Ms. Castiello Cooper 6 Social Studies Name:
In Progress: Geography Project Date:

Geographic Travelogues

Overview:

Our study of geography this quarter will include a look at world cultures. The goal of this project is to research and understand different countries by using the five themes of geography. Each student will select a country and prepare a keynote based on the five themes of geography. The keynote will be presented to the class. We will end our study of geography with a celebration of cultural diversity at our Cultural Festival.

Project:

Students will research a country by using the five themes of geography; location, place, region, human-environment interaction, and movement. First, you will define each of the five themes of geography. Second, you will research and explain each of the five themes based on your country. Finally, each student will prepare a keynote presentation. All keynotes will start with an introductory slide that will start us on our virtual tour of your country. In addition, you will select music and photos that will be added to your keynote presentation.

Due Dates:

1. **Research Note Packet due on October ___7___.**
2. **Keynote due on October __19____.**
3. **Keynote Presentations on October 20 to 25_____.**
4. **Cultural Festival in November.**

Grading:

	Points
1. **Keynote (Individual Recordings)**	**50 points /**
2. **Research Notes for Podcasts**	**40 points /**
3. **Presentation**	**10 points /**
Total:	**100 points /**

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Guiding Research Questions

Directions: In order to create your keynote/virtual cube each student must complete a research note packet. The questions listed below will be the basis of your research for each part of the project. If the question says "all" next to it, everyone must answer that question. In addition, each student must choose two other questions to research and answer. HIGHLIGHT each question you need to answer. Research packets are worth 30 points.

Location: **Where is the country located?**

1. Define the geographic theme of location. **(all)**

2. Find the country's relative location. **(all)**

3. What is the country's capital? **(all)**

   a. Find the exact location of the country's capital.

4. On what continent is the country located? **(all)**

5. Describe some of the interesting land forms found in the country. (mountains, canyons, lakes waterfalls, deserts etc.)

6. List three facts about climate (rainfall, temperature...).

7. What countries border the country? **(all)**

8. What bodies of water are found in or around the country?

Place: **What is it like to live in the country?**

1. Define the geographic theme of place. **(all)**

2. What natural resources are found in the country?

3. What cultural groups are found in the country?

4. What religion or religions are practiced in the country? **(all)**

5. What holidays, traditions or customs are important to understanding the country?

6. Describing the type of government that exists in the country and the economy.

(all) Include **three** interesting facts about the country's government.

1.

2.

3.

Human Environment Interaction: How people affect the environment?

1. Define the geographic theme of human environment interaction. **(all)**

2. What types of crops are grown in the country? **(all)**

3. What types of jobs are found in the country? **(all)**

4. Does the country have any endangered species? If so what animals and plants are endangered? Why are they endangered?

5. Environmental problems/solutions that exist in the county.

Region: How geographers compare and contrast places.

1. Define the geographic theme of region. **(all)**

2. What type of education system exists in the country?

3. What is the total population of the country? What is the population density?**(all)**

4. What is the area of the country in square miles? **(all)**

5. What is the Per Capita GDP?

6. Life expectancy for males: females:

7. What is the literacy rate in the country?

8. In what climate region is the country located? **(all)**

Movement: How people, goods and ideas move into and out of a place?

1. Define the geographic theme of movement. **(all)**

2. What goods are imported to and exported from the country? **(all)**

3. Describe the country's flag and its history. **(all)**

4. Describe how the country gained its independence.

5. What special traditions are celebrated in the country?

6. What kind of technology is used in the country?

7. What are the popular modes of transportation and communication in the country?

Current Events: What newsworthy events are taking place in your country?

1. Is your country involved in any conflicts?**(all)**
2. Who are your countries allies or friends? **(all)**
3. Does your country belong to the United Nations? **(all)**
4. Does your country belong to NATO or any other international organization?**(all)**
5. Are there any challenges facing your country? **(all)**

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RESEARCH NOTE INSTRUCTIONS

Each student will prepare a virtual tour or **"Geo-Cube"** based on the **Five Themes of Geography** and **culture**. The **"Geo-Cube"** will consist of six parts; part one is **Location**, part two is **Place**, part three is **Human-Environment Interaction**, part four is **Region**, part five is **Movement**, part six is **Country Challenges/Current Events**. We will research these topics in the library using a variety of resources. Therefore this project also provides a way for you to get to know what the middle school library is all about.

Your ultimate goal is to be able to give your peers an accurate and easy way to understand what life is like in "your" country. In addition, you want to be able to explain what role your country plays in our global community. Your teachers and classmates will eventually view your virtual tour. You want the class to feel that they would be prepared with enough knowledge about your country that they would feel comfortable visiting your country.

Getting Started

1. Which country will you research? _____
Write your name and the name of the country on the card. Then turn the card over and brainstorm everything you think you know about this country.

2. On Monday and Tuesday we will go to the library. You will meet Mrs. Waltzman and she will tell you all about how to use the library for this project.

3. This project will take place during Quarter One. This means that we will be working on the project throughout the month of October. You will be informed of upcoming due dates as they approach.

4. The research for each side of your virtual cube will be introduced with a **Guiding Research Question.** Students will evaluate which of the numbered research questions are most important to their country.

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Notes for Part One- Location: Where is your country located?

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Notes for Part Two- Place: What is it like to live in your country?

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Notes for Part Three- Human Environment Interaction: How people in your country impact your country's environment?

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Notes for Part Four- Region: How do geographers compare your country to other countries?

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Notes for Part Five- Movement: How people, goods, and ideas move into and out of a country?

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Notes for Part Six- Challenges/Current Events: What role does your country play in the global community?

Guiding Research Questions Notes

Extra Note Sheet: