



**I AM A FILIPINO:**  
Social Studies for Kinder to Grade 2

# COUNTRY

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# OVERVIEW OF COUNTRY

Dear Parent and Guardian:

Thank you for purchasing Unit 3 of the “I am A Filipino” Series. The focus of Unit 3 is Country. Your students will learn how the Philippines became a country and what its official national symbols are. They will also learn about the country’s 18 administrative regions, its diverse culture, and its tropical climate. Through this material, your students will also acquire knowledge about the Philippines as an archipelago, especially the seas and islands marking its territory; and its main landforms; its bodies of water; and its biodiversity. To make learning fun and memorable, this Unit also contains nine short stories, featuring the adventures of Dakila and Reyna, and their two kids, Alon and Almira, who launched a series of trips to different provinces around the Philippines. These short stories will impart additional information about the country.

Through this Unit, it is our hope that you and your family will revive an interest in visiting more places in the Philippines. Touring the different provinces of the Philippines will help promote ecotourism, and will give your family a bigger picture of our beautiful country.

May God bless your learning activities.

*The Storytellers*

# HOW TO USE THIS MATERIAL

This material has the following headings to help you facilitate each lesson in this Unit.



## FOCUS

This icon indicates what the lesson is about.



## TEACH THE STUDENT

This icon is for the lesson.



## PREPARE

This icon tells what you need to prepare in advance before going through the lesson.



## STORYTIME

This icon contains a relevant story you need to read after giving the lesson.



## COMMENCE

This icon indicates the start of the lesson, which includes prayer and Bible reading.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

This icon contains the guide questions you will ask before doing the lesson activities.



## VOCABULARY WORD

This icon is for the lesson's Vocabulary Word. Stick it on the Learner's Wall, let the student read it aloud. Then explain its meaning to the student.



## ACTIVITY

This icon shows all activities you will complete for the lesson. This includes the cutouts for the vocabulary words and activities for the Kinder, Grade 1, and Grade 2 student.



## OPTIONAL ACTIVITY FOR OUTDOORS

These are optional activities to help reinforce the lessons learned.

# THE PHILIPPINES



## FOCUS

Learn about the Republic of Philippines as a country.



## PREPARE

1. Tools for writing, cutting, coloring, and pasting.



## COMMENCE

1. Begin the lesson by thanking God for the new day, and asking Him for wisdom to complete today's lesson
2. Read Revelation 7:9



## VOCABULARY WORD

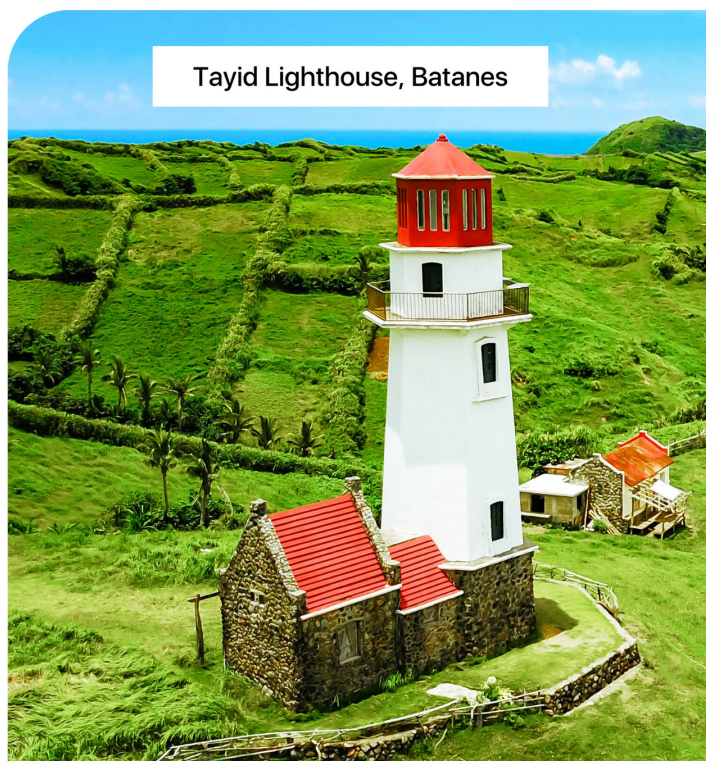
Cut out and stick the vocabulary word COUNTRY on your Learner's Wall (See Lesson 1, ACTIVITY FOR VOCABULARY WORD).



## TEACH THE STUDENT

Our vocabulary word for today is COUNTRY. A country refers to an area of land whose people agree to have one government to set and maintain peace and order. The country of the Filipino people is the Republic of the Philippines. Its three main island groups are Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao (**See Illustration on the next page**).

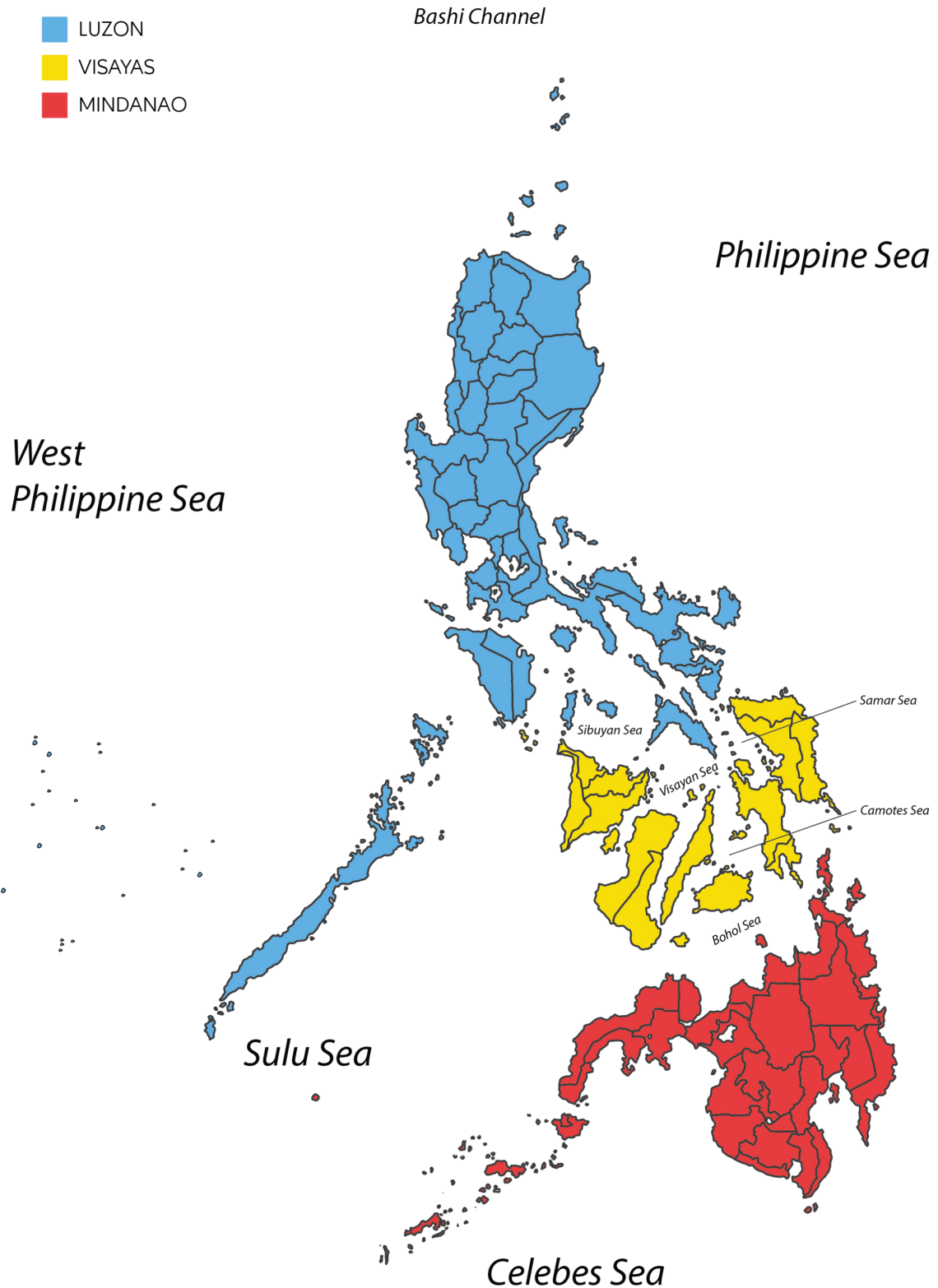
Tayid Lighthouse, Batanes





## UNIT 2, LESSON 1 ILLUSTRATION

The official name of the country is the Republic of the Philippines. Here are the country's three main island groups.



Before the Spanish Empire conquered the Philippines, there was no such thing as a Philippine country. The main islands now part of Philippine territory were once ruled by chieftains. These chiefs were called *datus*, *lakans*, or *rajahs*. Larger villages were organized under the rule of a sultan. The most famous Sultan in Philippine history is Muhammad Dipatuan Kudarat - a powerful ruler in Mindanao who bravely defended the island from the Spanish forces.

When Spanish explorers came to this archipelago, they found many islands valuable to their Empire because of abundant natural resources like spices, tobacco, sugar, rice, iron and gold. Ruy López de Villalobos is one of these explorers. In 1543, he landed in Leyte and Samar and claimed the islands for Prince Phillip of Asturias. He named the islands “Las Islas Filipinas.”



Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño, Cebu

Prince Philip later became King Phillip II of Spain, and continued his Empire’s quest to expand Spain’s control outside Europe. Under his rule, Spain controlled Cebu, Manila, and other provinces in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Spain called their new colony *Filipinas*. They also required their subjects to embrace Roman Catholic Christianity. After 333 years of Spanish rule, Filipino revolutionaries in Luzon, Mindanao, and Visayas grew stronger in the fight for freedom. Knowing they could no longer hold their colony, Spain sold *Filipinas* to the United States of America in 1898 under the Treaty of Paris.

Under the American occupation, the island groups of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao were named *Philippine Islands* and governed as a U.S. colony. Then on July 4, 1946, after 48 years of control, the Americans finally gave the Philippines its independence. That year, the country’s name was officially changed to *Republika ng Pilipinas* or *Republic of the Philippines*.





## STORYTIME

### A CHILDHOOD DREAM

“Daddy, am I a Filipino?” Alon asked his father.

Dakila was busy but his seven-year-old son was more important than work. He turned his chair to face Alon. “You’re a Filipino because your mom and I are Filipinos. Plus, you were born in the Philippines.”

“What is the Philippines?” Alon scratched his itchy head.

“It’s the name of our country.” Dakila pointed at two maps hanging in their living room, which his wife, Reyna, bought online. “Its official name is the Republic of the Philippines.”

Alon shifted his attention from his itch to the first map. This map used three different colors to mark the islands. There was a blue group of islands, a yellow group, and a red group. “Daddy, what do these map colors mean?”

“Let me check.” Dakila stretched and walked to where Alon stood. He looked at the map with three colors.

“The blue group is Luzon.” Dakila paused to check if Alon was listening. “It’s the largest island group in the Philippines. The yellow group of islands is Visayas. This is the smallest group of islands in the country. The red group is Mindanao. It’s the second largest group of islands in the Philippines after Luzon. Did you catch the names?”

Alon did not respond. But Dakila could hear him whispering: “The largest is Luzon. The second is Mindanao. The smallest is Vis...a...”

“Daddy,” Alon tapped his daddy’s tummy to get his attention. “I forgot the name of the smallest group.”

“It’s Visayas. Vi...sa...yas.”



“Visayas... Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. I got it, Daddy!” Alon was glad to know the three island groups of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. And he was happy to know he is a Filipino.

“Perfect! You’re a brilliant boy!” Dakila rubbed Alon’s head and walked back to his desk. His website project was waiting.

“I want to visit all these islands,” Alon said. His eyes scanned all the names of provinces he could read in the second map hanging on the wall. “Have you been to all these places, Daddy?”

Alon’s question stopped Dakila for a moment. He had been to different places in Europe and North America. After their wedding, he and Reyna visited Singapore and Indonesia.

“I’ve been to a few.” Dakila sat back and realized he knew very little about the Philippines. As a kid who grew up in Calamba, Laguna, Dakila dreamed of visiting all the islands of the Philippines - a childhood dream he still wanted to fulfill. He had been Iloilo, Baguio, Pampanga, Davao, and Cebu. But were those all the provinces he could visit during his lifetime?

“Alon,” Dakila called his son. “Let’s visit more places in the Philippines. You’re mom and I will plan some trips.”

“Yessss!” Alon leaped with excited eyes. “It’s an adventure!”

“But Daddy,” Alon tapped Dakila’s tummy. “How about our homework?”

“Bring them.” Dakila grinned at his son. “You’re homeschooled.” [END]





## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the official name of the Philippines today?
2. What are the three main island groups of the Philippines?
3. What are the other names used for village chieftains who once ruled the islands of our archipelago?
4. Who is the most famous sultan in Philippine history?
5. In the story we read, what was Dakila's childhood dream?
6. What did Dakila plan to do at the end of the story?



## ACTIVITY FOR VOCABULARY WORD

*Cut out this vocabulary word and paste it on your Learner's Wall.*



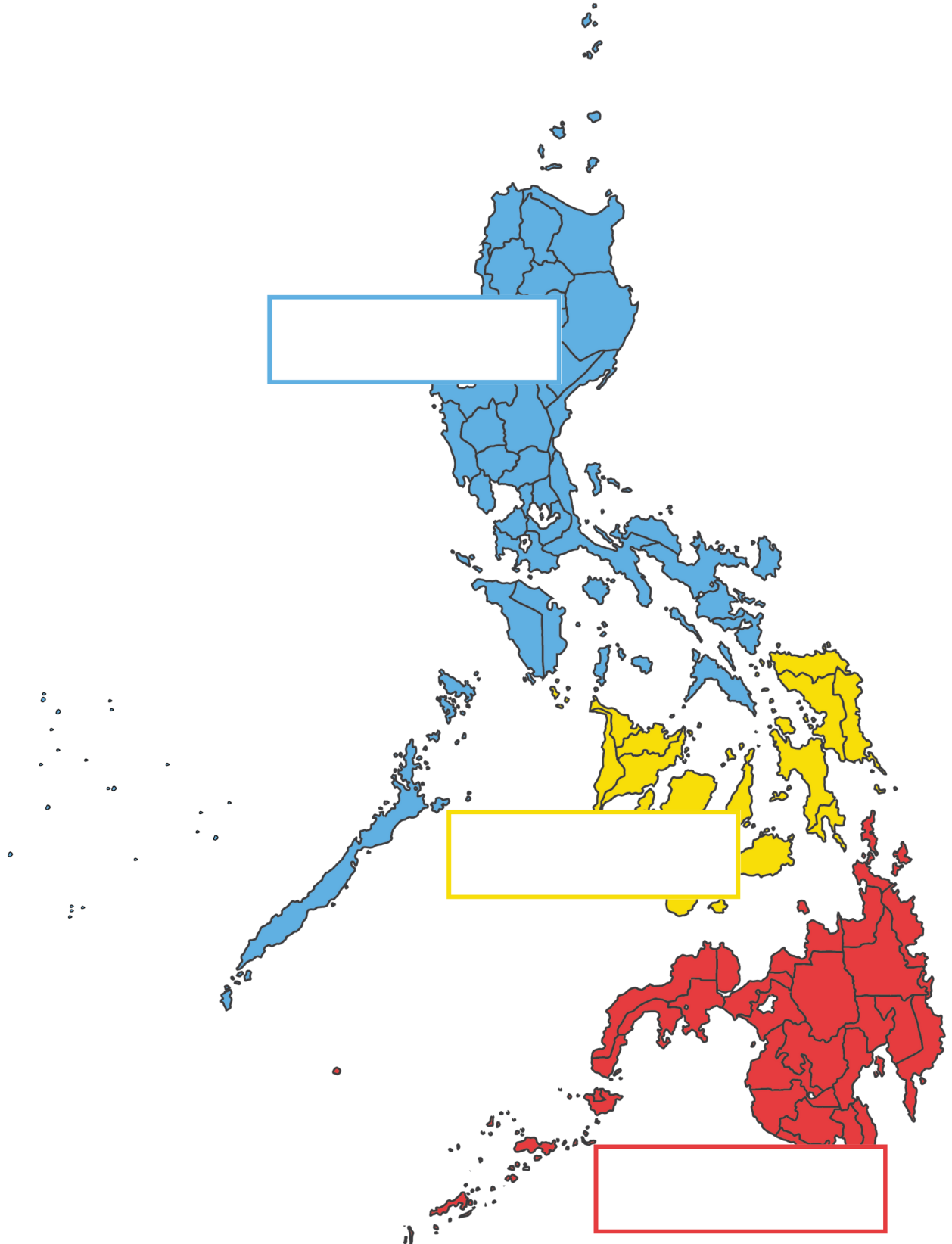
# COUNTRY

"A land where its people agree to have one government for peace and order."



## ACTIVITY FOR KINDER

Write the names of the main islands of the Republic of the Philippines in the blank boxes.





## ACTIVITY FOR GRADE 1

*Draw the map of the Philippines in the box below.*

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a student to draw a map of the Philippines.



# ACTIVITY FOR GRADE 2

Decode this secret message using the symbol code below.

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>L</b>		
<b>M</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Z</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>				

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