

Topic: Africa

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 30

Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

Africa's location has played a role in its history, culture, and international relations in the past and present.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How do various issues on the African continent impact their people and the world?



Concept:

North Africa

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.3.9.D

Concept:

Sub-Saharan Africa

7.4.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.3.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.1.9.B



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How has North Africa become more economically and politically stable than Sub-Saharan Africa? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to North Africa? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to Sub-Saharan Africa? (A)



Vocabulary:

Desertification, Guerilla

Vocabulary:

Additional Information:

www.kidscanmakeadifference.org

Attached Document(s):

Vocab Report for Topic: Africa

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 30

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

North Africa

Desertification -

the transformation of arable land into desert either naturally or through human invention

Guerilla -

a member of an armed force that is not part of a regular army; relating to a form of warfare carried on by such an independent armed force

Topic: Asia
 Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 40
 Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

Asia's location has played a role in its culture and international relations in the past and the present.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How does Asia's location impact its role in history and the world in which we live?



Concept:

East Asia

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.3.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.4.9.A, 7.4.9.B

Concept:

Southeast Asia

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.3.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.4.9.A, 7.4.9.B

Concept:

South Asia

7.2.9.A, 7.1.9.B, 7.3.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.4.9.A, 7.4.9.B



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How have these nations been shaped by leaders, economics, population, and world events to evolve from regional powers to global powers? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to Asia? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How has this region been impacted by man-made and natural disasters (i.e., Vietnam war, Killing Fields, Tsunami 2004)? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How have these nations been shaped by religion, culture, population, and world events? (A)



Vocabulary:

Archipelago, Communism, Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), Hydroelectric Power, Maritime

Vocabulary:

Guerilla

Vocabulary:

Additional Information:

Attached Document(s):

Vocab Report for Topic: Asia

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 40

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

East Asia

Archipelago -

a group of islands

Communism -

a system on government in which the government controls the means of production, determining what goods will be made, how much workers will be paid, and how much items will cost

Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) -

An area of land on which troops or weapons are not allowed

Hydroelectric Power -

electricity that is generated by moving water

Maritime -

bordering on or near the sea; relating to navigation or shipping

Concept:

Southeast Asia

Guerilla -

a member of an armed force that is not part of a regular army; relating to a form of warfare carried on by such an independent armed force

Topic: Europe

Days: 40

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

Europe's location has played a role in its history, culture, and international relations in the past and the present.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How does Europe's location impact its role in history and the world in which we live?



Concept:

Western & Northern Europe

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.3.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.3.9.E

Concept:

Southern Europe

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.3.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.3.9.E

Concept:

Eastern Europe

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.A, 7.3.9.B, 7.3.9.D, 7.3.9.E



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How does the settlement pattern of an ethnic group impact political divisions and relationships? (A)

Why did the Holocaust occur and what was the impact on Europe and the world? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to western and northern Europe? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How does the settlement pattern of an ethnic group impact political divisions and relationships? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to southern Europe? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How does the settlement pattern of an ethnic group impact political divisions and relationships? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to eastern Europe? (A)



Vocabulary:

Euro, Tariff, Geothermal Energy, Navigable, Neutral, Fjord

Vocabulary:

inhabitable

Vocabulary:

Nationalize, Communism, Multiethnic, Ghetto, Perestroika, Permafrost, Balkanize, Dialects, Ethnic Groups, Glasnost

Topic: Europe

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 40

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

Russia & Its Neighbors

[7.3.9.B](#), [7.3.9.E](#), [7.1.9.B](#)



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How does the settlement pattern of an ethnic group impact political divisions and relationships? (A)

How does Russia impact global events? (A)

Why is it difficult to "classify" Russia and its neighbors? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to Russia and its neighbors? (A)



Vocabulary:

Additional Information:

Attached Document(s):

[Cause and Effect](#)

[Compare Contrast Summary](#)

[Fish Bone Cause Effect](#)

Vocab Report for Topic: Europe

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 40

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

Western & Northern Europe

Euro -

the common currency used by member nations of the European Union

Tariff -

a tax imposed by a government on imported goods

Geothermal Energy -

energy produced from the earth's intense interior heat

Navigable -

deep and wide enough to allow the passage of ships

Neutral -

not taking sides in a war

Fjord -

a narrow valley or inlet from the sea, originally carved out by an advancing glacier and filled by melting glacial ice

Concept:

Southern Europe

inhabitable -

able to support permanent residents

Concept:

Eastern Europe

Nationalize -

to bring a business under state control

Vocab Report for Topic: Europe

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 40

Grade(s): 8th

Communism -

a system of government in which the government controls the means of production, determining what goods will be made, how much workers will be paid, and how much items will cost

Multiethnic -

composed of many ethnic groups

Ghetto -

a section of a city in which a particular minority group is forced to live

Perestroika -

in the former Soviet Union, a policy of economic restructuring

Permafrost -

a layer of soil just below the earth's surface that stays permanently frozen

Balkanize -

to break up into small, mutually hostile political units, as occurred in the Balkans after World War I

Dialects -

a variation of a spoken language that is unique to a region or community

Ethnic Groups -

people who share things such as culture, language, and religion

Glasnost -

a policy of openness introduced in the Soviet Union in the late 1980's

Topic: Introduction to Geography

Days: 15

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

Geography is the study of the interaction and relationship between the earth and its people. The use and analysis of geographic tools helps us understand this relationship.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How do people interact with the earth?

Concept:

Map Skills

7.1.9.A

Concept:

Five Themes

7.1.9.B, 7.2.9.B

Concept:

Culture

7.3.9.B

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do geographic tools help us learn about the earth? (A)

How do we apply these skills to different maps and situations? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

Why do the five themes of geography matter to me and my world view? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How does culture impact geography? (A)

Vocabulary:

Absolute Location, Relative Location, Cardinal Directions, Intermediate Directions, Geography, Latitude (Parallel), Longitude (Meridian), Hemisphere, Renewable Resources, Nonrenewable Resources

Vocabulary:

Acid Rain, Climate, Weather, Elevation, Relief, Export, Import, Region

Vocabulary:

Culture, Customs, Ethnic Group, Dialect

Additional Information:

Attached Document(s):

Cause and Effect
Ticket Out The Door

Vocab Report for Topic: Introduction to Geography

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 15

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

Map Skills

Absolute Location -

the position on the earth in which a place can be found

Relative Location -

the position of a place in relation to another place

Cardinal Directions -

The basic directions on the Earth; North, South, East, West.

Intermediate Directions -

Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest

Geography -

the study of the earth's surface and the processes that shape it, the connections between places, and the complex relationships between people and their environments

Latitude (Parallel) -

Imaginary lines that run east and west and measure north and south of the equator.

Longitude (Meridian) -

Imaginary lines that run north and south and measure east and west of the Prime Meridian.

Hemisphere -

a half of the earth; the Equator divides the Northern and Southern hemispheres; the Prime Meridian divides the Eastern and Western hemispheres

Renewable Resources -

a natural resource that the environment continues to supply or replace as it is used

Nonrenewable Resources -

Vocab Report for Topic: Introduction to Geography

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 15

Grade(s): 8th

a natural resource that cannot be replaced once it is used

Concept:

Five Themes

Acid Rain -

rain whose high concentration of chemicals, usually from industrial pollution, pollutes water, kills plant and animal life, and eats away at the surface of stone and rock; a form of chemical weathering

Climate -

the term used for the weather patterns that an area typically experiences over a long period of time

Weather -

the condition of the bottom layer of the earth's atmosphere in one place over a short period of time

Elevation -

Height above sea level

Relief -

the differences in elevation, or height, of the landforms in any particular area

Export -

an item that is sent out of the country for sale

Import -

an item that is brought into the country for sale

Region -

An area of the Earth that has one or more common characteristics.

Concept:

Culture

Culture -

Vocab Report for Topic: Introduction to Geography

Days: 15

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

the way of life that distinguishes a people, for example, government, language, religion, customs, and beliefs

Customs -

fees charged by a government on imported goods

Ethnic Group -

people who share such things as culture, language, and religion

Dialect -

a variation of a spoken language that is unique to a region or community

Topic: Issues & Themes

Days: 20

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

There are many global issues which affect daily life throughout the western hemisphere.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How is the western hemisphere affected by immigration, distribution of wealth, and environmental issues?



Concept:

Immigration

7.3.9.A, 7.3.9.C

Concept:

Distribution of Wealth

7.3.9.A

Concept:

Environmental Issues

7.4.9.B



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How has recent immigration impacted the United States positively and negatively? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How has access, or lack of access to resources, impacted quality of life? (A)

How are nations "classified?" (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How has depletion of the rainforest impacted the region? (A)

How has urban sprawl impacted the region? (A)

How has the desire to obtain and maintain freshwater resources impacted the region? (A)

Vocabulary:
ImmigrantVocabulary:
Embargo, Natural Resources, Raw Materials,
Solar Energy, Standard of LivingVocabulary:
Deforestation, Urban, Rural, Population
Density, Urban Sprawl, Megalopolis

Additional Information:

Attached Document(s):

Vocab Report for Topic: Issues & Themes

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 20

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

Immigration

Immigrant -

a person who moves into a country

Concept:

Distribution of Wealth

Embargo -

a severe restriction of trade with other countries

Natural Resources -

a material in the natural environment that people value and use to satisfy their needs

Raw Materials -

Solar Energy -

energy produced by the sun

Standard of Living -

a person's or group's level of material well-being, as measured by education, housing, health care, and nutrition

Concept:

Environmental Issues

Deforestation -

the process of stripping the land of its trees

Urban -

of, or characteristic of, the city

Rural -

Vocab Report for Topic: Issues & Themes

Days: 20

Subject(s): Social Studies

Grade(s): 8th

of, or characteristic of, the countryside

Population Density -

the average number of people living in a given area

Urban Sprawl -

Expansion of cities into rural areas

Megalopolis -

a very large city; a region made up of several large cities and their surrounding areas, considered to be a single urban complex

Topic: Middle East

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 30

Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

The location and resources of the Middle East has played a role in its history, culture, and international relations in the past and the present.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How does the Middle East's and North Africa's location impact its role in history and the world in which we live?



Concept:

Middle East

[7.1.9.B](#), [7.2.9.A](#), [7.3.9.B](#), [7.3.9.D](#), [7.4.9.B](#)



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How does the uneven distribution of resources impact relationships among nations of the Middle East and the world? (A)

How do the three major monotheistic religions impact relationships in the region? (A)

How do we apply the five themes of geography to the Middle East? (A)



Vocabulary:

Desertification, Irrigation, Embargo, Lock (Suez Canal), Nonrenewable resource, Renewable Resource

Additional Information:

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Attached Document(s):

Vocab Report for Topic: Middle East

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 30

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

Middle East

Desertification -

the transformation of arable land into the desert either naturally or through human intervention

Irrigation -

the watering of farmland with water drawn from the reservoirs or rivers

Embargo -

a severe restriction of trade with other countries

Lock (Suez Canal) -

an enclosed section of a canal, in which a ship may be raised or lowered by raising or lowering the level of the water in that section

Nonrenewable resource -

a natural resources that cannot be replaced once it is used

Renewable Resource -

a natural resource that the environment continues to supply or replace as it is used

Topic: Pacific Oceania & Antarctica

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 9

Grade(s): 8th

Key Learning:

The locations of Pacific Oceania and Antarctica has played a role in its development and human settlement.



Unit Essential Question(s):

How do the locations of Pacific Oceania and Antarctica impact its role in development and human settlement?



Concept:

Pacific Oceania

7.2.9.A

Concept:

Antarctica

7.3.9.E, 7.2.9.A



Lesson Essential Question(s):

How do the major physical characteristics impact the culture, economy, and daily life? (A)

How has the relationship between European settlers and the native Aborigines evolved over time? (A)

What is the role of Australia in the region and the world? (A)

Lesson Essential Question(s):

How is this region administered? (A)

Why do people consider Antarctica to be a land of valuable natural resources? (A)



Vocabulary:

Vocabulary:

Permafrost, Inhabitable, Uninhabitable

Additional Information:

Attached Document(s):

Vocab Report for Topic: Pacific Oceania & Antarctica

Subject(s): Social Studies

Days: 9

Grade(s): 8th

Concept:

Antarctica

Permafrost -

a layer of soil just below the earth's surface that stays permanently frozen

Inhabitable -

able to support permanent residents

Uninhabitable -

unable to support permanent residents