

**Social Studies**  
**Global Geography: Basic**  
**Unit 8: Russia and Central Asia**

<b>Essential Understandings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political, physical, economic, social, historic, and environmental factors contributed to the development of this region.</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the major political and physical features of this region?</li> <li>What are the distinct natural environs and their characteristics?</li> <li>What is the history/language and culture of Russia?</li> </ul>
<b>Essential Knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges that face this region include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farming/food for an arid land with an increasing population</li> <li>Economic and environmental developments</li> </ul> </li> <li>History of a region shapes its characteristics.</li> </ul>
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Terms:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>taiga, tsar, Slav, Rus, soviet, gulag, autarky, shatter belt, autocrats, yurts, monoculture, transhumance, steppe, nomad, Tatar</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Essential Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use a timeline to show patterns that developed in this region.</li> <li>Identify defining events in the history of this region.</li> <li>Draw place and/or feature locations.</li> <li>Identify names, locations, and characteristics of political and physical features.</li> </ul>
<b>Related Maine Learning Results</b>	<p><u>Social Studies</u>  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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the major regions of the Earth and their major physical, environmental, and cultural features using a variety of geographic tools.</li> <li>Analyze local, national, and global geographic data on physical, environmental, and cultural processes that shape and change places and regions.</li> </ol>
<b>Sample Lessons And Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compile timelines that trace parallel chronological events in Russian, European, and Central Asian History.</li> </ul>
<b>Sample Classroom Assessment Methods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion of timelines</li> </ul>
<b>Sample Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Other Resources:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher Created Materials</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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