

Course Name:	World Geography		
Credits:	1		
Prerequisites:	n/a		
Description:	Course emphasising the people, places, and cultures of the world.		
Academic Standards:	NCSS Standards		
Units:	Unit Length:	Unit Standards:	Unit Outcomes:
The World	1-1.5 months	MS.PPE.2 MS.PPE.3 MS.PPE.4 MS.GC.2 MS.PPE.5 MS. PPE.6	Identify the 5 themes of Geography. Discuss the tools and knowledge geographers use to study the Earth's people and places. Review the skills needed to help understand Geography. Review forces acting within the earth that shape its surface. Explore how physical features determine where people live. Discuss how geographers use climate to categorize world regions. Review the cause/effect of human/environment interaction. Examine how the world's population increasing has created new challenges. Discuss that population and resources are not distributed evenly throughout the world. Define culture.
US and Canada	1.5-2 months	MS.PPE.1 MS.PPE.2 MS.C.1 MS. C.4 MS.TCC.2	Discuss how the elevation rises from East to West. Discuss how waterways are essential to the region. Investigate the diverse climate zones. Be introduced to significant historical events of the United States and of Canada. Investigate the development of American culture. Compare/contrast US culture to Canadian cultures.
Latin America	1-1.5 months	MS.C.2 MS.C.3.MS.C.4 MS. C5 MS.C.1 MS. PPE.1 MS. PPE.2	Discuss the prominence of many mountains in Latin America. Explore the value of waterways in the region both past and present. Investigate various reasons why resources in the region can't be fully used. Discuss the importance of culture in this region. Analyze aspects of daily life in Latin America.
Europe	1.5-2 months	MS. C.1, MS. C5, MS. C.6, MS. MS. TCC1, MS. TTC.4, MS. IGI.3, MS. PPE.2 MS. GC4	Investigate the unique landforms of Europe. Discuss the benefits of Europe's access to the coastline. Compare currents and wind patterns to climate zones. Explore the major time periods in Europe's history.
Russia	1 month	MS. PPE.6 MS.C.1 MS. GC3 MS.PPE.1 MS.PPE.3 MS.PPE.5 MS.GC.6	Discuss the landforms in Russia. Identify the natural resources of Russia. Identify the locations of Russia's climate zones. Analyze and compare the climate zones to population distribution and resource locations. Evaluate Russia's pollution issues. Discuss Russia's different governments throughout their later history. Discuss how the arts have impacted the country's cultural identity. Research current topics and issues related to Russia.
South Asia	1 month	MS. C.1, MS. C.5, MS. C.6, MS. C.7, MS. PPE. 6, MS. GC.3 MS. PPE. 2	Discuss the drastic changes in landscape. Investigate the discrepancy between resources and population and its effect on the environment. Explore the seasonal variation. Explore the early history of the region. Discuss tensions between countries in the region. Investigate population growth and density along with diversity and cultural traditions.
East Asia and Southeast Asia	1 month	MS. C.1, MS. C.3, MS. PPE.2, MS. PPE.6, MS. IGI.3, MS. IGI.5, MS. GC.6	Discuss the landforms and rivers of Asia and Southeast Asia. Investigate how the available resources support the growing economies. Explore early Chinese history and its influence on other countries in the region. Discuss China's transformation into an economic world power. Investigate population patterns and ethnic diversity. Explore China's government, society, economy, and environment. Discuss current events between North and South Korea.

Unit Name: The World	Length: 1-1.5 Months
Standards: MS.PPE.2 MS.PPE.3 MS.PPE.4 MS.GC.2 MS. PPE.5 MS. PPE.6	Outcomes: Identify the 5 themes of Geography. Discuss the tools and knowledge geographers use to study the Earth's people and places. Review the skills needed to help understand Geography. Review forces acting within the earth that shape its surface. Explore how physical features determine where people live. Discuss how geographers use climate to categorize world regions. Review the cause/effect of human/environment interaction. Examine how the world's population increasing has created new challenges. Discuss that population and resources are not distributed evenly throughout the world. Define culture.
Essential Questions: *Why is it important to have geography skills? *What is culture?	Learning Targets: Interpret each of the 5 Geography themes. Understand that geographers must use tools along with prior and gained knowledge to analyze the people and places of our Earth. Describe the Geography skills. Identify the earth's layers and tectonic plate movements. Understand that geographers distinguish different regions using various characteristics. Explain that all living things depend on one another. List issues about challenges in world population. Compare and contrast using population distribution maps. Understand the meaning of culture.
Topic 1: Geography Skills	Length: 2 weeks
Standard(s): MS. GC2 MS. PPE. 4, MS. PPE.2 MS. PPE.5	Academic Vocabulary: geography, absolute location, relative location, place, movement, region, latitude, longitude, hemisphere, climate, emigrate, culture, ethnic group, cultural diffusion, globalization, interdependence
Lesson Frame: a) thinking like a geographer b) skills handbook	We will: Identify the 5 themes of Geography. Discuss the tools and knowledge geographers use to study the Earth's people and places. Review the skills needed to help understand Geography. I will: Interpret each of the 5 Geography themes. Understand that geographers must use tools along with prior and gained knowledge to analyze the people and places of our Earth. Describe the Geography skills.
Performance Tasks (Assessments): create a visual representation of the necessary Geography skills, summarize the 5 themes of Geography, produce a narrative explaining why it is important to have geography skills (include an example)	Notes:
Topic 2: Earth's Physical Geography	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): MS. PPE.3 MS. PPE.4 MS. PPE.5	Academic Vocabulary: weathering, erosion, continents, plate tectonics, weather, climate, climate zone
Lesson Frame: a) forces shaping the Earth b) landforms and water resources c) climate regions d) human-environment interaction	We will: Review forces acting within the earth that shape its surface. Explore how physical features determine where people live. We will discuss how geographers use climate to categorize world regions. Review the cause/effect of human/environment interaction. I will: Identify the earth's layers and tectonic plate movements. Understand that geographers distinguish different regions using various characteristics. Explain that all living things depend on one another.
Performance Tasks: Project-Aurasma: Forces, Features, Change, and Influence	Notes:

Topic 3: Earth's Human and Cultural Geography	Length: ~ 1 week
Standard(s): MS. PPE.6	Academic Vocabulary: death rate, birth rate, culture, culture region, ethnic group, cultural diffusion, globalization, natural resources, interdependence
Lesson Frame: a) world population b) global cultures c) resources, technology, and world trade	We will: Examine how the world's population increasing has created new challenges. Discuss that population and resources are not distributed evenly throughout the world. Define culture. I will: list issues about challenges in world population. Compare and contrast using population distribution maps. Understand the meaning of culture.
Performance Tasks: Test on Population and Movement	Notes:

Unit Name: United States and Canada	Length: 1.5-2 months
Standards: MS.PPE.1 MS.PPE.2 MS.C.1 MS. C.4 MS.TCC.2	Outcomes: Discuss how the elevation rises from East to West. Discuss how waterways are essential to the region. Investigate the diverse climate zones. Be introduced to significant historical events of the United States and of Canada. Investigate the development of American culture. Compare/contrast US culture to Canadian cultures.
Essential Questions: *How do landforms and climate help or hinder transportation in a vast region? *How does immigration affect the cultures of countries?	Learning Targets: Recognize that elevation is different throughout the region. Identify important waterways. Conclude that most people reside in a temperate climate zone. Research significant historical events of the United States and of Canada. Realize that the diverse population of the US is what forms our culture. List ways the US and Canada's cultures are similar and different.
Topic 1: Physical Geography of U.S. and Canada	Length: 2-3 weeks
Standard(s): MS. PPE.2, MS. PPE.1	Academic Vocabulary: contiguous, navigable, cordillera
Lesson Frame: a) physical features b) climate regions	We will: Discuss how the elevation rises from East to West. Discuss how waterways are essential to the region. Investigate the diverse climate zones. I will: Recognize that elevation is different throughout the region. Identify important waterways. Conclude that most people reside in a temperate climate zone.
Performance Tasks: Summary writing answering the essential questions Quiz on physical geography	Notes:
Topic 2: History and Cultures of U.S. and Canada	Length: 3 weeks
Standard(s): MS. C.1, MS. PPE.1, MS. C.4, MS. TCC.2	Academic Vocabulary: colonies, indigenous, bilingual
Lesson Frame: a) history and governments b) cultures and lifestyles	We will: Be introduced to significant historical events of the United States and of Canada. Investigate the development of American culture. Compare/contrast US culture to Canadian cultures. I will: Research significant historical events of the United States and of Canada. Realize that the diverse population of the US is what forms our culture. List ways the US and Canada's cultures are similar and different.
Performance Tasks: Project- Tiki Toki Timeline	Notes:

Unit Name: Latin America	Length: ~1-1.5 months
Standards: MS.C.2 MS.C.3.MS.C.4 MS. C5 MS.C.1 MS. PPE.1 MS. PPE.2	Outcomes: Discuss the prominence of many mountains in Latin America. Explore the value of waterways in the region both past and present. Investigate various reasons why resources in the region can't be fully used. Discuss the importance of culture in this region. Analyze aspects of daily life in Latin America.
Essential Questions: *In what ways can language and religion both unite and divide a region? *In what ways does the physical environment affect how people live?	Learning Targets: Analyze how varying altitudes affect vegetation and climate. Connect the continued importance of rivers and lakes throughout time. Research answers to why resources aren't all used in the region. Summarize essential elements of culture of Latin America's people. Discover the many shared common characteristics amongst the many cultures. Synthesize the region's blend of cultures.
Topic 1: Physical Geography	Length: 1- 1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS.PPE.2 MS.PPE1	Academic Vocabulary: gasohol, archipelago, sub-region
Lesson Frame: a) physical features b) climate regions	We will: Discuss the prominence of many mountains in Latin America. Explore the value of waterways in the region both past and present. Investigate various reasons why resources in the region can't be fully used. I will: Analyze how varying altitudes affect vegetation and climate. Connect the continued importance of rivers and lakes throughout time. Research answers to why resources aren't all used in the region.
Performance Tasks: Quiz on Latin America's Physical Features	Notes:
Topic 2: History and Cultures of Latin America	Length: ~ 1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s):MS.C1, MS.C2, MS.C3, MS. C4, MS.C5	Academic Vocabulary: cash crop, empire, pidgin language, carnival
Lesson Frame: a) history and governments b) cultures and lifestyles	We will: Discuss the importance of culture in this region. Analyze aspects of daily life in Latin America. I will: Summarize essential elements of culture of Latin America's people. Discover the many shared common characteristics amongst the many cultures. Synthesize the region's blend of cultures.
Performance Tasks: Graphic Organizer and Cultural Board Game Project	Notes:

Unit Name: Europe	Length: ~1.5-2 months
Standards: MS. C.1, MS. C5, MS. C.6, MS. MS. TCC1, MS.TTC.4, MS. IGI.3, MS. PPE.2 MS. GC4	Outcomes: Investigate the unique landforms of Europe. Discuss the benefits of Europe's access to the coastline. Compare currents and wind patterns to climate zones. Explore the major time periods in Europe's history.
Essential Questions: *How do people use waterways? *What forces have helped to unify Europeans at different times? *What factors help make a region an important world economic center?	Learning Targets: Understand that Europe is comprised of multiple peninsulas and islands. Identify benefits of living near the coast. Conclude that ocean currents and wind patterns create different climate zones. Analyze the various cultural beliefs and their impact throughout Europe's history.
Topic 1: Physical Geography of Europe	Length: 1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS. PPE.2	Academic Vocabulary: landlocked, navigable
Lesson Frame: a) physical features b) climate regions	We will: Investigate the unique landforms of Europe. Discuss the benefits of Europe's access to the coastline. Compare currents and wind patterns to climate zones. I will: Understand that Europe is comprised of multiple peninsulas and islands. Identify benefits of living near the coast. Conclude that ocean currents and wind patterns create different climate zones.
Performance Tasks: Quiz and Poster	Notes:
Topic 2: History and Cultures of Europe	Length: 2-2.5 weeks
Standard(s):MS.C.1, MS. C.5, MS.C.6, MS. TCC.1, MSTCC.4, MS. IGI.3, MS. GC.4	Academic Vocabulary: classical, city-state, republic, feudalism, revolution,
Lesson Frame: a) history and governments b) cultures and lifestyles	We will: Explore the major time periods in Europe's history. I will: Analyze the various cultural beliefs and their impact throughout Europe's history.
Performance Tasks: Notetaking and Skit and Artifact Project	Notes:

Unit Name: Russia	Length: ~1 month
Standards:MS. PPE.6, MS.C.1, MS.GC3, MS.PPE.1, MS.PPE.3, MS.PPE.5, MS.GC.6	Outcomes: Discuss the landforms in Russia. Identify the natural resources of Russia. Identify the locations of Russia's climate zones. Analyze and compare the climate zones to population distribution and resource locations. Evaluate Russia's pollution issues. Discuss Russia's different governments throughout their later history. Discuss how the arts have impacted the country's cultural identity. Research current topics and issues related to Russia.
Essential Questions: *How do Russia's location and landforms affect its population and its use of resources? *Why is the success of democracy in Russia important to the rest of the world?	Learning Targets: Identify the major landforms and natural resources of Russia. I will know the climate zones of Russia. I will understand the cause and effect of Russia's current environmental issues. Understand the different types of governments throughout Russia's history. Identify ways in which the arts have impacted the culture of Russia. Draw conclusions about current topics and issues in Russia and how it will impact other countries
Topic 1: Physical Geography of Russia	Length: ~1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS. PPE.6, MS.PPE.1, MS.PPE.3, MS.GC.6	Academic Vocabulary: fossil fuel, softwood, infrastructure, permafrost, taiga, smog, pollutant
Lesson Frame: a) physical features b) climate and the environment	We will: Discuss the landforms in Russia. Identify the natural resources of Russia. Identify the locations of Russia's climate zones. Analyze and compare the climate zones to population distribution and resource locations. Evaluate Russia's pollution issues. I will: Be able to identify the major landforms and natural resources of Russia. I will know the climate zones of Russia. I will understand the cause and effect of Russia's current environmental issues.
Performance Tasks (Assessments): Project- Shark Tank Russia, Quiz on Physical features and climates	Notes:
Topic 2: History and Cultures of Russia	Length: ~1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS.PPE.5 MS.C.1 MS.GC3	Academic Vocabulary: czar, serf, communist state, cold war, nationalism
Lesson Frame: a) history and governments b) cultures and lifestyles	We will: Discuss Russia's different governments throughout their later history. Discuss how the arts have impacted the country's cultural identity. I will: Understand the different types of governments throughout Russia's history. Identify ways in which the arts have impacted the culture of Russia.
Performance Tasks: Project - Shark Tank Russia	Notes:
Topic 3: Russia Today	Length: ~1 week
Standard(s): MS.PPE.3, MS.GC6	Academic Vocabulary: underemployment
Lesson Frame: a) a changing Russia b) issues and challenges	We will: Research current topics and issues related to Russia. I will: Draw conclusions about current topics and issues in Russia and how it will impact other countries.
Performance Tasks (Assessments): Project- Shark Tank Russia	Notes:

Unit Name: South Asia	Length: ~1 month
Standards: MS. C.1, MS. C.5, MS. C.6, MS. C.7, MS. PPE. 6, MS. GC.3 MS. PPE. 2	Outcomes: Discuss the drastic changes in landscape. Investigate the discrepancy between resources and population and its effect on the environment. Explore the seasonal variation. Explore the early history of the region. Discuss tensions between countries in the region. Investigate population growth and density along with diversity and cultural traditions.
Essential Questions: *How do seasonal weather patterns affect a region? *How do religious beliefs and practices influence people's lives? *How do a country's resources affect its role in world affairs?	Learning Targets: Identify the landforms of South Asia. Research population, their needs, resources, and environmental effects. Identify the three unique seasons of the region. Identify early civilizations, and major world religions. Learn about the tension between India and Pakistan. Identify the highly dense areas of the region. Understand religious and cultural traditions date back thousands of years.
Topic 1: Physical Geography of South Asia	Length: ~1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s): M S. PPE. 2, MS. PPE.6	Academic Vocabulary: subcontinent, monsoon, cyclone
Lesson Frame: a) physical features b) climate regions	We will: Discuss the drastic changes in landscape. Investigate the discrepancy between resources and population and its effect on the environment. Explore the seasonal variation. I will: Identify the landforms of South Asia. Research population, their needs, resources, and environmental effects. Identify the three unique seasons of the region.
Performance Tasks (Assessments): Quiz and Graphic Organizer	Notes:
Topic 2: History and Cultures of South Asia	Length: ~1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s):	Academic Vocabulary: caste, dharma, reincarnation, karma, nirvana,
Lesson Frame: a) history and governments b) cultures and lifestyles	We will: Explore the early history of the region. Discuss tensions between countries in the region. Investigate population growth and density along with diversity and cultural traditions. I will: Identify early civilizations and major world religions. Learn about the tension between India and Pakistan. Identify the highly dense areas of the region. Understand religious and cultural traditions date back thousands of years.
Performance Tasks: Test, Green Screen Meme mini-project	Notes:

Unit Name: East Asia and Southeast Asia	Length: ~1 month
Standards: MS. C.1, MS. C.3, MS. PPE.2, MS. PPE.6, MS. IGI.3, MS. IGI.5, MS. GC.6	Outcomes: Discuss the landforms and rivers of Asia and Southeast Asia. Investigate how the available resources support the growing economies. Explore early Chinese history and its influence on other countries in the region. Discuss China's transformation into an economic world power. Investigate population patterns and ethnic diversity. Explore China's government, society, economy, and environment. Discuss current events between North and South Korea.
Essential Questions: *What impact does rapid economic change have on people of the region? * How can trade influence lifestyles of cultures?	Learning Targets: Locate the mountains and important rivers of the region. Identify which resources have had a direct impact on economic growth. Gain an understanding of Chinese history, continued economic growth and China's change into an economic world power. Compare and contrast population growth and movement along with opportunities for diversity. Synthesize China's current status within themselves and in the world. Research current events relating to North and South Korea.
Topic 1: Physical Geography of East Asia and Southeast Asia	Length: ~1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS. PPE.2, MS. PPE.6	Vocabulary: gorge, teak
Lesson Frame: a) physical features b) climate regions	We will: Discuss the landforms and rivers of Asia and Southeast Asia. Investigate how the available resources support the growing economies. I will: Locate the mountains and important rivers of the region. Identify which resources have had a direct impact on economic growth.
Performance Tasks (Assessments): Quiz and Graphic Organizer	Notes:
Topic 2: History and Cultures of East Asia and Southeast Asia	Length: ~1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS. C.1, MS. C.3	Academic Vocabulary: yurt, dynasty, shogun, sphere of influence, pagoda
Lesson Frame: a) history and governments b) cultures and lifestyles	We will: Explore early Chinese history and its influence on other countries in the region. Discuss China's transformation into an economic world power. Investigate population patterns and ethnic diversity. I will: Gain an understanding of Chinese history, continued economic growth and China's change into an economic world power. Compare and contrast population growth and movement along with opportunities for diversity.
Performance Tasks: Project or Test (depending on time)	Notes:
Topic 3: East Asia and Southeast Asia Today	Length: ~ 1-1.5 weeks
Standard(s): MS. IGI.3, MS. IGI. 5, MS. GC. 6	Academic Vocabulary: human rights, demilitarized zone (DMZ)
Lesson Frame: a) China b) The Koreas	We will: Explore China's government, society, economy, and environment. Discuss current events between North and South Korea. I will: Synthesize China's current status within themselves and in the world. Research current events relating to North and South Korea.

Performance Tasks: Summary, Project or test (depending on time)	Notes:
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September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
The World									
	The US and Canada								
		Latin America							
			Europe						
						Russia			
							South Asia		
								East Asia & Southeast Asia	