Social Studies Global Geography: Academic Unit 4: Australia

Essential Understandings	Political, physical, economic, social, historic, and environmental factors contributed to the development of this region.
Essential Questions	 Where is this region? What are the names of the countries in it? What are the major physical features? What resources and economic activities are found in this region?
Essential Knowledge	 Challenges that face this region include: Farming/food for an arid land with increasing population Economic and environmental developments Political and physical features shape the region. History of a region shapes it characteristics. Cultural and religious characteristics shape the region.
Vocabulary	 Terms: Outback, marsupial, Aborigines, Maori, atoll, pidgin, matrilineal
Essential Skills	 Use a timeline to show patterns that developed in this region. Identify defining events in the history of this region. Draw place and/or feature locations. Identify names, locations, and characteristics of political and physical features. Explain historical and cultural changes. Show how resources and economics are related.
Related Maine Learning Results	Social Studies D. Geography D1.Geographic Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns Students understand the geography of the United States and various regions of the world and the effect of geographic influences on decisions about the present and future. b. Describe the major regions of the Earth and their major physical, environmental, and cultural features using a variety of geographic tools.
Sample Lessons And Activities	Essay Prompt: "How has the development of Australia's economy affected the environment?"
Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	Essay with rubric scoring for citing the best examples
Sample Resources	 Publications: World Geography Today – Holt, Rinehart 2003

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