

#9331

PACIFIC PASSAGES

AIMS MULTIMEDIA
1997
Grade Levels: 7-10
31 minutes



DESCRIPTION

Explores the cultures, geography, people, resources, and traditions of the islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, all of which form the Pacific basin. Highlights rites of passage into adulthood and social issues westernization brings.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Geography: Environment and Society

- Standard: Understands how physical systems affect human systems
 - Benchmark: Knows the effects of natural hazards on human systems in different regions of the United States and the world (e.g., the effect of drought on populations in Ethiopia compared with populations in Australia or the southern part of the United States)

Subject Area: Geography: Places and Regions

- Standard: Understands the physical and human characteristics of place
 - Benchmark: Knows how social, cultural, and economic processes shape the features of places (e.g., resource use, belief systems, modes of transportation and communication; major technological changes such as the agricultural and industrial revolutions; population growth and urbanization)
- Standard: Understands that culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
 - Benchmark: Knows the ways in which culture influences the perception of places and regions (e.g., religion and other belief systems, language and tradition; perceptions of "beautiful" or "valuable")

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To introduce viewers to the geography, culture, people and resources of the Pacific Basin.
2. To provide motivation for the study of the Pacific Basin.
3. To help students develop a multicultural perspective that represents the dignity and worth of all people and recognizes their commonalities.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What are high and low islands and how are they formed?
2. What are the effects of typhoons, tidal waves and volcanoes on this area of the world?

3. What important ecological issues were raised in this video?
4. How is village-living different from city-living?
5. How do Pacific Island people treat their children? How is that different from our society?
6. How do Pacific Island people treat their elders? How is that different from our society?

SUMMARY

Filled with unforgettable images, Pacific Passages takes students out of the textbook and into the sights and sounds of the contemporary Pacific. The Pacific Basin covers one-third of the earth's surface and contains some of the world's most dynamic cultures. From thatched-roof huts in Papua, New Guinea to the high-rises of Honolulu, the peoples of this region carve their lives from the land and, in turn, the land shapes these people. Viewers will learn that geography involves a vibrant interaction between people and their environment. Every act of existence becomes entwined with ritual and art-making. Pacific Passages uses the world-renowned collections of the Honolulu Academy of the Arts and the Bishop Museum as a focal point for the exploration of the cultures and geography of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Hawaii: The Big Island #8270



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.

- **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE**

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/guam/kids.html>

Click on one of the several topics under the "Pacific Region" to read top news of the day such as "Central Pacific Hurricane Center," "Honolulu Pacific Tsunami Warning Center," and others. Find out current weather expectations for that region.

- **PACIFIC ISLANDS REPORT**

<http://pidp.eastwestcenter.org/pireport/graphics.htm>

Read headlines, view island images, click on one of several news presented, or choose a topic in the left column for goings-on in the Pacific region.

- **PACIFIC BASIN ECONOMIC COUNCIL**

<http://www.pbec.org/home/core.htm>

Provides information and links on upcoming conferences relating to the Pacific basin region. Links to the Pacific Journal, agreements made, letters from authority figures, and more.

- **SOUTH PACIFIC ORGANIZER**

<http://www.southpacific.org/links.html>

Comprehensive site on Pacific links, such as health information for travelers to the South Pacific, tips for trips, news, business, and more. Geared towards travelers.