

7th and 8th grade Geography Syllabus

Outline of the Year

Unit 1- North America

- Canada
- United States
- Mexico
- Central America
- West Indies
- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Unit 2- South America

- Northern South America
- Central Andes
- Southern Cone
- Brazil
- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Unit 3- Europe

- British Isles
- Scandinavia
- France and Low Countries
- Central Europe
- Southern Europe
- Eastern Europe
- Former Soviet Union
- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Unit 4- Asia

- Japan/Korean Peninsula
- China and Its Neighbors
- Southeast Asia
- India and Its Neighbors
- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Unit 5- Middle East

- Countries of the Middle East
- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Unit 6- Africa

- North Africa (desert)
- West Africa
- Central Africa (rain forest)
- East Africa
- Southern Africa
- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Unit 7- Oceania

- Guest Speaker
- Map Quiz
- Presentation Days (2)

Final Project- International Festival (if there's time)

There will always be a map quiz to label the countries on each continent. The following websites are good resources for studying:

- www.worldatlas.com
- http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games.htm
- <http://lizardpoint.com/geography/index.php>

Geography Vocabulary

Unit 1- North America

- tundra
- permafrost
- shield
- Silicon Valley
- Sunbelt
- Grain belt
- Rust Belt
- hacienda
- adobe
- subsistence agriculture
- archipelago
- isthmus

Unit 2- South America

- mesa
- deforestation
- rain shadow
- landlocked
- squatters
- capital
- estuary
- confluence
- mestizo

Unit 3- Europe

- fjord
- Eurasia
- shield
- Commonwealth
- maritime
- channel
- Gaelic
- dikes
- polders
- autobahn
- Slav
- potash
- tributary
- transhumance
- canton
- emigrate/immigrate
- Communism
- steppes

Unit 4- Asia

- Ring of Fire
- paddy
- seedbed
- synthetic materials
- dynasty
- ebony
- teak
- isolationism
- city-state
- monsoon
- caste

Unit 5- Middle East

- irrigation
- reservoirs
- ground water
- qanats
- reservoirs
- Shiites
- Sunnites

Unit 6- Africa

- erg
- desert pavement
- hammada
- mangrove
- Sahel
- imperialism
- enclave/exclave
- islet
- apartheid

Unit 7- Oceania

- outback
- marsupial
- Aborigine
- aquifers
- catamaran
- atoll
- lagoon
- continental island
- trust territory
- crevasse
- whiteout

Plan a Trip!

Transportation:

- Flights
 - <https://www.kayak.com/>
 - <https://www.expedia.com>
 - <https://www.travelocity.com>
 - <https://www.skyscanner.com/>
- Can you drive? (bring your own or rent a car)
- Are there boats?
- Public transportation?

Finding Places to Stay:

- <https://www.airbnb.com/>
- <https://www.hotels.com/>
- <https://www.hostelworld.com/>

Finding Things to Do:

- <https://www.tripadvisor.com/> (this is the best site and probably all you need to search)
- <https://www.offthebeatenpath.com/where-we-travel/>

Each unit, you will plan a trip for two people to somewhere on the continent we're studying. It can be anywhere on the continent and must be for five days or more. (If you want to have more than two people in a group, add two activity days per extra person on the trip.)

You are responsible for planning how to get there, things to do, places to visit, where to stay, (estimate) how expensive it will be, types of things to pack, and any other need-to-know things for visiting this area of the world.

Trip itineraries will be presented to the class and can be in any format (poster or brochure, verbal presentation, picture slideshow). The itinerary worksheet must be filled out and handed in to get full credit for the project. You can make your own document if you wish as long as it includes everything.

Getting ideas for your trip:

Think about the...

Culture

- food
- clothes
- holidays/festivals
- songs/music

Tourism

- hotspots
- monuments
- geographic landforms

Economy

- industries within the country
- common jobs

Religion

- how they worship
- religious holidays
- rules, laws

Other things to think about:

- The country's currency and the exchange rate to USD... go to Google.com and type "[currency] to USD" and a converter will pop up
- What language do they speak?
- Are there political issues going on that lead to war/unrest?
- What is the climate/weather like?

You need to visit at least **one of each** of the following:

- A historic museum (tell us how it connects to their history)
- Something related to government (tell us how it connects to their government)
- A geographic landform
- A culturally important place (could be connected to religion, music, a holiday/festival, etc.)

Trip Itinerary

/3pts map in presentation
/5pts enough activities to fill each day
/45pts (front)
/37pts (back)
/5pts presentation
/5pts works cited



Name: _____

Continent: _____

Budget: \$ _____ /person
including flight

Total: /100pts

Comments:

Where are you going? (cities, countries) [2pts]

How many days is the trip? (must be five or more) [5pts] _____

When will you go (dates)? Why that time of year? [3pts] _____

Language(s) spoken there: [1pt] _____

Currency used: [1pt] _____

Conversion to USD: [2pts] One USD equals _____

Total trip cost: (approximate) [5pts] _____

How will you get there? [10pts] (circle one) **walking/ car/ public transportation/ boat/ airplane**

Cost of flight: _____ What airline & airport: _____

Flight departure date/time: _____

Connecting flights/layovers (location/duration): _____

Flight arrival date/time: _____

Typical weather for the time of your visit: [5pts]

What vaccinations do you need? _____

Do you need a visa? How much is it? _____

Specific items to pack/Other important things to know: [5pts]

How will you get around? (circle all that apply) **walking/ car/ public transportation/ boat/ airplane**

Transportation information: (how much public transport costs/schedule, how much gas you'll use if driving, rules of the road, traffic conditions, etc.) [6pts]

Does your trip include a location connected to: [5pts]

- ☐ **History** _____
- ☐ **Government** _____
- ☐ **Geography** _____
- ☐ **Culture** _____

Day One: fly to _____

Day Two:

Location: _____

Lodging: _____

Transportation: _____

Activities: _____

~Cost: _____

Day Three:

Location: _____

Lodging: _____

Transportation: _____

Activities: _____

~Cost: _____

Day Four:

Location: _____

Lodging: _____

Transportation: _____

Activities: _____

~Cost: _____

Day Five:

Location: _____

Lodging: _____

Transportation: _____

Activities: _____

~Cost: _____

Day Six:

Location: _____

Lodging: _____

Transportation: _____

Activities: _____

~Cost: _____

Day Seven: fly home from _____ **(or continue trip on extra page)**