

Course: Social Studies
Grade Level: 7
Topic: Geography

Overview: The focus of 7th Grade Social Studies will be Alaska and World Geography. Both physical and cultural geography will be explored from the perspectives of the Five Themes of Geography. They include Location, Place, Region, Human/Environment Interaction, and Movement.

Essential Learning	#	Components	Suggested	
			Activities	Assessments
<p><i>A student should be able to make and use maps, globes, and graphs to gather, analyze, and report spatial (geographic) information.</i></p> <p>A.1-6</p>	7.1.1	Use maps and globes to locate places and regions	Possible Activities Memorize the locations of the countries of the world.	-Quizzes -Tests
	7.1.2	Make maps, globes, and graphs	Design a map of Alaska, showing major rivers, mountains, cities, regions.	-Drawings
	7.1.3	Understand how and why maps are changing documents	Review maps from differing time periods.	Paragraphing
	7.1.4	Use graphic tools and technologies to depict and interpret the world's human and physical systems	Utilize GoogleEarth to perform "flyovers" of different parts of the world.	-Presentation
	7.1.5	Evaluate the importance of the locations of human and physical features in interpreting geographic patterns	Study the locations of major cities of the world. Notice where they are located. Decide what features are common.	-Quizzes -Tests

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	7.1.6	Use spatial (geographic) tools and technologies to analyze and develop explanations and solutions to geographic problems	Work with maps, GPS receivers, and computer models in order recognize patterns common to geographic problems.	-Written tests -Field tests
<i>A student should be able to utilize, analyze, and explain information about the human and physical features of places and regions.</i>	7.2.1	Know that places have distinctive geographic characteristics	Make "Place" postcards.	-Presentation
	7.2.2	Analyze how places are formed, identified, named and characterized	Research projects.	-Writing
	7.2.3	Relate how people create similarities and differences among places	Discuss the similarities and differences among nearby towns.	-Discussion -Quizzes -Tests
	7.2.4	Discuss how and why groups and individuals identify with places	Examine the mascots of professional, collegiate, and high school teams.	-List Making -Charting
	7.2.5	Describe and demonstrate how places and regions serve as cultural symbols, such as the Statue of Liberty	Research projects. PowerPoint assignments/presentations.	-Presentation
	7.2.6	Make informed decisions about where to live, work, travel, and seek opportunities	Write a paragraph explaining your dream job, then explain where it will take place, and why it will take place there.	-Paragraph Writing
<i>B.1-8</i>				

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	7.2.7	Understand that a region is a distinct area defined by one or more cultural or physical features	-Examine the game management units in Alaska. -Examine our high school's ASAA region. -Divide America into regions and explain their boundaries.	-Map Drawing -Conclusion Paragraph
	7.2.8	Compare, contrast, and predict how places and regions change with time	Examine historical maps.	-Presentation -Quizzes -Tests
<i>A student should understand the dynamic and interactive natural forces that shape the Earths' environments</i> C.1-3	7.3.1	Analyze the operation of the Earth's physical systems, including ecosystems, climate systems, erosion systems, the water cycle, and tectonics	Study physical maps and climate maps side by side.	-Discussion
	7.3.2	Distinguish the functions, forces, and dynamics of the physical processes that cause variations in natural regions	Review theory of plate tectonics and its role on the formation of physical and political boundaries.	-Quizzes -Tests
	7.3.3	Recognize the concepts used in studying environments and	Examine physical maps alongside agricultural maps.	-Discussion -Quizzes

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		recognize the diversity and productivity of different regional environments		-Tests
<i>A student should understand and be able to interpret spatial (geographic) characteristics of human systems, including migration, movement, interactions of cultures, economic activities, settlement patterns, and political units in the state, nation, and world</i> D.1-5	7.4.1	know that the need for people to exchange goods, services, and ideas creates population centers, cultural interaction, and transportation and communication links;	Examine the theme of Movement.	-List Making -Map Drawing -Paragraph Writing -Quizzes -Tests
	7.4.2	know that the need for people to exchange goods, services, and ideas creates population centers, cultural interaction, and transportation and communication links	-Study the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and its communication systems. -Guest Speaker	Verbal Report.
	7.4.3	interpret population characteristics and distributions	Study population maps.	Paragraph Writing.
	7.4.4	analyze how changes in technology, transportation, and communication impact social, cultural, economic, and political activity	Read primary and secondary sources. Compare historical information with current information.	Discussion Quizzes

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	7.4.5	analyze how conflict and cooperation shape social, economic, and political use of space	Compare and contrast maps of North America and Africa.	Lists/Charts
<i>A student should understand and be able to evaluate how humans and physical environments interact</i> <i>E.1-5</i>	7.5.1	understand how resources have been developed and used	Country reports.	Grading Rubrics
	7.5.2	recognize and assess local, regional, and global patterns of resource use	Examine raw materials maps. View economic activity maps.	Chart
	7.5.3	determine the influence of human perceptions on resource utilization and the environment		
	7.5.4	analyze the consequences of human modification of the environment and evaluate the changing landscape	Study deforestation maps.	Discussion
	7.5.5	evaluate the impact of physical hazards on human systems	Study natural disaster theme maps.	Presentation

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<i>A student should be able to use geography to understand the world by interpreting the past, knowing the present, and preparing for the future.</i> F.1-6	7.6.1	analyze and evaluate the impact of physical and human geographical factors on major historical events	“This day in History” activities.	News Report
	7.6.2	compare, contrast, and predict how places and regions change with time	Make timeline posters with geographic themes, i.e. track a city or region through history.	Grading Rubric
	7.6.3	analyze resource management practices to assess their impact on future environmental quality	Deforestation study.	Discussion
	7.6.4	interpret demographic trends to project future changes and impacts on human environmental systems	View population charts and predictions.	Charting exercises
	7.6.5	examine the impacts of global changes on human activity	Write a paragraph outlining concern for future generations in one area of global change.	Paragraph, emphasizing cause and effect.
	7.6.6	utilize geographic knowledge and skills to support interdisciplinary learning and build competencies required of citizens	Team with science class, writing class, and P.E. class for kayak trip.	Journal