

New Paltz Central School District
Social Studies
Third Grade

Time	Essential Questions/Content	Skills	Assessments
September – October	<p><u>Unit 1: Maps/Climates/Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does geography affect how and where people live? • How does a map help us find where we are and/or where we are going? • What is the purpose of this map? <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps and diagrams serve as representations of places, physical features, and objects • The spatial relationships of world communities can be described by direction and location • Geographic representations such as aerial photographs and satellite-produced images are types of maps that can be used to locate world communities • Regions represent areas of Earth’s surface with unifying geographic characteristics • The roots of American culture, its development from many traditions, and ways many people from a variety of groups and backgrounds played a role in creating it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify continents and oceans • Locate places on maps and globes using a compass rose and intermediate cardinal directions (N, S, E, W, NE, NW, SE, SW) • Identify cause and effect (in terms of geography) • Identify basic needs • Locate countries related to third grade curriculum (Asian, African, and Latin) • Identify the thirteen colonies on a United States map and begin to explore how maps of the United States changed over time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes

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October – November	<p><u>Unit 2: Government and American Culture</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is government? • Why do people have governments? • What are the important aspects of American culture? <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People in world communities form governments to develop rules and laws to govern community members • People in world communities may have conflicts over rules, rights, and responsibilities • The processes of selecting leaders, solving problems, and making decisions differ in world communities • Governments in world communities organize to provide functions people cannot provide as individuals • Governments in world communities have the authority to make, carry out, and enforce laws and manage disputes among them • Governments in world communities develop rules and laws • Governments in world communities plan, organize, and make decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the rules and responsibilities of citizenship • Explain the need for government (and rules) • Identify national holidays, celebrations, and symbols • Describe functions provided by government that people cannot provide for themselves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit assessment

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November – December	<p><u>Unit 3: Australia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the important aspects of this culture? • How is this culture affected by geography? • How do people in this culture depend on and modify their environment? • How is this world community interdependent with other world communities? <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a culture? What is a civilization? • How and why do cultures change? • Where do people settle and live? Why? • People in world communities exchange elements of their cultures • People in world communities use legends, folktales, oral histories, biographies, autobiographies, and historical narratives to transmit values, ideas, beliefs, and traditions • People in world communities celebrate their accomplishments, achievements, and contributions • Historic events can be viewed through the eyes of those who were there, as shown in their art, writings, music, and artifacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a PowerPoint presentation (insert a picture and text box, change font color and size, and basics of slide design/transition) • Identify and compare the physical, human, and cultural characteristics of different regions and people • Investigate how people depend on and modify the physical environment • Ask geographic questions about where places are located; why they are located where they are; what is important about their locations; and how their locations are related to the location of other people and places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint presentation on culture, geography, and comparison to US culture

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January – June	<p><u>Unit 4: Asian Cultures</u> <u>Unit 5: Latin Cultures</u> <u>Unit 6: African Cultures</u> (These units can be taught in any order, at the discretion of the classroom teacher. The essential questions are the same for each unit.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the important aspects of this culture? • How is this culture affected by geography? • How do people in this culture depend on and modify their environment? • How is this world community interdependent with other world communities? <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs, customs, and traditions in world communities are learned from others and may differ from place to place • Different events, people, problems, and ideas make up world communities • People in world communities may have different interpretations and perspectives about important issues and historic events • The physical, human, and cultural characteristics of different regions and peoples throughout the world are different 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use note taking for research • Develop PowerPoint presentations (Latin and African Cultures units) • Write an essay on culture, including a comparison (Asian Culture unit) • Identify and compare the physical, human, and cultural characteristics of different regions and peoples • Investigate how people depend on and modify the physical environment • Ask geographic questions about where places are located; why they are located where they are; what is important about their locations; and how their locations are related to the location of other people and places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint presentations (Latin and African cultures units) • Essay on Asian culture

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interactions between economic activities and geographic factors differ in world communities• The factors that influence human settlements differ in world communities• People living in world communities depend on and modify their physical environments in different ways• Lifestyles in world communities are influenced by environmental and geographic factors• The development of world communities is influenced by environmental and geographic factors• Human needs and wants differ from place to place• Resources are important to economic growth in world communities• People in world communities celebrate various holidays and festivals• People in world communities use monuments and memorials to represent symbols of their nations		