**World Regional Geography**

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Lesson 2

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**The Austral Realm**

**Major Geographic Qualities**
- Territorial Dimension
- Relative Location and Isolation
- Peripheral Development
- Highly Clustered Urban Populations
- Exporters of Livestock Products

**Biogeography**
- A sub-field of geography: The spatial arrangement of flora and fauna
- Evolved from the overlap between geography and biology
- Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859) is recognized as the founder
- Sub-divided into 2 main branches:
  - Zoography
  - Phytogeography
- The Austral Region serves as a "laboratory" - why?

**Australia**
- A federal state since 1901
- Comprised of 6 states and 2 territories
- Physiographic Regions
- The Outback - extensive grassland pastures which support one of the world's largest sheep and cattle industries
- Major Urban Centers - Sydney (3.7 million), Melbourne (3.3 million), Canberra (342,000)

**Climate**

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**Biogeography**

- Marsupials were saved from competition with more highly developed mammals.
- Birds unique to Australia also survived, and distinctive trees and plants developed.
- There are about 230 species of mammals, 1000 of birds, 300 of lizards, 140 of snakes, and two of crocodiles.
- Of the mammals, almost half are marsupials. The rest are either placental mammals or monotremes and most are unique to Australia.
ABORIGINAL CLAIMS

AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY
- Principal patterns:
  - Exports raw materials
  - Based heavily on the primary sector activities
  - Depends on world markets
- Import-substitution industries
- Small domestic market
- Tenuous trade links with Asian Tigers

SYDNEY

THE INTERIOR

BEACH ALONG AUSTRALIA'S EAST COAST

Australian Agriculture
NEW ZEALAND
- Two major islands (North and South) and many smaller
- Mountainous environments
- Population of 3.9 million, of which 85% are European
- Maori heritage (Polynesian roots), but a minority today of less than 400,000
- Economic activities

COMMONALITIES (AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND)
- British heritage
- Pastoral economies
- Small internal markets
- Challenges of distance and remote location
- High % urbanization
- Peripheral development
- Concerns with indigenous peoples
- Excellent quality of life for most