

SCHOOL: Central Middle School
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SYLLABUS

Course name- 6th grade Social Studies/World Geography

Teacher name- Miss Kerry Duffy

Texts/ instructional materials- Geography: The World and its People, Glencoe, 2002.

Additional supplementary materials.

Objective-Over the course of the year students will be studying the five themes of geography. These are; Location, Region, Movement, Place, and Human/Environment interaction. Students will be learning about the major topics and applying some major skills. Students will also be answering essential geography questions.

Major Topics:

- Culture
- Government
- Economy
- History
- Physical Features
- Current Events
- Colonization/Independence
- Population
- Religion
- Environment
- Climate
- Immigration
- Major Cities

Regions:

- Middle East
- Europe Russia
- Asia
- Australia
- Africa
- South America
- Russia

Major Skills:

- Using globes and maps
- Learning map basics
- Using graphs, charts, and diagrams
- The five themes of geography

Essential Geography Questions

Basic Skills

1. How does geography influence population?
2. What is the difference between absolute and relative location?
3. How do graphs and charts convey geographic information?
4. What are the different types of economies?
5. How does climate influence the way that people live?
6. Identify and locate major countries and cities outside of North America.

Middle East

1. How does Middle Eastern oil affect the world's economy?
2. What are the three major religious groups in the Middle East?
3. What are the various conflicts involving the Middle East?

Europe

1. What are the purposes and achievements of the development of the European Union?
2. How did the fall of the Soviet Union influence the environment and geography of Europe?

3. How did World War I and World War II shape the map of Europe?
4. What are the causes of immigration in Europe?

Russia

1. What are the European and Asian influences in Russia?
2. What are the major causes of the rise and fall of the Soviet Union?
3. What are the environmental issues in Russia?

Eastern Europe

1. How did the collapse of the Soviet Union influence the cultural and geographic composition of Eastern Europe?

India

1. What were the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi?
2. What are some of the economic and population issues concerning India's rapid growth/development?
3. How did the caste system influence political and social lives of citizens in India?

China

1. What are some of the economic and population issues concerning China's rapid growth/development?
2. How does China's communist government influence human rights in China?
3. How does China's political philosophy affect its relationship with its neighbors?

Japan and the Koreas

1. How did World War I affect Japan's economic and military standing in the world?
2. What are the population issues in Japan?
3. How did the Korean War affect the political make-up of Korea?

Southeast Asia

1. How did the Vietnam War affect the Southeast Asian region?
2. Why is Singapore a major economic power?

Australia/New Zealand

1. What is the Great Barrier Reef?
2. How does the topography of Australia affect the cultural conditions?
3. What countries make-up Oceania?

Africa

1. How did the rise and fall of European colonization influence Africa?
2. What was apartheid and how did it affect South Africa?
3. What were the contributions of Nelson Mandela?

South America

1. How has religion affected traditional South American culture?
2. What are the major obstacles to economic development in many South American countries?
3. What are the environmental issues that are caused by the destruction of the rainforest?

Assessment Tools:

Homework 20%

Class participation 15%

Quizzes 30%

Tests 35%