

Seventh Grade

- Children will learn key concepts of the structure of governments throughout the world.
- Children will acquire an appreciation of how works of **art and literature** communicate ideas and be able to compare cultures through their art and literature.
- Children will identify **causes and their effects** throughout history.
- Children will appreciate how **society** endeavors to meet its individuals' needs. They will learn to acknowledge and respect different societal customs and beliefs. They will also appreciate the problems that are caused when diversity is not respected.
- Children will be able to define the elements of **culture** and become aware of their varying viewpoints.
- Children will identify the role **economics** plays in societies.
- Children will be able to use **maps, globes**, and other **graphics** to acquire geographical information and present data gathered from research.
- Children will incorporate their knowledge of physical geography to understand **human geography**. They will examine patterns of settlement in various regions of the world.
- Children will appreciate the impact of the distribution and types of **natural resources** and the role they played in the development of economies and nations worldwide.
- Children will increase their awareness of **current issues** and how they affect the local, national, and worldwide economies, cultures and governments.

Geography of the World/			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
<p>Discuss the five themes of geography and 6 essential elements of geography</p> <p>Expand student knowledge of the major components of a current events news story to enable them to communicate in oral and written form about local, national, and international topics</p> <p>Explain the tools geographers use and the different branches of geography</p>	The Earth	6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Begin a current events journal to be maintained throughout the school year. Students should make weekly entries by summarizing local, national, and international stories. ➤ Create a bulletin board displaying the five themes of geography. ➤ Write an essay on five ways to define culture regions. ➤ Have students create a display of items made from recyclable materials.
<p>Explain what culture means</p> <p>Investigate the issues related to human population and to population growth</p> <p>Recognize the importance of renewable and nonrenewable resources</p> <p>Appreciate the importance of conservation</p>	People of the World	6.5, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	

The United States and Canada			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
Describe the physical features and climate of the United States Identify the economic activities of the United States Recognize the major cultural influences in the United States	The United States	6.1, 6.2, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collect pictures from magazines and other sources, showing the features that make a landscape either rural or urban. ➤ Draw a scaled map of the classroom. ➤ Create a product map. ➤ Create a population graph. ➤ Construct a puzzle map of Canada showing its major physical regions. ➤ Write an essay comparing Canada's climate regions with those of the United States.
Identify the landscapes and climates of Canada Discuss Canada's economic resources , activities, and challenges Describe the history and cultural heritage of the Canadian people	Canada	6.2, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	

Latin America			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
Examine the location of Mexico and its physical and climatic features Specify some economic challenges facing Mexico Describe Mexican culture and the groups that influenced it	Mexico	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Construct a physical map of Mexico. ➤ Research the cultural heritage of Mexico by examining the Mayan, Aztec, and Spanish influence on modern day Mexico. ➤ Have students make up seven riddles, one for each of the countries of Central America. Exchange the riddles with other students to solve. ➤ Create a timeline for one of the Central American Countries showing the
Examine the physical and cultural geography of Central America Understand the importance of farming to the economy of Central America	Central America	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	
Describe the landforms and climate of the West Indies Discuss the economic activities of the people in the West Indies Identify the various cultures found in the West Indies	West Indies	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	

<p>Describe the physical and cultural geography of the South American Countries</p> <p>Identify the climatic features of South America</p> <p>Explain how natural resources influence the economy of countries in South America</p> <p>Identify the early groups that influenced South American cultures</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">South America</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9</p>	<p>important events in its political history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collect travel information to create and present a vacation brochure. ➤ Create a diorama of the Amazon rain forest. ➤ Compare and contrast urban life to rural life. ➤ Select a country and use maps to illustrate its population density, climate, and landforms.
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Europe			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
<p>Identify the landscapes and climate of the British Isles</p> <p>Point out geographic similarities and differences among the Scandinavian countries</p> <p>Discuss how the United Kingdom has influenced other countries of the world</p> <p>Identify how people from the British Isles and Scandinavia make a living and spend their leisure time</p>	<p>The British Isles and Scandinavia</p>	<p>6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Work together to come up with ideas for charades. ➤ Create a graph showing statistical information on one of the countries. ➤ Create a map, showing the countries influenced by the United Kingdom. ➤ Listen to recording of music by classical composers and write a critical appreciation of the music. ➤ Collect travel information to create and present a vacation brochure. ➤ Prepare an illustrated report on a major city. ➤ Illustrate how mountains and seas divide Greece. ➤ Choose a European country and write a persuasive paragraph convincing a friend to visit the country. ➤ Write an article for a magazine describing your
<p>Identify the major geographical features of the countries in this region</p> <p>Specify the link between history and geography in this region</p> <p>Explain how natural resources influence the economy of Northwestern Europe</p> <p>Develop an appreciation for the cultures of this region</p> <p>Discuss the impact of this region on the history of the world</p> <p>Be made aware of the events of the Holocaust and its relation to a lack of tolerance</p> <p>Develop an increased personal tolerance of diversity</p>	<p>Northwestern Europe</p>	<p>6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Work together to come up with ideas for charades. ➤ Create a graph showing statistical information on one of the countries. ➤ Create a map, showing the countries influenced by the United Kingdom. ➤ Listen to recording of music by classical composers and write a critical appreciation of the music. ➤ Collect travel information to create and present a vacation brochure. ➤ Prepare an illustrated report on a major city. ➤ Illustrate how mountains and seas divide Greece. ➤ Choose a European country and write a persuasive paragraph convincing a friend to visit the country. ➤ Write an article for a magazine describing your

<p>Discuss the impact of the Greek and Italian cultures on western civilization</p> <p>Identify the geographic features of this region and the impact they have on the economies of these countries</p> <p>Discuss how mountains and seas affected the development of these countries</p>	<p>Southern Europe</p>	<p>6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9</p>	<p>travels through Europe by focusing on the regions physical features.</p> <p>➤ On an outline map, locate and label the major rivers, seaports and mountain ranges in the region.</p>
<p>Examine the geography, politics, and culture of the countries in Eastern Europe</p> <p>Analyze the political and economic changes that occurred in this region</p>	<p>Eastern Europe</p>	<p>6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9</p>	

Russia and the Independent Republics			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
<p>Examine the location, landforms, and climates found in the Russia and the neighboring independent republics</p> <p>Compare Russia's economy under communism with Russia's economy today</p> <p>Describe the cultural influences in Russia</p>	Russia	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Have students offer information on urban and rural life in a selected country and write a script for a brief television news feature on the selected country. ➤ Research how the end of the cold war has affected relations between Russia and the United States. ➤ Use map puzzles to play a game in which groups review by answering questions on the region. For each correct answer, a group may put one piece of the puzzle in place. The first group to assemble the puzzle wins.
<p>Identify the unique geographic characteristics of the Central Asian republics</p> <p>Identify the challenges that independence brought to the countries of this area</p> <p>Describe how the people earn a living in these republics</p> <p>Discuss how the cultures of the Central Asian republics blend traditions with modern ways</p>	The Independent Republics	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	

Middle East			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
<p>Summarize the major geographical features, the climate, and the culture of this region</p> <p>Evaluate the impact of Islam and oil on the lives of the people of the Arabian Peninsula</p> <p>Describe how Israel has developed its resources and note how the past affects Israel today</p> <p>Explain why the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers are important to the people of this region</p>	Southwest Asia	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Make up a riddle on the location of each of the countries in the region. Have volunteers read their riddles and call on the class to identify the countries. ➤ Create illustrated wall charts showing the major geographical features of the Arabian Peninsula. Have groups discuss their completed wall charts. ➤ Write a short essay or letter describing a trip to two of the cities in the region. ➤ Create population density and agricultural product maps. ➤ Imagine you are taking a boat ride along the Nile River. Write a daily diary for seven days, describing what you see and telling your experiences.
<p>Explain the importance of the Nile River to Egypt's people</p> <p>Examine the way of life in North Africa</p> <p>Identify the natural resources found in North Africa</p> <p>Explain why most people in North Africa live in coastal areas</p> <p>Describe how rural and urban life differs in the region</p>	North Africa	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Write a short essay or letter describing a trip to two of the cities in the region. ➤ Create population density and agricultural product maps. ➤ Imagine you are taking a boat ride along the Nile River. Write a daily diary for seven days, describing what you see and telling your experiences.

Africa South of the Sahara			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
Identify the physical features of the countries of West Africa Relate West Africa's natural resources to its economic development Describe the impact of historical influences on West Africa's culture Identify the climates that cover coastal West Africa Explain how people earn a living in this region	West Africa	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create a chart categorizing the positive and negative influences of European contact with West Africa. ➤ Write a letter describing how life in a country located in the region is different from and similar to life in the United States. ➤ Create a group presentation on one of the countries. Include characteristics such as: ethnic groups, population density, standard of living, and challenges the people face. ➤ Create a graph showing statistical information on one of the countries.
Compare the geographic features of the Central African countries Identify the resources found in this region Identify the climates of Central Africa	Central Africa	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	
Discuss the physical and cultural geography of the region Describe climate, economic activities, and ethnic tensions in inland East Africa	East Africa	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	
Review the geography and climate of South Africa and its neighbors Identify the resources found in this region and their impact on its economy	South Africa and Its Neighbors	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	

Asia			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
Describe the land, climate , and religions of the region Compare the economies and cultures of the countries of the region	South Asia	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create a climate map of a country in the region ➤ Construct a statistical graph showing the various religions in the region ➤ Write a letter about your experiences living in this region ➤ Create a graph comparing the population of the major countries in the region to the population of the United States ➤ Write a news story about a city in the area and the people that live in it. ➤ Write a Haiku on a given topic.
Identify the landforms , populous areas, and climates of China Describe past and present Chinese economies Evaluate the influences on Chinese culture and the Chinese way of life Explain how most Chinese people earn a living	China	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	
Describe the location, economy , and culture of Japan and the Koreas Explain why and how life in North Korea differs from life in South Korea	Japan and the Koreas	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	
Describe the location, economies , and resources of the area Examine how cultural and physical geography affect the life in the island countries of Southeast Asia	Southeast Asia	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	

Pacific World			
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES	SUBJECT MATTER CONTENT	STANDARDS	ACTIVITIES
Examine the geography, climate and economy of the region Recognize the two large islands that make up most of New Zealand Discuss the culture of the region	Australia and New Zealand	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Write a letter describing your work and the work of other scientists studying Antarctica. ➤ Have students make up riddles for a review. Exchange the riddles with other students to solve. ➤ Collect and display photographs of the region. Have students identify both physical and cultural features shown in the photographs.
Identify places, people and occupations in Oceania Describe the location, climate and scientific significance of Antarctica Examine the cultures and economy of the region	Pacific Islands and Antarctica	6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9	