

Name: _____

LET'S VISIT THE NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands is often called Holland. That is not quite correct. You see, Holland is one of the twelve provinces, which makes up the Netherlands. The country's size is 37,330 square km. That is just over half the size of Tasmania. The people in the Netherlands are called Dutch people and they speak the Dutch language. To you it might sound very much like the German language but it is very different. Some Dutch people could get offended if you thought they were German because you thought they were speaking German and not Dutch. There is lots of water in the Netherlands and dykes hold water back from lakes, rivers and canals. Did you know that almost half of the country is below sea level? Most Dutch people, young and old, ride their push bikes to most places like school, work, sporting grounds or to friends. Millions of bikes occupy the cycle tracks every day. The capital city is Amsterdam but the government sits in The Hague.

What things come to mind when you talk about the Netherlands.

Fill in the names of the Dutch Provinces on the map. Use an atlas to help you.

Groningen
Friesland
Drenthe
Overijssel
Flevoland
Gelderland
Utrecht
North Holland
South Holland
Zeeland
North Brabant
Limburg

Write a short story about an imaginary holiday to the Netherlands with your best friend. What kind of things could you do there? Which places would you visit?

