

Geography

Standard 1 – World in Spatial Terms and Uses of Geography

Students organize information and solve geographic problems using geographical tools, representations, and technologies.

WG.1.1 Describe the impact of technology on the study of geography and gather geographic information using technological tools

WG.1.2 Explain Earth's grid system, using latitude and longitude to locate key places and to answer geographic questions about that place

WG.1.3 Compare and contrast various types of maps and map projections and evaluate distortions associated with each map projection

WG.1.4 Use geographic representations to locate the world's continents, major landforms, major bodies of water and major countries and to solve geographic problems

Standard 2 – Physical Systems

Students answer geographic questions about Earth's physical systems to explain ecosystems and natural processes.

WG.2.1 Describe and categorize elements of the natural environment as belonging to one of the four components of Earth's physical systems: atmosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, or hydrosphere

WG.2.2 Identify and locate world climate regions and evaluate the impact of the Earth/Sun relationship, ocean currents, wind currents, and elevation on each climate region

WG.2.3 Compare and contrast regions of the world by analyzing the plant and animal life indigenous to the region (ecosystems)

WG.2.4 Explain and give examples of natural and human processes that shape Earth's surface and identify specific locations where these processes occur

Standard 3 – Region

Students examine the unifying characteristics of a given region and determine the challenges and opportunities created by the development of that region.

WG.3.1 Analyze how cooperation, conflict, and self-interest impact the cultural, political, and economic regions of the world and relations between nations

WG.3.2 Determine the unifying characteristics that regions possess and explain changes that they have experienced over time

WG.3.3 Explain how human and physical characteristics facilitate or hinder regional interactions

Standard 4 – Place

Students will identify the physical and cultural characteristics of a particular location and investigate changes to it over time.

WG.4.1 Determine the physical and human characteristics that comprise the identity of a given place

WG.4.2 Analyze the distinguishing physical characteristics of a given place to determine their impact on human activities

WG.4.3 Identify and analyze distinguishing human characteristics of a given place to determine their influence on historical events

WG.4.4 Evaluate the impact of historical events on culture and relationships among groups

WG.4.5 Examine the relationship between social, economic, and government systems and describe how each system has changed a given place over time

Standard 5 – Human Systems

Students examine the movement of human populations, information, ideas, and goods throughout history and its impact on human settlement and the economies of various countries.

WG.5.1 Describe and classify reasons for human migration in terms of push or pull factors to determine the changes and similarities in these factors over time

WG.5.2 Use population pyramids, geographic data and maps to analyze the current impact of population growth and to predict future population trends

WG.5.3 Describe and illustrate specific examples of economic interdependence in various regions

WG.5.4 Determine the factors that contribute to a country's standard of living

WG.5.5 Explain how changes in technology have contributed to the spread of ideas and information throughout the world

Standard 6 – Environment and Society

Students analyze ways in which humans adapt to, modify, and depend upon Earth's physical environment.

WG.6.1 Describe technological advances that have allowed humans to modify the environment and analyze the impact of these advances on the environment

WG.6.2 Identify challenges posed by the physical environment and evaluate strategies that will allow humans to more effectively deal with these challenges

WG.6.3 Analyze the distribution of resources and describe their impact on human systems (past, present, and future)

WG.6.4 Assess the role of government and business in preserving or consuming natural resources and protecting or destroying the physical environment