# #9190 GEOGRAPHY BASICS: WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

SVE & CHURCHILL MEDIA 2000 Grade Levels: 4-8 13 minutes 1 Instructional Graphic Enclosed



## DESCRIPTION

Surveys the five themes of geography: location--where things and people are; place-characteristics of an area; relationships within a place--roads, structures, etc.; movement-people moving from place to place; and regions--areas where people share cultural similarities, climate, and landforms. Highlights the interaction of culture and geography.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

## Subject Area: Geography: The World in Spatial Terms

- Standard: Knows the location of places, geographic features, and patterns of the environment
  - Benchmark: Knows the location of physical and human features on maps and globes (e.g., culture hearths such as Mesopotamia, Huang Ho, the Yucatan peninsula, the Nile Valley; major ocean currents; wind patterns; land forms; climate regions)

## Subject Area: Geography: Places and Regions

- Standard: Understands the concept of regions
  - Benchmark: Knows the characteristics of a variety of regions (land form, climate, vegetation, shopping, housing, manufacturing, religion, language)
  - Benchmark: Knows the physical characteristics of places (e.g., soils, land forms, vegetation, wildlife, climate, natural hazards)

## **INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS**

- 1. To understand why geography is important to humans.
- 2. To name the five themes of geography.
- 3. To differentiate between place and location.
- 4. To define *language* and understand its importance to humans.
- 5. To understand the concept of culture and identify aspects of their own culture.
- 6. To understand the concept of movement and its importance in spreading the culture.
- 7. To discuss what cultural and regional factors define the American Southwest.

#### VOCABULARY

- 1. architecture
- 2. characteristics
- 3. climate

- 4. culture
- 5. cultural diffusion
- 6. ethnicity
- 7. geographic grid
- 8. geography
- 9. global address
- 10. hearth
- 11. landforms
- 12. landmarks

- 13. language
- 14. literary tradition
- 15. location
- 16. maps
- 17. movement
- 18. place
- 19. place names
- 20. region
- 21. relationships within a place
- 22. religion
- 23. remote
- 24. sewer systems

## **BEFORE SHOWING**

- 1. Ask students if they can name where they go to school or live and locate these places on a map. Discuss some of the geographical terms; such as city, state, or region, they use to define these places. Ask them if they can define those terms. Then ask if they know any other geographical terms used to define where people are?
- 2. Ask students to share information with the rest of the class about the geographical places they may have lived in or visited. Ask if any students have been to a place where people spoke a different language. Have them describe their experience.
- 3. Ask students if they can list things, such as languages, foods, traditions, religion they have in common with other people and things that make them different from other people. Write the list on the board. Tell students that the things on the lists are all things that make up a person's culture.

# AFTER SHOWING

# **Discussion Items and Questions**

- 1. What is *geography*? What questions does geography try to answer?
- 2. What is a *map*? What do humans use maps for? What is a *geographic grid*?
- 3. What is the definition of *location*? What are *landmarks*? What is a *landform*? What are some examples of landforms?
- 4. How do you define *place*? What is a *place name*? Give examples from where you live. How do place and location differ?
- 5. What are *relationships within a place*? What example does the video give of a relationship within a place? What type of relationships within a place do students have?
- 6. What is *culture*? What are some examples of each of these from your area?
- 7. How is *language* defined? Do students have any experiences with other languages? What is a *literary tradition*? How does the video define *religion*? What is *ethnicity*?
- 8. How does the video define *hearth*? What are some examples of hearths geologists look for? How does a geographical factor spread from the hearth?
- 9. How do cultures change? How does *movement* work? Can students give any examples of movement?

10. What is a *region*? What example of a region does the video give? What makes the southwestern United States a region?

#### **Applications and Activities**

- 1. Interview someone of a different culture. What do students find out? How do their cultures differ? How are they the same?
- 2. Complete the worksheet. (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.) Ask family for help.

#### SUMMARY

This video introduces students to the five themes of geography: location, place, relationships within a place, movement, and region. Familiarizes students with the science of geography to help better understand how we define and interact with our surroundings. Footage from various places across the planet shows the range of geography and cultural factors such as ethnicity, religion, and language that exist simultaneously.

A narrator takes views on a tour of the world's regions and cultures, from the city to the desert of the American Southwest. Gives students new insight into their everyday surroundings and help them understand the importance of knowing where they are in the world.

## **RELATED RESOURCES**



## **Captioned Media Program**

- Geography Basics: Units of Place #9189
- Themes of Geography #9195



# 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.

## • GEO GAME

#### http://school.discovery.com/schooladventures/geogame/

A Discovery School site, click on one of the several landmark pictures to play the "Geo Game." Provides clues for you to choose the correct location.

## GEOGRAPHY QUIZZES

## http://geography.state.gov/htmls/geoquizlinks.html

Play one of the several geography quizzes from all over the world: Africa, Amazon, Asia, Canada, Europe, South America, United States, and the world.

## • THE CIA WORLD FACTBOOK

## http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/menugeo.html

Provides information on each of the 200+ locations/places of the world with an introduction; and describes its geography characteristics, peoples, government, economy, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues.

## • THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COUNTRY STUDIES

http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html

Presents a description and analysis of the historical setting and the social, economic, political, and national security systems and institutions of countries throughout the world. Also examines the interrelationships of those systems and the ways they are shaped by cultural factors.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS**

• MY CULTURE

**#9190 GEOGRAPHY BASICS: WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?** 

**Captioned Media Program** 

1y Culture
Directions: Answer the following questions. If you do not know the answer, ask your family for help.
What culture(s) are you a part of?
What languages do people of your culture speak?
What are some of the cultural customs you have?
Are there any religious practices you participate in? If so, describe them.
Draw a picture of something from your culture:

Captioned Media Program VOICE 800-237-6213 TTY 800-237-6819 FAX 800-538-5636 EMAIL <u>info@cfv.org</u> WEB <u>www.cfv.org</u> Funding for the Captioned Media Program is provided by the U.S. Department of Education