

Unit Plan for Fourth Grade Social Studies

Geography

Does the Geography of New York impact how it's people live?

Notes: The recommended time slot for Geography in the curriculum is during September and October. This is approximately 25 classroom days.

Items number 5 and 9 need to be evaluated to insure they are current and relevant over the course of a few years.

Whenever doing edible activities with the class, be certain to alert parents and have signed permission to use food products that may be of allergic or dietary concerns for their child.

GEOGRAPHY: the descriptive science dealing with the surface of the earth, its division into continents and countries, and the climate, plants, animals, natural resources, inhabitants, and industries of the various divisions.

(as defined in the Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition, 1991)

1.) The five themes of Geography: Location, Place, Movement, Human-Environment Interaction, Region

2.) Using Globes & globe vocabulary: ocean, continent, hemisphere, equator
Using Maps & map vocabulary: cardinal directions, compass rose, intermediate directions, symbol, map key, scale, locator
Types of Maps: political map, physical map, landform map, transportation map, historical map

3.) Introduce relevant vocabulary:

border	bay	environment	Weather
drumlin	coast	natural resource	climate
geography	harbor	renewable resource	temperature
glacier	mouth	fertilizer	precipitation
Ice Age	source	nonrenewable resource	
hurricane			
landform	transportation	population	blizzard
moraine	tributary	economy	region
plain		quarry	history
plateau		conservation	port
till			gorge
valley			

4.) Introduce Place Names:

New York Bay

Freeport