

Virtual Library

Becky Zebroski
July 30, 2008
CET 727

Date: July 24-July 30

Search Engines Used: Google, Yahoo

Subject or Topic of Virtual Library: Maps and Map Skills

Link List

1. Title: National Atlas of the United States

URL: <http://www.nationalatlas.gov/dynamic.html>

Description: This site allows users to create customized maps of the United States. Basic Map options include: Cities and Towns, Counties, Latitude and Longitude, Roads, States, Streams and Water bodies. Thematic map options include: Agriculture, Biology, Climate, History, People, Transportation. In addition the site has articles explaining each of the options. The site is user friendly.

2. Title: GeoNet Game—Houghton Mifflin Social Studies

URL: <http://www.eduplace.com/geonet/>

Description: This is an online game for kids. It focuses on the five themes of geography (location, place, interaction, movement and region) and students can pick the theme and area they want to be quizzed on. Use of an atlas to help answer questions would be helpful and provide additional practice.

3. Title: Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection

URL: <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/index.html>

Description: The Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection at the University of Texas at Austin holds more than 230,000 maps, many of which have been scanned and made available at this site. This extensive online collection includes hundreds of high quality, copyright-free maps of nations and cities, as well as many historical maps. A special "Electronic Maps of Current Interest" section highlights maps of places in the news. This site also hosts a variety of links to other map-related sites.

4. Title: Maps Home Page

URL: <http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/geology/leveson/core/linksa/maptop.html>

Description: A site to assist in teaching distance, direction, latitude, longitude, contour, plus quizzes. Information is presented in dialogue form between characters.

5. Title: Brain Pop

URL: <http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/geography/mapskills/preview.weml>

Description: Requires a subscription (which our district has) to view a video on longitude and latitude and other geography topics and quizzes.

6. Title: National Geographic—Human Footprint

URL: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/14/g68/HumanFootprint.pdf>

Description: This is a lesson that helps students to visualize how their actions influence our environment. This PDF file gives back ground information, discussion questions/topics and activities. The activities utilize maps and map skills.

7. Title: USGS—United States Geological Survey

URL: <http://education.usgs.gov/common/secondary.htm#mapteach>

Description: This site contains a variety of lesson plans, modules, and resources related to maps and map skills. Each link is marked with easily recognizable symbols (teaching modules, structured classroom activities, resources, and additional costs associated with supplies).

8. Title: Geology.com

URL: <http://geology.com/teacher/map.shtml>

Description: List of map and geography lesson plans, classroom activities, projects, reference materials and demonstrations. With adaptation, many of them can be used for elementary, secondary, middle school, and university students.

9. Title: Sheppard Software

URL: <http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/Geography.htm>

Description: This site offers tutorials and games about capitals, countries, landscapes, and oceans of different continents/regions around the world. There are different levels of complexity and different versions of the game for users using a dial up connection.

10. Title: National Geographic Xpeditions

URL: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/>

Description: This site allows the user to search for geography lessons by grade and geography standards. The lessons address all of the U.S. National Geography Standards, the five geography skills, and the main geographic perspectives. Serving a variety of needs, the plans include a wide range of teaching strategies. The assessment component of each lesson focuses on the knowledge and skills that students will use to answer a guiding geographic question as they address real-world issues.

Site Ranking:

1. <http://www.eduplace.com/geonet/>
2. <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/>
3. <http://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/geography/mapskills/preview.weml>
4. <http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/geology/leveson/core/linksa/maptop.html>
5. <http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/Geography.htm>
6. <http://www.nationalatlas.gov/dynamic.html>
7. <http://geology.com/teacher/map.shtml>
8. <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/14/g68/HumanFootprint.pdf>
9. <http://education.usgs.gov/common/secondary.htm#mapteach>
10. <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/index.html>

Becky,

I've always loved the social science disciplines, but geography was always at the bottom of that love list. However, with such interactive sites as you have in this library, I think that geography could definitely come alive for students. In addition, you are able to focus on all five of the geography themes, utilizing a variety of methods and activities for doing so. Nicely done.