

2023 Social Studies Curriculum

Grade 12: World Geography

Born on August 23, 2022 by the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education

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Aligned to the [2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Social Studies \(NJSLS-SS\)](#)

2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards: Social Studies
Grades 9-12

Geography, People and the Environment

Essential Question: How do physical geography, human geography, and the human environment interact to influence or determine the development of cultures, societies, and nations?

DISCIPLINARY CONCEPT	DESCRIPTION	CORE IDEAS
6.1.12.GeoSV: Spatial Views of the World	Spatial views of the world focus on the creation of maps and use of geospatial technologies. Creating maps and other geographical representations is an essential and enduring part of seeking new geographic knowledge that is personally and socially useful and that can be applied in making decisions and solving problems. Once maps or other representations are created, it prompts new questions concerning the locations, spaces, and patterns portrayed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geographic data can be used to analyze spatial patterns. Maps, satellite images, photographs, and other representations can be used to explain relationships between the locations of places and regions, and changes in their environmental characteristics.
6.1.12.GeoPP: Human Population Patterns	Human population, patterns and movement focus on the size, composition, distribution, and movement of human populations and how they are fundamental and active features on Earth's surface. This includes understanding that the expansion and redistribution of the human population affects patterns of settlement, environmental changes, and resource use. Patterns and movements of population also relate to physical phenomena including climate variability, landforms, and locations of various natural hazards and their effects on population size, composition, and distribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographic shifts and migration patterns both influence and are impacted by social, economic, and political systems. Environmental and cultural characteristics of a place or region influence spatial patterns.
6.1.12.GeoHE: Human Environment Interaction	Human-environment interactions are essential aspects of human life in all societies and they occur at local-to-global scales. Human-environment interactions happen both in specific places and across broad regions. Culture influences the locations and the types of interactions that occur. Earth's human systems and physical systems are in constant interaction and have reciprocal influences flowing among them. These interactions result in a variety of spatial patterns that require careful observation, investigation, analysis, and explanation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human settlement activities impact the environmental and cultural characteristics of specific places and regions. Political and economic decisions throughout time have influenced cultural and environmental characteristics. Long-term climate variability has influenced human migration and settlement patterns, resource use, and land uses at local-to-global scales.
6.1.12.GeoGI: Global Interconnections	Global interconnections occur in both human and physical systems. Earth is a set of interconnected ecosystems of which humans are an influential part. Many natural phenomena have no perceptible boundaries. For example, the oceans are one dynamic system. The atmosphere covers the entire planet. Land and water forms shift over geological eons. Many life forms diffuse from place to place and bring environmental changes with them. Humans have spread across the planet, along with their cultural practices, artifacts, languages, diseases, and other attributes. All of these interconnections create complex spatial patterns at multiple scales that continue to change over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global interconnections create complex spatial patterns at multiple scales that continue to change over time.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY PACING GUIDE

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
Unit 1: Geography and Maps Lesson 1: Geography and Maps Goal: To learn the special terms and symbols of geography and to use them to get and understand information from maps. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 2: The Americas Lesson 2: The United States and Canada Goal: To understand the geography of the United States and Canada and how it affects population and economic patterns in both countries. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 2: The Americas Lesson 3: Latin America Goal: To understand the geography of Latin America and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 3: Europe Lesson 4: Europe Goal: To understand the geography of Europe and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 4: Africa Lesson 5: North Africa Goal: To understand the geography of North Africa and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
Unit 4: Africa Lesson 6: Sub-Saharan Africa Goal: To understand the geography of Sub-Saharan Africa and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 5: Russia, Central Asia and the Middle East Lesson 7: Russia and Central Asia Goal: To understand the geography of Russia and Central Asia and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region. Lesson 8: The Middle East Goal: To understand the geography of the Middle East and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 6: South Asia and East Asia Lesson 9: South Asia and East Asia Understand the geography of South Asia and East Asia and how it affects population and economic patterns in the regions. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 7: Australia, Oceania and Antarctica Lesson 10: Australia and Oceania Understand the geography of Australia and Oceania and how it affects population and economic patterns in the regions. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI	Unit 7: Australia, Oceania and Antarctica Lesson 11: Antarctica Goal: To understand the unique geography of Antarctica. NJSLS 6.1.12.GeoSV, 6.1.12.GeoPP 6.1.12.GeoHE, 6.1.12.GeoGI

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

COURSE OVERVIEW

Textbook Series

Power Basics: World Geography

This program guides learners toward mastery of essential content in geography with expanded extension activities, more skills practice, and thorough reviews of concepts. This program invites all students to make the important connection between geography and their own lives.

Unit 1: Geography and Maps

This unit introduces the concept of geography as concerning both places and maps and the special terms and symbols used in geography. This unit opens with a discussion of the term geography and an explanation of maps, including the globe. Students will explore the types of information that maps can show, the features used in reading a map (compass rose, scale and legend), the parts of a globe (continents, oceans and hemispheres), and the globe's latitude and longitude lines. Students will use this basic information on geography and maps to explore the geography of various parts of the world in subsequent units of this book.

Lesson 1: Geography and Maps

Lesson Goal: To learn the special terms and symbols of geography and to use them to get and understand information from maps.

Unit 2: The Americas

This unit presents the geography of the Americas. Students will examine the geography of the United States and Canada, discussing the location of both countries on the North American continent. They will then explore these neighboring nations' population distribution (and its relationship to climate and bodies of water), their political divisions, their various water resources and landforms (some shared), and their climates, agriculture, natural resources and urban centers. Students' understanding is facilitated by maps of the United States and Canada, of landforms, of climate, of land use and of urban centers. Next, students will learn about the geography of Latin America, including Mexico, the Caribbean island nations, Central America and South America. They will examine Latin America's population distribution as related to climate zones, its political divisions, its various water resources and landforms, its climate and agriculture in various climate zones, and its natural resources and industry. Students' understanding is facilitated by maps of Latin America, of landforms, and of climate.

Lesson 2: The United States and Canada

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of the United States and Canada and how it affects population and economic patterns in both countries.

Lesson 3: Latin America

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of Latin America and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region.

Unit 3: Europe

Unit 3 presents the geography of Europe. Its single lesson, Lesson 4, discusses Europe's location and its division for geographical study into two regions- Western Europe and Eastern Europe. The lesson then goes on to examine the distribution of Europe's dense population (mostly along rivers and coasts), its regional political divisions, its many peninsulas and islands, its various water resources, its landforms, its temperate climate, its varied agriculture, and its natural resources and industry, including the disparities of those between Western and Eastern Europe. Student's understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of Europe, of landforms and of climate.

Lesson 4: Europe

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of Europe and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region.

Unit 4: Africa

Unit 4 presents the geography of Africa. Lesson 5 opens with an overview of the African continent as a whole, including its location and ways in which its enormous size is manifested. Lesson 5 then turns to an examination of the geography of the five countries of North Africa, including its population distribution and density (as largely related to the region's water sources), bodies of water and their coastlines, landforms (dominated by the great Sahara Desert), the mostly very dry climate, agriculture and the scarcity of arable land, and natural resources. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of the African continent, of North Africa, and of this region's landforms and climate. Lesson 6 examines the geography of sub-Saharan Africa, beginning with its location on the globe and its political divisions by region as affected by colonial rule. The lesson goes on to discuss population distribution, bodies of water and Associated land formations, rivers, landforms, climate regions, agriculture, and natural resources and Mining industries. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of sub-Saharan Africa, of landforms, and of climate.

Lesson 5: North Africa

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of North Africa and how it affects economic and population patterns in the region.

Lesson 6: Sub-Saharan Africa

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of sub-Saharan Africa and how it affects economic and population patterns in the region.

Unit 5: Russia, Central Asia and the Middle East

Unit 5 presents the geography of Russia, Central Asia, and the Middle East. Lesson 5 examines the geography of Russia and Central Asia, noting their location in both Europe and Asia and the vast size of Russia. This lesson then goes on to cover population distribution (and its size versus density), political divisions, bodies of water and associated land formations, inland waterways, the great variety of landforms, climate, agriculture, natural resources, and industrial and urban centers. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of Russia and Central Asia, of landforms, and of climate. Lesson 6 looks at the geography of the Middle East explaining its location and the shifting definition of which countries are included in the term Middle East. This lesson then goes on to explore political divisions by region, population distribution and densities, peninsulas and islands, bodies of water and inland waterways, landforms, climate (mostly very dry), agriculture, and natural resources and Industry (dominated by oil). Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of the middle east, of landforms, and of climate.

Lesson 7: Russia and Central Asia

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of Russia and Central Asia and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region.

Lesson 8: The Middle East

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of the Middle East and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region.

Unit 6: South Asia and East Asia

Unit 6 presents the geography of South Asia and East Asia. it's single lesson, Lesson 9, discusses the location of South Asia and East Asia and political divisions by region. The lesson then goes on to examine population distribution and density, Peninsula is an island, bodies of water and Inland waterways, landforms, climate, agriculture (and its differences between South Asia and East Asia), natural resources and industry. Students' understanding of this lesson geography is facilitated by maps of South Asia and East Asia, of landforms, and of climate.

Lesson 9: Unit 6: South Asia and East Asia

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of South Asia and East Asia and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region.

Unit 7: Australia, Oceania and Antarctica

Unit 7 presents the geography of Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica. Lesson 10 examines the geography of Australia and Oceania, noting the location of Australia and Oceania and its three groups of islands scattered across the Pacific. This lesson then goes on to discuss the varying types of political divisions of

Australia and Oceania, the uneven population distribution, islands and bodies of water, rivers and lakes, landforms, climate, agriculture, and natural resources and industry. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of Australia and Oceania, of landforms, and of climate. Lesson 11 covers the geography of Antarctica, noting its location and some of the facts that make this a continent of extremes. This lesson then goes on to discuss Antarctica's divisions and varying population, peninsulas and islands, bodies of water, landforms and Ice forms, the extreme cold polar climate, and natural resources. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of Antarctica and of its landforms.

Lesson 10: Australia and Oceania

Lesson Goal: To understand the geography of Australia and Oceania and how it affects population and economic patterns in the region.

Lesson 11: Antarctica

Lesson Goal: To understand the unique geography of Antarctica.