compared to the other sectors of the economy over a five year period 1995 - 1999. Find out what Gross Domestic Product means, and use the table to answer the following questions.

Dominica Gross Domestic Product (in millions of Eastern Caribbean Dollars)

SECTOR	YEAR	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Tourism		15.1	14.8	15.2	15,5	16.2
Agriculture		94.5	107.0	107.6	110.3	111.4
Construction		47.0	48.5	47.7	43.9	46.0
Banks & Insurance		59.9	61.6	59.8	65.7	69.3
Real Estate & Housing		17.8	18.5	19.1	19.1	20.3

- In which year did Tourism contribute the most to the economy?
- What was the total contribution to the economy from Tourism in the first 3 years?
- Compared to Agriculture, how many more million dollars was contributed by Tourism to the economy in 1999?

4 Symbols and People

National symbols represent the identity of a nation. Our national symbols include the Coat of Arms, National Flag, National Anthem, National Bird and the National Flower.

Our people are descendants of the Caribs, Africans and Europeans. They have all made contributions to the development of our country. Some have excelled in education, social and literary work, culture, politics and industrial relations.

You will meet some of these Dominicans in this chapter. We must remember, however, that every Dominican is important and should contribute to the development of the island.

National Symbols

The National Flag

Our National Flag is the proudest symbol of our nationhood. It was hoisted for the first time on November 3, 1978, when we attained political independence.

The flag should be given honour and respect and should not be disgraced in any way. It should not be defaced, trampled upon or burnt deliberately. The flag should not be printed on anything intended for temporary use for example, a costume. A bleached or faded flag should never be flown. When the National Flag becomes unfit for display it should not be used. On no account should it be left lying about with other unusable articles.

It is customary to display the flag on a white painted mast from 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on public buildings. Nevertheless, on important occasions the flag may be displayed in the open after sunset and should be floodlit if possible.



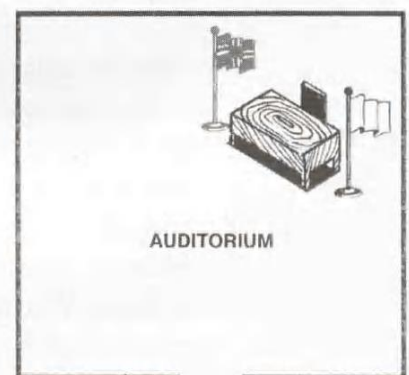
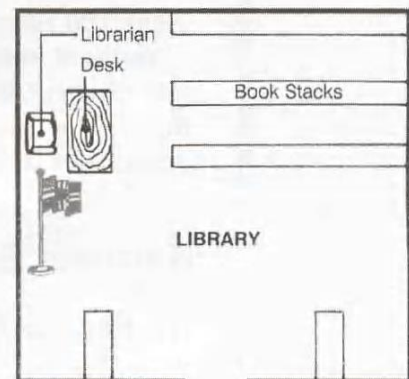
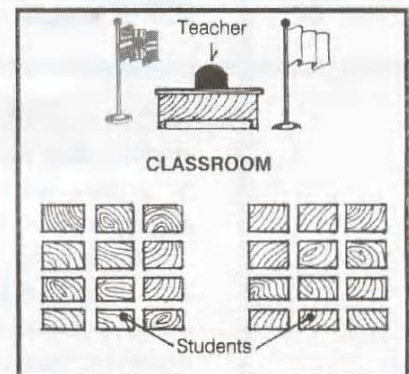
Flags of different countries should be flown on separate masts and at the same height. However, when a flag of another country is flown with Dominica's National Flag (as host), Dominica's Flag should be to the right of the other flag (although to an audience, it will appear to their left). In the event that many national flags are to be flown, for example, at an international conference, they should be arranged in alphabetical order by the English names of the countries. In these circumstances the Dominica Flag should be hoisted first and lowered last.

The flag of the Commonwealth of Dominica consists of a circular emblem of red, bearing a Sisserou Parrot, the National Bird, standing on a twig encircled by ten lime green stars. This is superimposed on three vertical and three horizontal stripes of yellow, black and white forming a triple-coloured cross against a background of forest green.

The red central emblem symbolizes Dominica's commitment to social justice. The ten lime green stars represent the ten parishes of the country, each with equal status, indicating the equality of our people. The triple-coloured stripes stand for the Trinity of God. The cross itself demonstrates belief in God since the Commonwealth of Dominica is founded upon the principles that acknowledge the supremacy of God.

The yellow stripe denotes the sunshine of our land and our main agricultural produce, citrus and bananas. It is also

Left, the National Flag of Dominica, and below, some examples of where it should be displayed in various situations.



a symbol of the Amerindians, the first people of the island. The white stripe symbolises the crystal clear rivers and waterfalls and the purity of aspiration of our people. The black stripe represents the rich black soil of our island as well as our African heritage. The dark green background reminds us of our rich, verdant forest and the lushness of the island. The flag was designed by Alwin Bully.

The Coat of Arms

Dominica's Coat of Arms is a symbol of our honour, pride and status in the world. The Coat of Arms bears the inscription "Après Bondie C'est La Ter", which, in English means "After God, The Earth". This signifies the importance of the soil to the island, which has an economy, based on agriculture.

The design depicts a shield divided into four quarters of a cross. The first quarter at the top left depicts the black volcanic soil of Dominica supporting a coconut tree. The second quarter, at the top right, depicts the crapaud or mountain chicken, our national dish. The third quarter, at the bottom left, shows a Carib canoe on the Caribbean Sea. The fourth quarter features a banana stem bearing a mature bunch of fruits. A wreath of silver and blue and a golden lion standing upon a black rocky mount are at the top of the crest. A Sisserou Parrot supports the crest on either side.



Coat of Arms of Dominica

The National Flower

Our National Flower is produced by a wild plant known scientifically as *Sabinea Carinalis*, commonly called 'Bois Caraibe'. It was legislated as the National Flower in 1978.

The flower, which is **indigenous** to Dominica, has survived our entire history. It therefore represents the continuity of our people.

The plant can be found growing along dry coastal areas. It blooms in April and the bright scarlet flowers are displayed along the entire length of its branches. Its hardiness and scarlet flowers serve as a remembrance of our strong, rugged and resourceful people who have the ability to overcome hardships.



National Flower of Dominica

The National Bird

The Sisserou Parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) is the National Bird of Dominica. It symbolises our flight towards greater heights and fulfilment of aspirations. The parrot features prominently on the Coat of Arms, the National Flag, the Public Seal, The Mace of the House of Assembly and Dominica's Honours for Meritorious Service to the Country.

The Sisserou Parrot, is protected by law. It is among the oldest species of Amazon parrots in the world, and is found only in Dominica. Unfortunately, this bird is vulnerable to changes in the environment, particularly when it is young. Over the years, it has adapted to various changes in its habitat, but it may not be able to adapt to further encroaching on its environment by people. We must therefore always ensure that its habitat is preserved.



The Sisserou Parrot, the National Bird of Dominica

The National Anthem

Our National Anthem, "Isle of Beauty", is as important as our flag. Therefore, it should be treated with the same respect. It is compulsory that the National Anthem be played upon the arrival of the President at any official function or before he/she addresses the nation on television or radio. It is also customary for the National Anthem to be played at our schools during

general assemblies. When the National Anthem is played, everyone within hearing distance should stand at attention as a sign of respect. The words of the national anthem were written by W.O.M. Pond and the music composed by L.M. Christian

Activities

1.
 - a. What s a national symbol?
 - b. Why was the Bois Caribe selected as the National Flower?
 - c. Why is the Sisserou Parrot so important to Dominicans?
2. What do the following represent?
 - a. The symbols and colours on the National Flag.
 - b. The symbols on the National Coat of Arms.
3. Which groups in your country make greatest use of the flag? Find out from them how the flag should be raised and tied, lowered, and wrapped.
4. You have been selected to talk to a group of primary school students about the National Flag. What would you say to them?

People

Emmanuel Christopher Loblack

Emmanuel Christopher Loblack, Trade Union Pioneer and Political Activist, was born in the village of Grand Bay on August 29, 1898. He was the second son of Sam Loblack and Eva Bassien. Emmanuel Loblack's father died when he was five. At the age of thirteen he was forced to go out to work to assist his mother in providing for the rest of the family. The tasks were difficult but he did them because he was a hard worker. The experience prepared him for the challenges that he would later face as a fighter for the rights of the working class.

Emmanuel Loblack became a civil servant in 1919, and worked with the Government of Dominica until 1962. He

began his service to the country as a road driver in the construction of bridges, retaining walls, jetties and roads.

In 1950, Emmanuel Loblack, then popularly known as E.C. Loblack, married May Maxime. They had eleven children, five boys and six girls.

During the 1930s, there was unrest among labourers in all of the Caribbean islands. The conditions under which people worked were terrible. Since most Caribbean islands were colonies of the British Government, Britain sent a Commission to the Caribbean to investigate the situation in each island. Emmanuel Loblack's humble beginnings gave him first-hand knowledge of the working conditions of the Dominican worker. When the Commission came to Dominica he gave evidence about the conditions here. It was through that activity that he got the conviction to fight for and protect the rights of the working people in Dominica.

As trade unions and workers' associations were formed in other islands, Emmanuel Loblack saw the need for a workers' union in Dominica. Encouraged by discussions with Lord Citrine, a member of the Commission, he sought the support of other prominent members of the community. On January 11, 1945, Emmanuel Loblack launched the Dominica Trade Union. He encouraged workers to become members of the Union. Later, in May 1955, Emmanuel Loblack together with Phyllis Shand Allfrey, formed the first political party, the Dominica Labour Party.

Emmanuel Loblack's contribution to the cause of working people has been recognized. On November 3, 1967 he was given a Meritorious Service Award for his distinguished contributions to the workers movement in Dominica. The School of Continuing Studies of the University of the West Indies honoured his contributions as a Trade Union Pioneer and Political Activist. Emmanuel Loblack is presently the only recipient of the Bustamante Institute of Public and International Affairs Award in Dominica. On Labour Day, May 1, 1996 the main bridge leading into the city of Roseau was named the E.C. Loblack Bridge in his honour.



*Emmanuel Christopher Loblack –
Trade Union Pioneer*

There is no doubt that Emmanuel Christopher Loblack has left a legacy for Dominican workers. His contributions were stepping stones for the establishment of other trade unions. The road he travelled in his quest for better conditions for all working people was often difficult. However, he endured and we have benefited. He was a dynamic leader and an effective organizer who lived and worked by principle of "Justice and Freedom for All".

Emmanuel Christopher Loblack died in 1995.

Activities

1. Find out the meaning of each of the following:

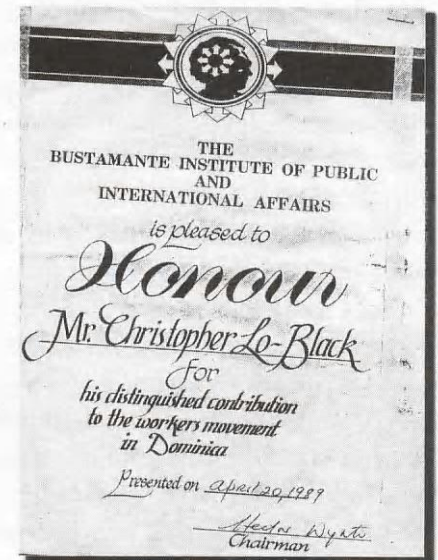
Trade Union Pioneer
Political activist
Commission
Colony
Conviction

2. Why did Emmanuel Loblack form a trade union?
3. Visit the Dominica Trade Union office and find out about its history and function.

Edward Oliver LeBlanc

Edward Oliver LeBlanc was born on October 3, 1923. He was educated at the Vieille Case Government School. Edward LeBlanc was a man of great integrity and outstanding leadership. He became the first Chief Minister of Dominica in 1961 and first Premier in 1967. Edward LeBlanc championed the cause of the rural people. He worked tirelessly to change the plantocratic rule of the 1950s and brought the ordinary working man into the political arena. In 1971 he was instrumental in lowering the voting age from 21 to 18 years.

In the early 1960s, lack of roads made communication between towns and villages difficult. E.O. LeBlanc worked very hard to link the rural areas to the towns. Hence, motorable roads were built throughout the island. At that time, since the ordinary Dominican owned very little land he made Crown Land available to farmers.



A tribute from the Bustamante Institute.

In those days only a few had access to education, so Edward LeBlanc used his influence to change this. He expanded primary education and made secondary education more accessible. As leader of the country, he pioneered a change in housing and health care. Many Dominicans were able to change from thatched to wooden houses. He made provision for public utilities in the rural areas, therefore, electricity was no longer a luxury.

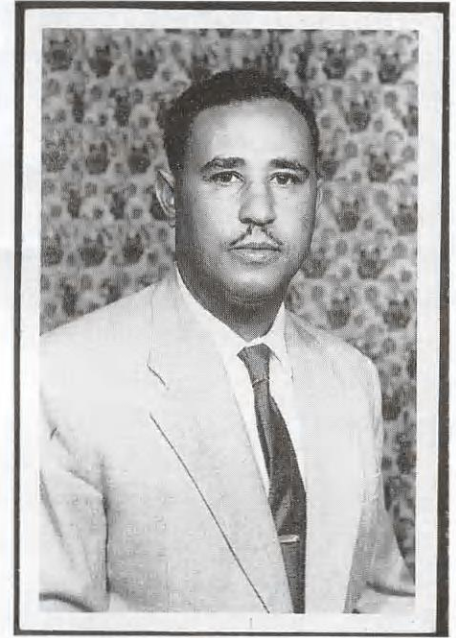
Mr. LeBlanc had the support of his colleagues in the Dominica Labour Party, which he led from 1961. He introduced an open-door approach to government. His “meet the people tours” to the constituencies, allowed people to meet the ministers of government. This access to the country’s leaders made his party popular.

Since Mr. LeBlanc’s concern was to be a government for all workers, he tried his best to address the people’s needs. One of the ways he did this was by promoting the Creole language spoken by the majority of persons in rural communities. For most of his leadership his party’s symbol was the hat, but later in 1970, his vision that one day all Dominicans would wear shoes, led him to change it to the shoe.

From 1968 E.O. LeBlanc’s government had strong competition from the opposing party. In 1970 three members of the DLP were dismissed because they expelled LeBlanc from the party. But LeBlanc renamed his faction the LeBlanc Labour Party while the three dismissed members kept the previous name D.L.P. His party triumphed and again won in the 1975 elections while the D.L.P. won only one seat.

During the 1970 - 75 period, new forces were working against him. These were the economic conditions resulting from a decrease of British funding to the island, as well as a decline in banana sales.

While LeBlanc promoted the cause of the ‘little man’, he detested spending much-needed funds to entertain royal visitors with the traditional costly ceremonies.



*E. O. LeBlanc – First Premier of
Dominica*

He also forcefully rejected the idea of foreigners obtaining land without having to get a special permit or licence to do so. The opposition argued that foreign landowners would help create jobs for Dominicans as labourers. In response, he stated, “I have more ambition for the people of Dominica. To make a nation you need gardeners, fishermen . . . doctors . . . lawyers, but it carries a different meaning when you have people of other climates on top, in the high positions and your own natives are below doing the menial jobs.”

Edward LeBlanc publicly declared himself to have been the first black power advocate in the island’s history. He embraced the positive aspects of the Black Power Movement, which was popular at that time, while he rejected their negative ideas. His government passed resolutions condemning apartheid in South Africa, and supporting the struggles of poor people all over the world. He showed his support to the African National Congress party in South Africa by pledging a token of \$1,000.00 towards its activities. There was unanimous support in the House for this measure.

As a player in regional politics, Mr. LeBlanc had represented Dominica in the Federal Parliament. He also was a strong advocate for CARIFTA/CARICOM. In 1967 he led Dominica to self-government in Associated Statehood. Due to growing agitation in the country, E.O. LeBlanc resigned from both the party and the government in July 1974. Nonetheless, the DLP under new leadership gained a landslide victory in 1975, winning sixteen out of twenty-one seats.

Edward Oliver LeBlanc was a man of great integrity and outstanding leadership. He died in Vieille Case on October 29th, 2004. His outstanding contribution as a politician, and above all, as the first Premier of Dominica, will long be remembered.

Activities

1.
 - a. Who was Edward O. LeBlanc?
 - b. Name the political party founded by E. O. LeBlanc.
 - c. In what year did he resign from active politics?
Why do you think he did this?
2. Imagine you were a labourer. How would you have reacted to what E. O. LeBlanc was trying to achieve for the labourers?

3. a. Find out the names of three ministers and their portfolios in the E. O. LeBlanc administration.
b. Find out names of past premiers/prime ministers of Dominica and the years when they were in government.
4. Interview a person who has contributed to the development of your community. Report your findings.

Hyacinth Izela Roberta Elwin

Hyacinth Elwin was born on November 30, 1931 and lived in the City of Roseau most of her life.

She was the first of three children. When she was nine, her father died and her mother sent her to relatives in St. Kitts for schooling. She lived there for five years then returned to Dominica to rejoin her mother. She continued her education at the Wesley High School and at the Convent High School.

During her school days, Hyacinth Elwin was a member of the Dominica Girl Guide Movement. On completing school, she became leader of the 1st Roseau Company, and eventually the District Guide Commissioner. In 1971, she was the Chief Guide Commissioner. Miss Elwin was also appointed Caribbean and International Link Trainer. Her training skills enabled her to be of great service to many Guide Units both locally and regionally. In 1968, she was awarded the Meritorious Award for service to her country.

Miss Elwin was the first Chief Youth Development Officer in the Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Cooperatives in Dominica.

In her quest to extend her services to the wider Commonwealth, she applied for and was offered the position of tutor at the Caribbean Centre in Guyana. In 1979 when Hurricane David left Dominica devastated, Miss Elwin was asked to return to Dominica to assist in coordinating support services in shelters.

She returned to the Commonwealth Youth Programme in Guyana to complete her contract in 1981. On her return to Dominica she was appointed Director of Women's Affairs.



*Miss Hyacinth Izela Robert A. Elwin –
Social Worker*

She served as Consul General for Dominica in the United States during the period of 1988 to 1992 and was based in New York where she assisted the Dominicans who lived there. On her return in 1992, she was appointed a lay minister in the Methodist church.

Miss Elwin developed a love for cooking which she wanted to share with others. She had a passion for creating her own recipes and this motivated her to publish *A Taste of Nature Island Cooking*.

She spent much time in training young adults and when she became older, she founded the Council on Aging. She was the first Executive Director of the Council, and championed the needs of the elderly by making representation for their care.

Hyacinth Elwin's life was a testimony of her devotion to her country. Miss Elwin always gave unselfishly of her time and expertise to work with others for the common good. She died on January 23, 2001. However, she continues to live in the hearts of those whose lives she so lovingly touched.

Activities

1. List some ways in which Hyacinth Elwin contributed to Dominica
2. Suggest reasons for having a Council on the Aging.
3. Discuss various ways in which you can contribute to your community or country.

Mabel "Cissie" Caudeiron

In the early twentieth century many aspects of Dominica's culture such as the Creole language, music and dance, were not as appreciated as they are today.

Mabel Alice 'Cissie' Caudeiron, a folklorist, developed these aspects of our culture. Dominicans are now very aware of their culture and take much pride in it.

Mabel Alice 'Cissie' Caudeiron, was born on December 20, 1909 in Roseau. She was the only daughter of her

parents. At an early age, Miss Caudeiron showed her love for music, dancing and drama. She started organizing cultural shows by age 20. As the president of the Catholic Action Group, during the 1930s, she held many concerts that strongly portrayed aspects of our culture.

In 1938 she married Jean-Albert Caudeiron, a French engineer. She then moved to Venezuela, where she stayed until 1957. On her return to Dominica she founded a dance troupe called the Kairi Artistic Troupe. The dance troupe performed creative and traditional dances like *bélè*, quadrille and mazook at organized shows, during national celebrations and royal visits to Dominica. Most of these dances are still performed today, mainly during the Independence celebrations.

Mrs. Caudeiron encouraged the use of traditional wear, such as the 'dwiyet' and the 'Jupe'. The young women in her group would wear the colourful dresses and brightly coloured skirts and white tops when performing. The young men wore mainly black pants, white shirts and red sashes. These costumes form part of the national wear today.



Mabel Cissie Caudeiron – folklorist



Traditional dance

In those days, the Kwéyol language was frowned upon. Although parents used it at home, children were discouraged from using it. To change this negative perception, Mrs. Caudeiron used the Kwéyol Language in songs and folk- tales. She sang Kwéyol songs and composed other songs and medleys. Some of the medleys consisted of choruses from Carnival songs. *Zanstrad Bwelé* and *Adieu William, Oh!* are two examples.

Zanstrad Bwelé

Zanstrad bwelé
Y parni travaille encore(2)
Sa yo ke' fe pour dollar

Zanstrad's factory burned down
There is no work again
What will we do to earn a living!

Adieu, William Oh!

Adieu, William Oh!
Cest moute' nous ka moute'
Monte nous ka moute' - pour plaisir
Descends nous ka descend - pour l'amort

Goodbye William!
We are going up
We are coming down – for pleasure
We are coming down – for war or death!

Cissie Caudeiron died in 1968. Through her contributions, Dominica's culture has grown from strength to strength. The Kwéyol language is being promoted and can be heard on radio daily. There is also an annual Creole Day, which is now celebrated every October. Our music has flourished and spread internationally. The national wear is worn with pride and dignity during Independence celebrations and on other occasions.



Dominica's Carnival

Activities

1. Name two traditional dances performed by the Kairi Artistic Troupe.
2. Describe the national wear used by men and women on Creole Day.
3. Cissie Caudeiron was a folklorist. Discuss this with your class.
4. Find out from the older people in your community how "Empire Day" was celebrated long ago and compare your findings with the way Independence Day is celebrated today.
5. Find out about another person who has made significant contributions to culture in Dominica.

6. There are words relating to culture in the matrix. They can be read horizontally, vertically and diagonally. The words are - folklorist, culture, dwiyet, jupe, sash, troupe, traditional, drama, music, pride, dignity. Can you find them?

a	f	o	l	k	l	o	r	i	s	t	w
e	r	r	y	u	h	s	a	s	l	o	d
c	p	a	s	d	f	g	h	j	k	l	r
z	u	x	d	w	i	y	e	t	c	v	a
b	n	i	m	q	w	e	r	t	y	u	m
j	a	s	t	d	i	g	n	i	t	y	a
u	d	f	g	u	h	m	u	s	i	c	j
p	k	l	z	x	r	c	v	b	n	m	p
e	a	s	f	g	c	e	b	c	w	h	r
t	r	a	d	i	t	i	o	n	a	l	i
z	h	j	k	i	n	e	h	c	b	n	d
c	t	r	o	u	p	e	x	b	w	f	e

Jean Rhys

Ella Gwendolyn Jean Rhys Williams was born to a Creole mother and Welsh doctor in Roseau, Dominica on August 24, 1890. As a white girl in a predominantly black society, she felt socially isolated. As a child she loved literature and often wished to visit the places she read about. In 1907 she went to England where she attended the Perse School in Cambridge for a year. However, when her father died she was forced to give up her studies. She got a job as a chorus girl with a musical company and wrote a book about furniture. She later worked as a volunteer in a soldiers' canteen during World War I. Then she worked in a pension office.

In 1919 Jean Rhys Williams went to Holland and married a Dutch journalist and songwriter, Jean Langlet. In 1927 they moved back to England and she began writing under the patronage of Madox Ford whom she had met in Paris. She published her first collection of stories in that year



Jean Rhys – famous Dominican Writer

adopted the name Jean Rhys. In the years that followed she published several novels including *Quartet* (1928), *Good Morning Midnight* (1939) (which were later made into movies) and *Voyage in the Dark* (1934).

Her last visit to Dominica was in 1936. Between 1939 and 1957 she lived in England in great poverty. However, she gained international acclaim with the publication of *Wide Sargasso Sea* in 1966, which turned out to be her most admired piece of work. The novel was later made into a movie, which was filmed in Jamaica in 1992. Jean Rhys died on May 14, 1979.

Jean Rhys is considered an important Dominican because of her remarkable literary skills. She was persistent in her writing and never gave up. Her works helped give Dominica international recognition

Some Jean Rhys' works include:

The Left Bank and Other Stories, 1927

Quartet, 1928

Perversity, 1928

After Leaving Mr Mackenzie, 1931

Barred, 1932

Voyage In The Dark, 1934

Good Morning, Midnight, 1939

Wide Sargasso Sea, 1966

Tigers are Better Looking, 1968

My Day, 1975

Sleep it off Lady, 1976

Smile Please, 1979

Activities

1. Find out how many of Jean Rhys' novels are in the Public Library.
2.
 - a. Make a list of your favourite books and discuss reasons for your choice.
 - b. Are there any Caribbean books on your list? If so, what do you like about them?
3. Find out about other Dominican writers and the books they have written

Glossary

Calderas	large volcanic depressions
Coordinates	two numbers used to fix the position of a place on a map
Cultural heritage	works of art and folklore passed on from earlier generations
Deforestation	cutting down of trees or clearing of forest areas
Fauna	animals that belong naturally to an area
Flora	plants that belong naturally to an area
Indigenous	native to an area
Infrastructure	the basic systems that a country needs to run properly, e.g. roads and power
Landscape	scenery of an area of land
Lavwé	loud musical chorus
Magma	melted rocks found beneath the earth's Crust
Marine environment	the sea, its contents and coastal area
Molten	melted
Polyp	a very simple form of animal found in water
Recuperative	having the ability to cure sickness, etc.
Seismometer	device or instrument used for detecting earthquakes and recording how strong they are and how long they last
Sustainable	support for future use; able to exist successfully
Terrestrial	of or living on land
Titiree	local name for fish larvae found at the river mouth
Whirlpool	an area in a river or sea where there are whirling currents