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Social Studies

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To Market, To Market



Genre	Comprehension Skills and Strategy	Text Features
Narrative nonfiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawing Conclusions• Fact and Opinion• Answer Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heads• Glossary• Map

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by Marianne Lenihan
illustrated by Reggie Holladay





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Greetings, young people! My name is Americus, and I'm a mouse. My family named me Americus because I was born right here in the United States of Americus . . . I mean, America!

I've always dreamed about traveling around the world. Would you like to join me on my adventure?

Don't worry about packing a suitcase or an **atlas**. Just turn the page to start on our journey. All **aboard!**





First Stop: Ireland!

Here we are on the magnificent island country of Ireland. One reason I wanted to come to Ireland is because I really like outdoor markets. You know what those are, don't you? There are lots of open-air markets in the United States. Sometimes they're called flea markets, garage sales, farm stands, or county fairs. Is there any other kind of open-air market that you've been to or heard about? Markets are a good way to learn about a region's culture.

The Ballinasloe open-air market in the county of Galway is different. Everyone here buys and sells horses or cattle. Hop on!

Ireland is well known for having some of the finest horses in the world. Look over there at the strong work horses the farmers brought. I see a show horse that will probably entertain and even compete in shows. Of course, there are Shetland ponies for the children to ride.





Indian Bazaars

India is a country on the continent of Asia. Many Indians make their living by selling homemade goods at their outdoor markets called bazaars.

Let's stop in Mysore first. Doesn't the air smell pungent and sweet? The Devaraja Fruit and Vegetable Market is one of India's biggest street markets. Let's buy flowers, fruits, and delicious vegetables like plantains and peppers.



The next Indian town we will visit is Darjiling. You might have a package of delicious tea at home that is named for this town. Darjiling is known for its many hillside tea gardens.

Darjiling is also known for its miniature toy train. Passengers can ride for nine hours up hills and around curves.





The Kuranda Markets

Now let's head for Australia and the Atherton Tableland with its world-famous markets. First, let's stop in the village of Kuranda—it is right in the middle of the rain forest's lush trees.

Here's the marketplace! The local artists are selling everything from pottery to jewelry to clothing. I think I will buy that painting of the rain forest to remind me of beautiful Australia.



An emu is a very large bird. Emu oil is supposed to soothe sore joints. Here you can buy emu oil. That can be hard to find sometimes, back in the United States.

The markets remind me of American farmer's markets and outdoor craft shows. The thing I like best about these markets is watching the vendors, or sellers, make their crafts. Look at the cobbler over there crafting leather belts. I'm heading over to the ice-cream maker for a yummy mango and papaya ice-cream cone.





A Marketplace in Uganda

We're now in the country of Uganda, which is in Africa. Uganda is known for its beautiful waterfalls and its busy marketplaces. Many people in this country sell sheep, fruits, and vegetables at the market.

Hear that roar of water? That comes from Kabalega Falls. The rain forest here is beautiful, but the air is hot and heavy. It will be a **miracle** if it doesn't rain.



Here we are at the Ugandan marketplace! Look at those colorful bananas, limes, apples, and tomatoes! The little tin roof looks **awkward**, but it keeps the sun off the vendors. It also keeps the fruits and vegetables from spoiling.

Other vendors are cooking meat and selling it on counters made from palm leaves.

People catch perch and other kinds of fish in the local rivers. They sell them at the bazaar.





Next Stop: Gambia!

This country has many exciting open-air markets. They are noisy, crowded, and full of wonderful things to buy and eat. Which town should we explore first?

Let's start in Banjul. The Albert Market is right in the center of town. This market's **capable** vendors sell clothes and household goods, along with fruits and vegetables. Their voices are loud and inviting. One gets up to show us his wares and then **reseats** himself in the shade of a leafy palm tree.



Next is Jufureh, a small village on the Gambia River not far from Banjul. Here we are at the market. How crowded and noisy it is!

Over there, some women are pounding a grain called millet. Later, this grain will be used to make bread. As the women work, they **chant** African songs.

Over there, local artists are painting pictures to sell. They use bright, bold colors to paint pictures about life in their village.





Saquisilí Market

Before our journey ends, let's visit the South American country of Ecuador. Ecuador is a small country located on the equator. It is very rich in history and culture.

Let's visit the town of Saquisilí. There we'll find an open-air market that hasn't changed for many years.

The people are descendants of the Incas and dress in colorful clothing. They wear brimmed hats trimmed with ribbon. They use the wool from sheep and llamas to make warm sweaters and colorful ponchos. A very kind weaver took the time to weave this sweater just for me!

You can smell the rich spices the people of Ecuador use in their cooking. I see some women buying spices to take home to use in their soups and stews. We should buy some and try them on our hamburgers back home!





Back in the U.S.A.

Phew! Here we are, back home in the United States of America. There's no place more wonderful than your own country, is there?

While I'm happy to be home, I still have this open-air market "bug" in my system. I plan to check out some open-air markets right here in the United States.

Let's go first to Phoenix, Arizona!



There are a lot of vendors at the Phoenix Farmers Market! All of the people selling things live in this area. Most vendors sell their goods year-round.

It's time to push on to Madison, Wisconsin, and the Dane County Farmers Market. This market is so popular with vendors that there is a waiting list to sell here. The market is held every Wednesday and Saturday, all year round. People come to buy cheese, baked goods, meats, herbs, flowers, and plants.





Have you ever been to the world's largest yard sale? It measures 450 miles and goes from Kentucky through Tennessee to Alabama. You can find everything from an antique **vehicle** to old tools and equipment to **mechanical** toys.

Now let's head to New York City and the Feast of San Gennaro. This street festival honors the patron saint of Naples, San Gennaro. It is held in September in the section of Manhattan known as Little Italy.

I think I'm going to have a big Italian sausage sandwich!



I can't believe our journey has ended. We've visited some of the best open-air markets in the world. We have seen how people live and eat and, most of all, we saw the things that people treasure. We met interesting friendly people everywhere, and we tasted new foods along the way.

It's time now for you to plan an adventure of your own. Make it exciting and educational. Don't forget to invite me to join you on your wonderful adventure!

Open Air Markets Around the World





Glossary

aboard *adv.* on a ship, plane, or bus.

atlas *n.* a book of maps.

awkward *adj.* lacking skill or grace.

capable *adj.* being able to perform.

chant *v.* to sing on one tone.

mechanical *adj.* having to do with a machine or machinery.

miracle *n.* an outstanding event.

reseats *v.* sits down again.

vehicle *n.* anything with wheels that is used to carry something.



Reader Response

1. What things are common to every open-air market? Draw your own conclusions and put them in one or two sentences.
2. List some things that are for sale in outdoor markets around the world.
3. Many of these words appear in this book: *artist, farmer, governor, seller, machinist, sailor, vendor, weaver*. Copy all the words into column 1 of a chart like the one below. In column 2, write the suffix for each word. In column 3, write what the suffix means.

Word	Suffix	Meaning of Suffix

4. What do you think your family might buy and sell at an open-air market? Explain why you chose these items.

