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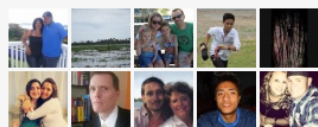
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Facts about The Bering Strait for Kids

Paige Gathered these Facts and Stats for Kids

- The **Bering Strait** is a strait 51 mi; 44 nmi wide between Cape Dezhnev, Chukchi Peninsula, **Russia**, the easternmost point of the Asian **continent** and Cape Prince of Wales, **Alaska, USA**, the westernmost point of the **North American continent**.
- Named after Vitus Bering, a Danish explorer living in **Russia**, it lies slightly south of the polar circle at approximately 65° 40' N latitude, with the present US-**Russia** east-west boundary, agreed to only by the **USA**, at 168° 58' 37" W. The Strait has been the subject of scientific speculation that humans migrated from **Asia** to **North America** across a land bridge known as Beringia when lower **ocean** levels—perhaps a result of **glaciers** locking up vast amounts of water—exposed a ridge beneath the **ocean**.
- As of 2012, the Russian coast of the **Bering Strait** was a closed military zone.
- Unauthorized travelers who arrive on shore after crossing the strait, even those with visas, may be arrested, imprisoned briefly, and deported.
- It connects the Chukchi **Sea** (part of the **Arctic Ocean**) to the north with the **Bering Sea** (part of the **Pacific Ocean**) to the south.
- The International Date Line runs equidistant between the Strait's Diomedes **Islands** at a distance of 1 mi, leaving the Russian and American sides usually on different calendar days, with Cape Dezhnev 21 hours ahead of the American side.
- No roads exist from the Strait to the main cities of **Alaska**, with only a few around Nome.
- Roadless Provideniya (4,500 people) and Chukotsky (5,200 people) lie along the Strait.
- The Diomedes **Islands** lie midway in the Strait.
- From at least 1562 European geographers thought that there was a Strait of Anián between **Asia** and **North America**.
- Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld in 1878/79 sailed along the complete northern coast of **Siberia**, thereby proving that there was no northern land bridge from **Asia** to **North America**.
- In **March** 2006, Briton Karl Bushby and French-American adventurer Dimitri Kieffer crossed the strait on foot, walking across a frozen 90 km (56 mi) section in 15 days.
- In **July**, 2012, six adventurers associated with "Dangerous Waters", a reality adventure show under production, made the crossing on **Sea-Doos** but were arrested and permitted to return to **Alaska** on their **Sea-Doos** after being briefly detained in Lavrentiya, administrative center of the Chukotsky District.
- The men had visas but the western coast of the **Bering Strait** is a closed military zone.
- A physical link between **Asia** and **North America** via the **Bering Strait** nearly became a reality in 1864 when a Russian-American telegraph company began preparations for an overland telegraph line connecting **Europe** and America via the west.
- In 1956, **Russia** purposed a joint project to warm the **Arctic Ocean** and melt some of the ice cap.
- During the **Cold War**, the **Bering Strait** marked the border between the Soviet Union and the **United States**.

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