Unit 8: Geography

Content Area: **Spanish**
Course(s): **Spanish**
Time Period: **Generic Time Period**
Length: **Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

In this unit, students learn about important cities in Mexico and Spain, where important land forms are located in these countries, and are introduced to the history of Mexico and Spain.

Standards

WL.7.1.NM.A.4	Identify familiar people, places, and objects based on simple oral and/or written descriptions.
WL.7.1.NM.A.5	Demonstrate comprehension of brief oral and written messages using age - and level - appropriate, culturally authentic materials on familiar topics.
WL.7.1.NM.B.2	Give and follow simple oral and written directions, commands, and requests when participating in age - appropriate classroom and cultural activities.

Essential Questions

How are Mexico and Spain different? How are they similar?

In what ways can the Aztec heritage still be observed in Mexico today?

What part does the art play in Spanish culture?

Application of Knowledge and Skills...

Students will know that...

- Barcelona is Spain's largest seaport and second largest city
- Bilbao is a small city in the northern mountainous Basque region

- Catalan, a mixture of Spanish and French, is a language spoken in Barcelona
- Granada is known for being the home of the Alhambra, a Moorish palace
- Guadalajara is Mexico's second largest city and is known for its pottery and crafts
- Madrid is the capital of Spain
- Málaga is a major seaport on the southern coast, known for its warm climate and nice beaches
- Mérida is located on the Yucatán Peninsula and is known for its Mayan cultural center
- Mexico's history and culture can be seen by visiting its museums and buildings
- Monterrey is the largest city and is known for its major convention center and sports arena
- Palacio Nacional is the headquarters of Mexico's government
- Sevilla is located on the Guadalquivir River and is known for shipping and commerce
- Sevilla is one of Spain's largest cities and the largest inland port
- Sevilla's architecture was influenced by the Moors
- Some important rivers in Spain include: Tajo, Guadalquivir, Duero and Guadiana
- Spain is filled with monuments, museums and public buildings that reflect its long history
- The capital of Mexico is Mexico City
- The Río Bravo is also known as the Río Grande and is a border between the United States and Mexico
- The Sierra Madre mountain range was a barrier to communication, transportation and national unification
- Veracruz is situated in the Gulf of Mexico and has an abundance of fishing villages

Students will be able to . . .

- Compare and contrast Mexico and Spain
- Describe basic facts about important Spanish and Mexican cities
- Locate important Spanish and Mexican rivers and mountain ranges
- Name the capital of Spain and Mexico

Assessments

- describe a trip that one will take to Mexico or Spain; include a description of three cities that one will visit and what one will do in those cities; explain what one liked best about the country.
- Diagnostic: Other visual assessments
- Formative: Personal Project
- Geography Test
- label major cities on the map of Spain and Mexico, using a word bank; answer multiple-choice questions about the geography and culture of Mexico and Spain.
- locate and answer question about cities, important rivers, and mountain ranges in Spain and in Mexico using the maps projected on the Smart Board.
- Pre-assessment
- Summative: Written Test

- Trip to Mexico or Spain

Activities

- label the major cities, mountain ranges and rivers of Spain and color the map
- label the major cities, mountain ranges and rivers of Mexico and color in the map
- write a paragraph comparing and contrasting Spain and Mexico
- write a paragraph explaining which country one would prefer to visit and why
- create a photo album that includes illustrations of different places in Spain and Mexico

Activities to Differentiate Instruction

- review using Internet games
- play "Jeopardy" to review information about Spain and Mexico
- create board games containing information about Spain and Mexico
- create a practice test and exchange with a classmate; take the classmate's test; grade the test one created.

*see link

Geography Review Game

Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction

- Compare and Contrast Paragraph (Language Arts)
- Maps (Geography)
- Photo Album (Art)

Resources

- Worksheets
- Exploring Spanish Textbook
- Exploring Spanish Workbook
- Geography Books
- Internet Game
- Websites
- Pictures

*see links

Mexican Map Worksheets

- Mexican Map Worksheets
- Mexico Word Search
- Mexico Worksheets
- Spain Map and Worksheets
- Geography Review Game
- Spain Website and Photos
- Mexico Website and Photos