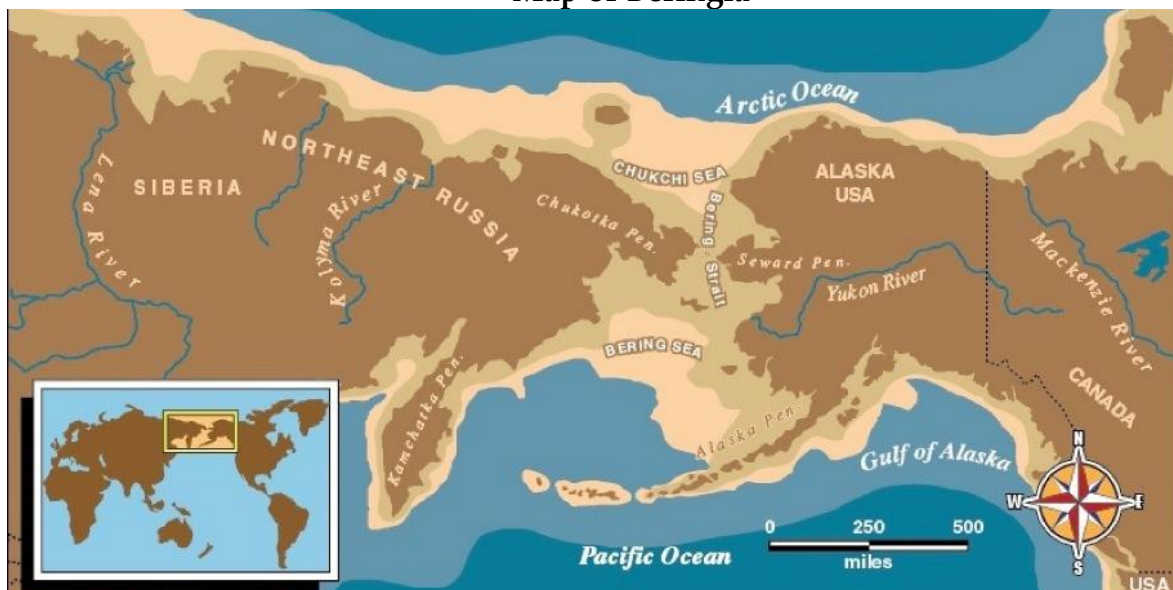


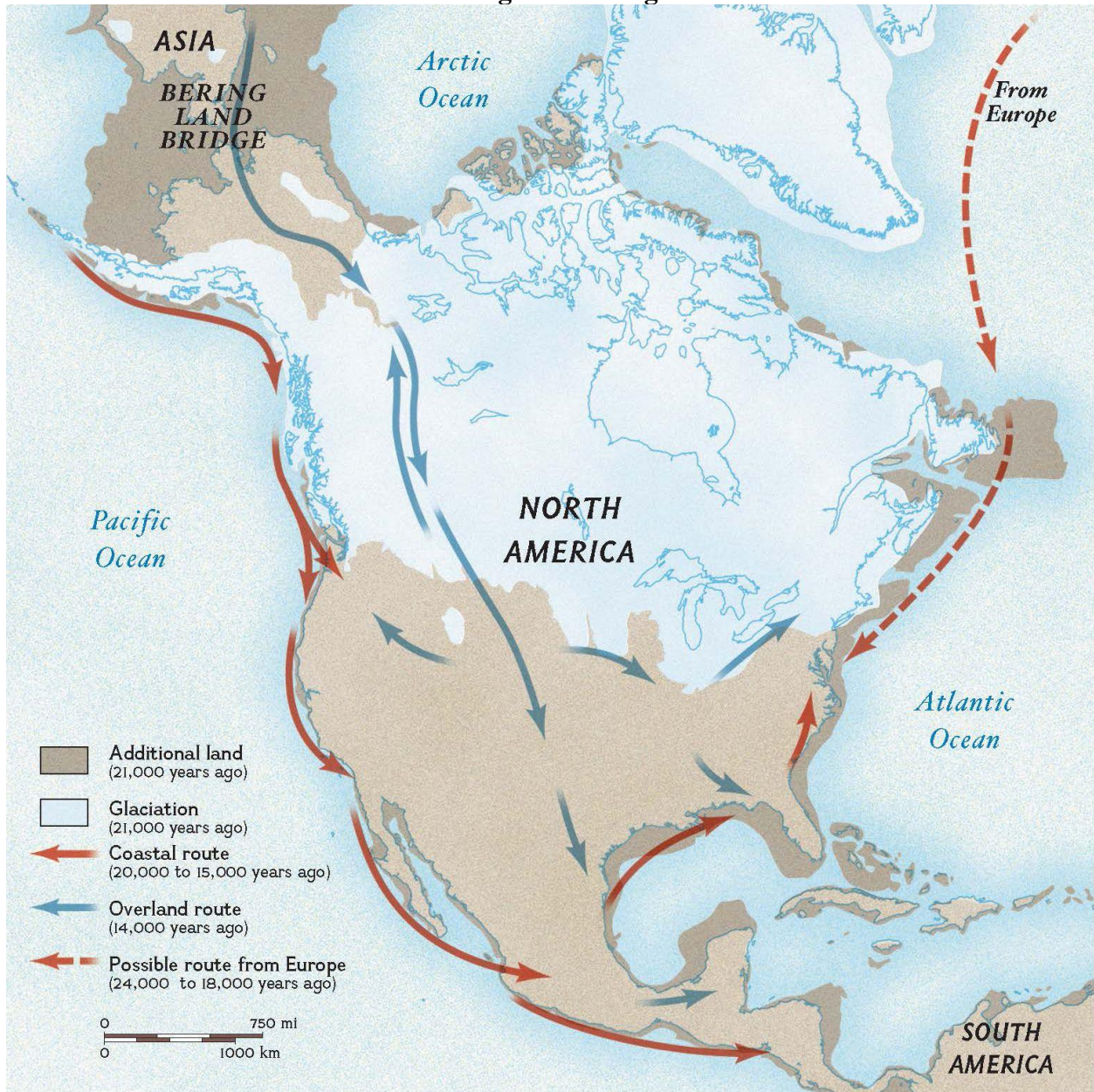
Beringia – The Bering Land Bridge

- Beringia existed during a time when much of Canada was covered in massive sheets of ice. Because of its arid climate, Beringia remained untouched by glaciers. Instead, the landscape consisted mainly of vast steppe tundra which could support a broad variety of flora and fauna.
- Part of Beringia's uniqueness stems from the formation of this huge subcontinent during the last (**Wisconsinan**) Ice Age.
 - By 40,000 years ago, significant ice advance began building to a **glacial maximum** which occurred about 20,000 years ago.
 - It is this last glacial maximum that is best documented in Beringia, with **lowered sea levels** (as much as 125 metres) and the formation of the wide grassy tundra that joined the continents of Asia and North America.
- Cold and arid, Beringia was clothed in the: **hardy grasses, herbs, dwarf birch and willows** of the Mammoth Steppe.
- This plant life supported such extinct species as the **woolly mammoth, the mastodon, the steppe bison, the giant beaver, the North American horse, and camel**.
- Also present were **large predators - the giant short-faced bear, the American lion and the scimitar cat**.
- Following the herds of the Mammoth Steppe, and certainly one of the most formidable hunters, were the first people.
- Ultimately to populate the entire North and South American continents, ancestors of Yukon's First Nations people made their home in Beringia during the last Ice Age by about 24,000 years ago.

Map of Beringia



Bering Land Bridge



Beringia Worksheet

Name: _____

Part A – Vocabulary – define the following words:

1. Artifact
2. Archeology
3. Atlatl
4. Bering Strait
5. Clovis People
6. Extinct
7. Fossil
8. Glacier
9. Ice Age
10. Migrate
11. Nomad
12. Paleontology
13. Pleistocene
14. Pre-historic
15. Siberia
16. Taiga
17. Tundra

For Part B: Google search: Beringia Vocabulary - Plain Local Schools

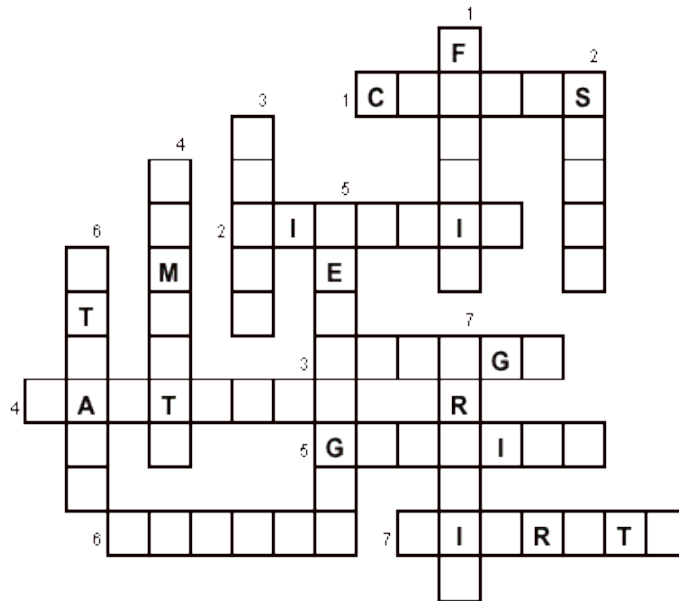
Part B – Animal Life – write a brief description of the appearance of the following animals that lived in this time:

1. Giant Beaver
2. Woolly Mammoth
3. Western Camel
4. American Mastodon
5. Steppe Bison
6. Saiga Antelope
7. Ice Age Horse
8. Short Faced Bear
9. Jefferson Ground Sloth



Part C – Finish the Crossword Puzzle on the back

Puzzle # 1 -- What do you know about the earliest history of North America?



Across:

- 1 - name given to America's first hunter tribes.
- 2 - region of Asia once linked by land to America
- 3 - time when the earth's temperature is low.
- 4 - elephant-like animal that once lived in the U.S
- 5 - thick and large sheet of ice and snow.
- 6 - U.S. state that humans first put foot on.
- 7 - to travel and live in new places.

Down:

- 1- ancient remnant of animal or plant.
- 2- pointed weapon used to hunt big game.
- 3- another name for buffalo.
- 4- thick-furred creature as large as an elephant.
- 5- land once connecting Asia and N. America.
- 6- early hunting weapon used like a sling-shot.
- 7- cold northern region of the earth.