



#8696

DESTINATION SOUTHEAST ASIA

Grade Levels: 5-9

29 minutes

ACADEMIC MEDIA NETWORK 1999

DESCRIPTION

Journeys through Southeast Asia, providing a quick overview of Thailand, Burma (Myanmar), Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Singapore; and Java, Bali; and Borneo, islands of Indonesia. Briefly describes capitals, markets, religion, tourist sites, geography, and the people. Introduces the area to potential travelers.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To introduce the geography, population, culture, religion and history of the following Southeast Asian countries: Thailand, Burma, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Singapore and Indonesia.
2. To encourage travel to Southeast Asia.
3. To depict the characteristics of various cities within Southeast Asia.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Discuss traveling to Southeast Asia.
 - a. Why do travelers need to leave behind their inclinations, prejudices, predispositions, ignorance and fear?
 - b. Why do travelers need to be humble and respectful?
 - c. What is the value to travelers of being intent on learning, sharing, giving and receiving?
 - d. How is it possible in places so far from home to find people similar to oneself?
 - e. How can travel make a person feel complete and content?
 - f. Why do some people never want to leave Asia?
 - g. How welcome are Americans in Asia?
2. Discuss Thailand.
 - a. Why are people drawn to Thailand?
 - b. Why was Thailand previously called Siam?
 - c. What kind of diversity is found in Thailand?
 - d. What are the similarities and differences between the two largest cities in Thailand: Bangkok and Chang Mai?
 - e. What is there to see in Siam's ancient capital Ayutthaya?
 - f. What caused a major change in Siam in 1767?
 - g. What can be found in the surrounding countryside of Thailand?



3. Discuss Burma.
 - a. Why is Burma a great adventure destination?
 - b. What are the benefits and drawbacks of Burma's years of isolation under a military regime?
 - c. What is Burma's modern capital known for?
 - d. Why is the pace of life slow in Rangoon?
 - e. What are the differences between Rangoon and Mandalay?
 - f. What is different about Mandalay's claimed largest book in the world?
 - g. What is the climate in Burma?
 - h. How have Marco Polo and the Mongols influenced the city of Pagan?
4. Discuss Laos.
 - a. What are the similarities and differences between the Laotian cities of Vientiane and Luang Phrabang?
 - b. What offers respite from the intense heat in the city of Luang Phrabang?
 - c. What are possibilities for day trips by road and river from the cities of Laos?
5. Discuss Cambodia.
 - a. How is the rich, awe-inspiring history of Cambodia reflected in its proud people?
 - b. What modern holocaust still lingers in Cambodia today?
 - c. Why did the French consider Phnom Penh to be the Paris of Asia?
 - d. How were the ruins of Angkor lost for hundreds of years?
6. Discuss Vietnam.
 - a. Why was Vietnam not a tourist destination until after the early 1990s?
 - b. How is Vietnam unspoiled in culture, tradition and natural beauty?
 - c. What political struggles has Vietnam experienced over the past two centuries?
 - d. Why does Ho Chi Minh have such a massive tomb?
 - e. What proof of Chinese influence is evident in Vietnam?
 - f. What is the city of Hanoi known for?
 - g. What is distinctive about the landscape of Tam Co?
 - h. What is the role of the Tonkin kings in Vietnam history and modern tourism?
 - i. What is the Demilitarized Zone?
 - j. What religious beliefs are prevalent in historical and modern Vietnam?
 - k. How does Vietnam reflect the influence of Japan and China?
 - l. What changes have resulted in the reunified Vietnam?
 - m. What items can be purchased in Vietnam?
 - n. What changed in Vietnam in 1975?
7. Discuss Singapore.
 - a. What is a *city-state*?
 - b. What are the distinguishing features of Singapore?
 - c. What are the signs of Chinese influence in Singapore?
 - d. How is the ethnic diversity of the city reflected?



8. Discuss Indonesia.
 - a. What is an *archipelago nation*?
 - b. Why are numerous distinct cultures represented in Indonesia?
 - c. What religions are represented in Indonesia?
 - d. What are the similarities and differences between the islands of Bali and Java?
 - e. What is the significance of the work done at the Camp Leakey Orangutan Research Station in Tanjung Putting National Park?

Applications and Activities

1. Create a video or travel brochure to encourage one of the following to visit Southeast Asia:
 - a. 19th-century women's rights advocates
 - b. American war veterans
 - c. Environmentalists
 - d. Asian-American students born and raised in the United States
 - e. 18th-century aristocrats
2. Plan a trip to Southeast Asia using the itinerary shown in the video.
 - a. How much would the trip cost?
 - b. How much time would be required to see everything?
 - c. What types of transportation would be needed?
 - d. What kind of passport or visa would be required?
 - e. What kind of medical preparation would need to be made prior to the trip?
 - f. What time of year would be the best to travel?
 - g. What items would need to be packed?
3. Research the following topics related to Thailand.
 - a. The Karen, Lahu and Lisu tribes
 - b. The Burmese invasion of Siam in 1767
 - c. The current thriving of the ancient city of Ayutthaya
 - d. Bayon trees
4. Investigate topics related to Burma.
 - a. Theravada Buddhism
 - b. Marco Polo's exploration of Burma in the 13th century
 - c. Mongol invasion of Burma in 1287
 - d. Sugar palm trees
 - e. Volcanic Mount Popa
 - f. Burmese Buddhism
 - g. British colonization of Burma
5. Research the following topics related to Cambodia.
 - a. The French presence in Cambodia
 - b. Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom and the Bayon Temple
 - c. The flora and fauna of the jungles of Cambodia
 - d. The Cambodian holocaust
6. Investigate topics related to Vietnam.



- a. Ho Chin Minh
 - b. The fall of Saigon in 1975
 - c. The reunification of Vietnam
7. Research topics related to Indonesia.
- a. Differences between Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist and Animist beliefs that are prevalent in Indonesia
 - b. Religious influence in Bali art
 - c. Orangutang
 - d. Camp Leakey Orangutang Research Station in Tanjung Puting National Park

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- I Love My City: Bangkok #3480
- I Love My City: Yogyakarta #3482
- Indonesia #8772



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid-safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **ASIAN WWW VIRTUAL LIBRARY**

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWWVL-AsianStudies.html>

Comprehensive and fully searchable. Also includes alphabetical and categorical browsing.

- **ASK ASIA**

<http://www.askasia.org/>

Includes specific information geared for students and teachers. Also includes a comprehensive overview of Asia.

- **E-CONFLICT WORLD ENCYCLOPEDIA COUNTRY INFORMATION**

<http://www.emulateme.com/>

Allows selection of a country to link with numerous information regarding the geography, flag, history and current information.