

National Council for Geographic Education
Curriculum & Instruction Committee
Geography Club

Submitted by: Steve Pierce
stevepierce@charter.net

Sixth Month Activities

Geography for Life: National Geography Standards

The World in Spatial Terms

Standard 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information

Places and Regions

Standard 4: The physical and human characteristics of places

Standard 6: How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions

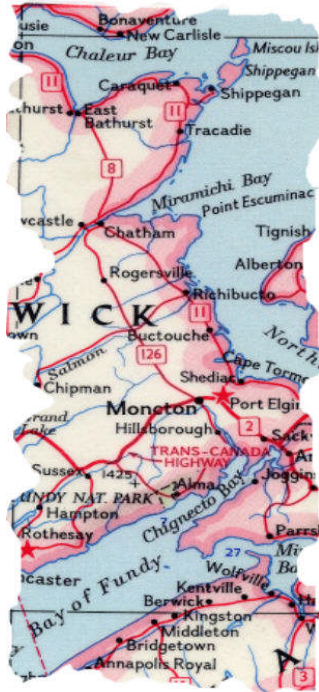
Human Systems

Standard 10: The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics

I. Warm-up Activity: Map Scraps

Examine each "Map Scrap" and try to determine the locations. Use an atlas and other reference materials to answer the questions.

Map Scrap 6-1



Questions:

1. Which two Canadian provinces are shown on this map?
2. What body of water lies *northeast* of these provinces?
3. Which U. S. state borders one of the provinces?
4. Which island province lies off the coasts of these two provinces?
5. What is unique about the bay shown near the bottom of the map?

Map: National Geographic Magazine

Map Scrap 6-2



Map: National Geographic Magazine

Questions:

1. What is the name of this landlocked South American country shown on the map?
2. What is the capital city of this country?
3. With which other landlocked country does this nation share a border?
4. What is the name of the region of mostly flat, semi-desert and scrub land located in the *northwestern* part of the country?
5. Which two large countries lie *northeast* and *south* of the country?

II. Activity: Landmarks - Global to Local

Landmarks, both natural and those constructed by peoples past and present, are features, monuments, buildings, or other structures that are easily recognized. Often, landmarks are symbolic of a city or place, such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Landmarks also recall a particular historic era, such as Egypt's Pyramids of Giza. Many landmarks that are natural features, such as the Grand Canyon, are protected by being designated as national parks and/or World Heritage Sites.

In this activity students will identify some major landmarks in the world, the United States, and their own state, region, or city. For the landmarks on the activity sheet, encourage students to provide at least one other fact about each landmark. Local and regional landmarks are often unique, and they convey a sense of place and history.

Students and sponsors are encouraged to share their local and regional landmarks with others through the NCGE Geography Club website. Suggestions on how to share these landmarks are given in the *Extensions* segment of the activity.

Materials needed:

1. *Be a Landmark Sleuth* activity sheet
2. An atlas or maps of the world and the United States
3. Resources such as almanacs and encyclopedias
4. Internet access

Websites

Many world landmarks are World Heritage Sites. The WHS website has information on all the sites. **URL:** <http://whc.unesco.org/>

Procedures

1. Using the worksheet that comes with the activity, have students investigate some famous landmarks in the United States and the world. ***Teachers and sponsors, you may want to add some landmarks that are not included in the list to suit your group and time limitations.***
2. Have students research other famous landmarks and write their own clues for one another to find.
3. Students may want to create an illustrated poster or multimedia slide show of the landmarks they identify through the lesson.
4. Students may also want to do further research into a particular landmark that interests them.
5. Have students identify some local and regional landmarks that are significant to their area. Make a list of these landmarks noting their location and their natural, historical, or cultural connections. Use a digital camera to obtain a picture of the landmark.

Extension

Share your local landmarks with NCGE. Send a brief description and image of a unique local or regional landmark. Include its name and tell its natural, historical, or cultural significance to your area. Send your landmarks to Steve Pierce at stevepierce@charter.net. Once a sufficient number of landmarks have been submitted, we will share them with you.

III. Geo-Questions

Get out those atlases and challenge your students with this potpourri of geography questions.

1. What mountain range, a part of the Rocky Mountain system, forms much of the border between Idaho and Montana?
2. The Humboldt Current is a cold ocean current off the west coast of which continent?
3. Hammerfest is a city that lies near Europe's northernmost point. Name this point on the Scandinavian Peninsula.
4. Active volcanoes are a major physical feature on this large peninsula located on Russia's east coast. Name this peninsula.
5. Thimphu is the capital city of this kingdom located in the Himalayas. Name this country.
6. What mountain range arcs southeastward from southern Poland to Romania?
7. Which two countries lie on the southern coast of the Arabian Peninsula?
8. What island does the Strait of Messina separate from the mainland of Italy?
9. Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania share the coastline of which lake?
10. Which city – Melbourne, Perth, or Sydney – lies on Australia's west coast?

Answers

I. Map Scraps

Map 6-1

1. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia
2. Gulf of St Lawrence
3. Maine
4. Prince Edward Island
5. The Bay of Fundy has the greatest difference in high and low tides, approximately 45 feet

Map 6-2

1. Paraguay
2. Asuncion
3. Bolivia
4. Gran Chaco
5. Brazil and Argentina

II. Be a Landmark Sleuth

U.S. Landmarks

1. Statue of Liberty
2. Gateway Arch
3. The Alamo
4. Golden Gate Bridge
5. Cape Hatteras Lighthouse
6. Niagara Falls
7. Washington Monument
8. Sears Tower
9. Mount Rainier and the Space Needle
10. Independence Hall

World Landmarks

1. Great Wall of China
2. Mount Fuji
3. Machu Picchu
4. Big Ben
5. Taj Mahal
6. Leaning Tower of Pisa
7. Angkor Wat
8. Mount Kilimanjaro
9. Sydney Harbor Bridge, and the Sydney Opera House
10. Red Square

III. Geo-Questions

1. Bitterroot Mountains
2. South America (the Humboldt Current is also called the Peru Current)
3. North Cape
4. Kamchatka
5. Bhutan
6. Carpathian Mountains
7. Yemen and Oman
8. Sicily
9. Lake Victoria
10. Perth