WORLD CULTURES AND GEOGRAPHY
SOCIAL STUDIES GRADE 6 ENRICHMENT

THE EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2099 Pennington Road
Ewing, NJ 08618

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In accordance with The Ewing Public Schools’ Policy 2230, Course Guides, this curriculum has been reviewed and found to be in compliance with all policies and all affirmative action criteria.
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preface</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope of Essential Learning:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1: Introduction to World Cultures (10 Days)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2: World Culture Project (25 Days)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preface

The goal of this enrichment is to enable students to develop an understanding of their world through an examination of a variety of world cultures and issues. This understanding will be achieved through a comparison of events, people and their accomplishments, as well as the effects of the political, economic and geographical factors on the development of each culture. After an introduction to the course, the students will work on collaborative projects that will bring this class to life.
Unit 1: Introduction to World Cultures (10 Days)

Why Is This Unit Important?

This unit will provide the students the opportunity to identify institutions that are common to all societies. The Five Themes of Geography will serve as a framework upon which the content of geography will be taught. This unit is the precursor to a world cultures project.

Enduring Understandings:

• Institutions are present in all modern societies
• Cultures and customs are reflective of the history of a country.
• Understand how geography influences where and how people live.

Essential Questions:

• What are common institutions?
• How does the culture and customs reflect the history of a country?
• How are the Five Themes of Geography valuable in understanding and developing a geographic perspective?

Acquired Knowledge

• Explain the Five Themes of Geography.
• Recognize that customs and cultures are similar and different.
• Determine the importance of institutions within a country.

Acquired Skills:

• Compare and contrast cultural information.
• Apply the Five Themes of Geography to different cultures.
• Identify how climate affects how people live.

Benchmarks and Major Assessments

Formative Assessment
• Open discussion on world cultures
• Create posters that reflect the Five Themes of Geography
• Utilize a graphic organizer that will compare and contrast cultural information

Summative Assessment
• Unit Test: Multiple Choice, Short Response, Essay
Interdisciplinary Connections:

- Reading strategies such as cause and effect
- Analyzing pictures

Accommodations and Modifications

- Study guides for unit test
- Review games
- Copy of notes for slow writers to use and return to teacher
- Fill-in-the-blank chapter note sheets for lower learners and IEP students
- Highlight key words on quizzes and tests
- Assign certain reading passages to lower level students ahead of reading aloud for students to practice on their own

Common Core and Social Studies Content Standards:

Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies: Grades 6-8:
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1-2
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4-5
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7-8

Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies: Grades 6-8:
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.2, 7-8

Teacher Resources:

- [Http://teacherpayteacher.com](http://teacherpayteacher.com), Five Themes of Geography
- [http://teacherpayteacher.com](http://teacherpayteacher.com), Cultures
- Teacher pay Teacher; [http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/](http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/)

Technology Integration:

- Internet research using the web
- Google Earth
- Google Maps
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Publisher)
Unit 2: World Culture Project (25 Days)

Why Is This Unit Important?

The world cultures project will be a culminating activity utilizing the information presented in Unit 1. It is also expected that the students will be able to collaborate with others to bring this project to fruition.

Enduring Understandings:

- There is a relationship between the Five Themes of Geography and the country that they research.
- All countries have institutions, but each country uses them differently.
- All countries have created a culture and customs.

Essential Questions:

- How do institutions support or hinder its citizens?
- How are customs created and passed on from one generation to another?
- How do the Five Themes of Geography guide us to understand the relationship between where and how people live?

Acquired Knowledge

- How are countries similar and different?
- Compare and contrast cultures and customs.
- Recognize what culture is.
- Know and apply the Five Themes of Geography.

Acquired Skills:

- Oral presentation skills
- Map and geography skills
- Collaborative skills
- Research skills

Benchmarks and Major Assessments

Formative Assessment

- Flag project
- Culture box project
- Research project and oral presentation
Summative Assessment:
• Short response and essay

Interdisciplinary Connections:
• Reading strategies such as cause and effect
• Analyzing pictures
• Concept map
• Flag and cultural box assessment (Language Arts and Art)

Accommodations and Modifications
• Study guides for unit test
• Review games
• Copy of notes for slow writers to use and return to teacher
• Fill-in-the-blank chapter note sheets for lower learners and IEP students
• Highlight key words on quizzes and tests
• Assign certain reading passages to lower level students ahead of reading aloud for students to practice on their own

Common Core and Social Studies Content Standards:
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• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7-9

Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies: Grades 6-8:
• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.2, 7-8

Teacher Resources:
• http://teacherpayteacher.cultures.com
• http://teacherpayteacher.5themesofgeography

Technology Integration:
• Internet research using the web: Research a country’s customs and culture
• Google Earth
• Google Maps
• Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Publisher)