

## **Brilliant Maps for Curious Minds**

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This is one of those books that catches your eye, so you have to take a peak. And it's a book of maps! All kinds of them about all kinds of topics. Divided into sections like geography, cultures, nature and history, this book lives up to its subtitle of '100 New Ways to See the World.'

Here's a sampling of what's inside:

- Countries and overseas territories that each have smaller populations than Greater Tokyo – One of those countries is Canada. So, think about it. The vast reach of land we know as Canada has less people in its entirety than Greater Tokyo. How big must Tokyo be? Wow!
- Who are the world's speed demons? The highest speed limit around the world – And the US is about the middle of the pack on this one
- Most commonly spoken languages after English and Spanish – Illinois's is Polish. And I learned that Tagalog is the basis of the language of the Philippines which is common in California and Nevada
- How to write the date in different countries – The US is one of the few countries that writes it by Month/Day/Year while the majority of the world writes it by Day/Month/Year
- Countries that have no McDonald's – Yes, they do exist but they're mostly in Africa. Otherwise, the Golden Arches is pretty much worldwide

And many, many more maps. This book is just plain fun as it does what a good book should do...piques your interest and draws you in with its story which this one weaves with maps.