

Topic: Africa

Days: 30

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

7.1.9.B - Essential

Explain and locate places and regions.

- How regions are created to interpret Earth's complexity (i.e., the differences among formal regions, functional regions, perceptual regions)
- How characteristics contribute to regional changes (e.g., economic development, accessibility, demographic change)
- How culture and experience influence perceptions of places and regions
- How structures and alliances impact regions
 - Development (e.g., First vs. Third World, North vs. South)
 - Trade (e.g., NAFTA, the European Union)
 - International treaties (e.g., NATO, OAS)
- /ul>
 - How regions are connected (e.g., watersheds and river systems, patterns of world trade, cultural ties, migration)

7.2.9.A - Important

Explain the physical characteristics of places and regions including spatial patterns of Earth's physical systems.

- Climate regions
- Landform regions

7.3.9.B - Essential

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their cultural characteristics.

- Ethnicity of people at national levels (e.g., customs, celebrations, languages, religions)
- Culture distribution (e.g., ethnic enclaves and neighborhoods)
- Cultural diffusion (e.g., acculturation and assimilation, cultural revivals of language)

7.3.9.D - Important

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their economic activities.

- Spatial distribution of economic activities in Pennsylvania and the United States (e.g., patterns of agriculture, forestry, mining, retailing, manufacturing, services)
- Factors that shape spatial patterns of economic activity both Nationally and internationally (e.g., comparative advantage in location of economic activities; changes in resource trade; disruption of trade flows)
- Technological changes that affect the definitions of, access to, and use of natural resources (e.g., the role of exploration, extraction, use and depletion of resources)

7.4.9.B - Important

Explain the impacts of people on physical systems.

- Forces by which people modify the physical environment (e.g., increasing population; new agricultural techniques; industrial processes and pollution)
- Spatial effects of activities in one region on another region (e.g., scrubbers on power plants to clean air, transportation systems such as Trans-Siberian Railroad, potential effects of fallout from nuclear power plant accidents)

Topic: Asia

Days: 40

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

7.1.9.B - Essential

Explain and locate places and regions.

- How regions are created to interpret Earth's complexity (i.e., the differences among formal regions, functional regions, perceptual regions)
- How characteristics contribute to regional changes (e.g., economic development, accessibility, demographic change)
- How culture and experience influence perceptions of places and regions
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 - Trade (e.g., NAFTA, the European Union)
 - International treaties (e.g., NATO, OAS)
- How regions are connected (e.g., watersheds and river systems, patterns of world trade, cultural ties, migration)

7.2.9.A - Important

Explain the physical characteristics of places and regions including spatial patterns of Earth's physical systems.

- Climate regions
- Landform regions

7.3.9.B - Essential

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their cultural characteristics.

- Ethnicity of people at national levels (e.g., customs, celebrations, languages, religions)
- Culture distribution (e.g., ethnic enclaves and neighborhoods)
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7.3.9.D - Important

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their economic activities.

- Spatial distribution of economic activities in Pennsylvania and the United States (e.g., patterns of agriculture, forestry, mining, retailing, manufacturing, services)
- Factors that shape spatial patterns of economic activity both Nationally and internationally (e.g., comparative advantage in location of economic activities; changes in resource trade; disruption of trade flows)
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7.4.9.A - Compact

Explain the impacts of physical systems on people.

- How people depend on, adjust to and modify physical systems on a National scale (e.g., soil conservation programs, projects of The Corps of Engineers)
- Ways in which people in hazard-prone areas adjust their ways of life (e.g., building design in earthquake areas, dry-farming techniques in drought-prone areas)

7.4.9.B - Important

Explain the impacts of people on physical systems.

- Forces by which people modify the physical environment (e.g., increasing population; new agricultural techniques; industrial processes and pollution)
- Spatial effects of activities in one region on another region (e.g., scrubbers on power plants to clean air, transportation systems such as Trans-Siberian Railroad, potential effects of fallout from nuclear power plant accidents)

Topic: Europe

Days: 40

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

7.1.9.B - Essential

Explain and locate places and regions.

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 - Trade (e.g., NAFTA, the European Union)
 - International treaties (e.g., NATO, OAS)
- How regions are connected (e.g., watersheds and river systems, patterns of world trade, cultural ties, migration)

7.2.9.A - Important

Explain the physical characteristics of places and regions including spatial patterns of Earth's physical systems.

- Climate regions
- Landform regions

7.3.9.B - Essential

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their cultural characteristics.

- Ethnicity of people at national levels (e.g., customs, celebrations, languages, religions)
- Culture distribution (e.g., ethnic enclaves and neighborhoods)
- Cultural diffusion (e.g., acculturation and assimilation, cultural revivals of language)

7.3.9.D - Important

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their economic activities.

- Spatial distribution of economic activities in Pennsylvania and the United States (e.g., patterns of agriculture, forestry, mining, retailing, manufacturing, services)
- Factors that shape spatial patterns of economic activity both Nationally and internationally (e.g., comparative advantage in location of economic activities; changes in resource trade; disruption of trade flows)
- Technological changes that affect the definitions of, access to, and use of natural resources (e.g., the role of exploration, extraction, use and depletion of resources)

7.3.9.E - Compact

E. Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their political activities.

- Spatial pattern of political units in the United States
- Geographic factors that affect decisions made in the United States (e.g., territorial expansion, boundary delineation, allocation of natural resources)
- Political and public policies that affect geography (e.g., open space, urban development)

7.4.9.B - Important

Explain the impacts of people on physical systems.

- Forces by which people modify the physical environment (e.g., increasing population; new agricultural techniques; industrial processes and pollution)
- Spatial effects of activities in one region on another region (e.g., scrubbers on power plants to clean air, transportation systems such as Trans-Siberian Railroad, potential effects of fallout from nuclear power plant accidents)

Topic: Introduction to Geography

Days: 15

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

7.1.9.B - Essential

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- How regions are connected (e.g., watersheds and river systems, patterns of world trade, cultural ties, migration)

7.3.9.B - Essential

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their cultural characteristics.

- Ethnicity of people at national levels (e.g., customs, celebrations, languages, religions)
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7.1.9.A - Essential

Explain geographic tools and their uses.

- Development and use of geographic tools
 - Geographic information systems [GIS]
 - Population pyramids
 - Cartograms
 - Satellite-produced images
 - Climate graphs
 - Access to computer-based geographic data (e.g., Internet, CD-ROMs)
- Construction of maps
 - Projections
 - Scale
 - Symbol systems
 - Level of generalization
 - Types and sources of data
- Geographic representations to track spatial patterns
 - Weather
 - Migration
 - Environmental change (e.g., tropical forest reduction, sea-level changes)
- Mental maps to organize and understand the human and physical features of the United States

7.2.9.B - Compact

Explain the dynamics of the fundamental processes that underlie the operation of Earth's physical systems.

- Wind systems
- Water cycle
- Erosion/deposition cycle
- Plate tectonics
- Ocean currents
- Natural hazards

Topic: Issues & Themes

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 20

Grade(s): 8th

7.3.9.A - Essential

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their population characteristics.

- Spatial distribution, size, density and demographic characteristics of population at the state and National level
- Demographic structure of a population (e.g., life expectancy, fertility rate, mortality rate, infant mortality rate, population growth rate, the demographic transition model)
- Effects of different types and patterns of human movement
 - Mobility (e.g., travel for business)
 - Migration (e.g., rural to urban, short term vs. long term, critical distance)

7.3.9.C - Compact

Explain the human characteristics of places and regions by their settlement characteristics.

- Current and past settlement patterns in Pennsylvania and the United States
- Forces that have re-shaped modern settlement patterns (e.g., central city decline, suburbanization, the development of transport systems)
- Internal structure of cities (e.g., manufacturing zones, inner and outer suburbs, the location of infrastructure)

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Topic: Middle East

Days: 30

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

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7.2.9.A - Important

Explain the physical characteristics of places and regions including spatial patterns of Earth's physical systems.

- Climate regions
- Landform regions

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Topic: Pacific Oceania & Antarctica

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 9

Grade(s): 8th

7.1.9.B - Essential

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7.2.9.A - Important

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- Climate regions
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7.3.9.E - Compact

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