Unit 2: North America and South America

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Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

World Geography Social Studies 7

Unit 2: North and South America

Belleville Board of Education

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Unit Overview

Unit 2 describes the geography of North America and South America and its influences on society in the past, present, and into the future. This unit explains how by examining the geography within each of the two continents, you can examine what life was like and how life is today.

Enduring Understanding

The enduring understandings for this unit include:

- The people and culture of the United States are very diverse and while many in the United States are descended from European immigrants, the United States is home to people of many ethnic groups.

- Influenced by Olmec civilization, the Maya developed an advanced civilization that thrived in Mesoamerica from about 250 until the 900s.
- After many smaller civilizations rose and fell, the Incas controlled a huge empire in South America, but it was conquered by the Spanish.
- South America is a continent made up of diverse physical features, wildlife, climates, and resources.

Essential Questions

Essential Questions for this Unit include:

- Why does where you live in the United States matter?
- Which early Latin American civilization was most successful?
- Why is it important for the United States and Mexico to be good neighbors?
- What are the most important challenges for the nations of Central America and the Caribbean?

Exit Skills

After completing Unit 2 on North and South America, students will be able to:

- describe the major physical features of the United States and their effects on different parts of the country.
- explain how the early civilizations in the Latin America region were impacted by the

geography of the area.
- analyze the role of the physical geography of South America and the results of the geography on culture.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S)

SOC.6.1.8.1	Three Worlds Meet (Beginnings to 1620)
SOC.6.1.8.B.1.a	Describe migration and settlement patterns of Native American groups, and explain how these patterns affected interactions in different regions of the Western Hemisphere.
SOC.6.1.8.B.1.b	Analyze the world in spatial terms (e.g., longitude, latitude) using historical maps to determine what led to the exploration of new water and land routes.
SOC.6.1.8.D.2.a	Analyze the power struggle among European countries, and determine its impact on people living in Europe and the Americas.
SOC.6.1.8.CS1	Three Worlds Meet: Indigenous societies in the Western Hemisphere migrated and changed in response to the physical environment and due to their interactions with Europeans. European exploration expanded global economic and cultural exchange into the Western Hemisphere.
SOC.6.1.8.CS3	Revolution and the New Nation: Disputes over political authority and economic issues contributed to a movement for independence in the colonies. The fundamental principles of the United States Constitution serve as the foundation of the United States government today.

Interdisciplinary Connections

LA.RH.6-8.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
LA.RH.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
LA.RH.6-8.3	Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).
LA.RH.6-8.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
LA.RH.6-8.5	Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
LA.RH.6-8.6	Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).
LA.RH.6-8.7	Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
LA.RH.6-8.8	Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
LA.RH.6-8.9	Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.
LA.RH.6-8.10	By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.WHST.6-8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.

Learning Objectives

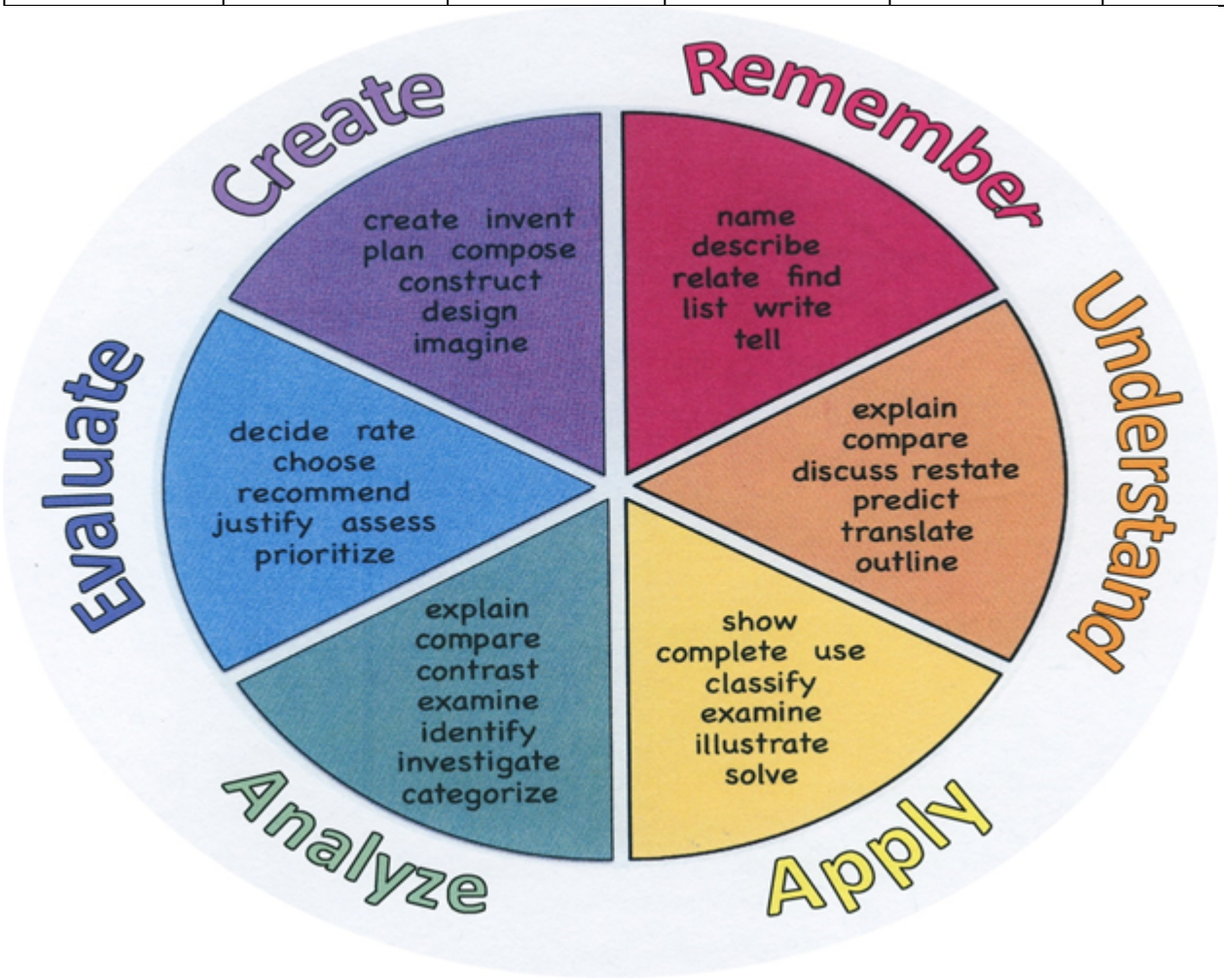
After completing the unit on North and South America, students will be able to:

- describe the influence of the physical features and climate of the United States on the people and culture.
- explain the effects of the Mayans, Incas, and Aztecs on the area known as Latin America.
- examine the relationship between the United States and Mexico over time.
- analyze the challenges South American countries face including economic, political, or environmental issues.

Action Verbs: Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design

List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



Suggested Activities & Best Practices

Suggested activities and best practices for this unit include:

- Work together to create journal entries to explain their journey cross-country throughout the United States.
- Create a brochure about the Olmecs, Mayans, Aztecs, or Incans about their culture and their effect on society.
- Research a cultural region of Mexico and describe the life of the people in this region today based on geography and other aspects of their lives.

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

Assessment Evidence for this unit include:

- DBQ journal entry on the rise and fall of the Aztec Empire-benchmark assessment
- Think-Write-Pair-Share between students for their Civic Rights Essay-formative assessment
- Students describe the accomplishments and inventions of each of the Latin America Civilizations through a brochure-summative asssessment
- Written reports-alternate assessment

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

Primary Resources & Materials

The resources available to you that are located either within the district or that can be obtained by district resources are:

- HMH Social Studies World Geography textbook and Ed Dashboard
- Channel 1 news online subscription
- NewsELA website

Ancillary Resources

Other resources available to strengthen your lesson includes:

- TeacherVision Geography Resources https://www.teachervision.com/subjects/social-studies-history/geography
- Current Events Websites (Newsela, Yahoo News, CNN, FoxNews)
- HMH Social Studies World Geography Online Website
- Youtube Videos for support on appropriate lesson

Technology Infusion

Different Technology Infusion and/or strategies that are integrated into this unit to enhance learning include:

- Using Different Google Programs (Forms, Sheets, Docs, and Slides) to enhance each

assignment

- Using Youtube Videos/Channel One News to show the students how different Ancient Civilizations lived in the Americas



Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

- English Language Arts;
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

CAEP.9.2.8.B.3	Evaluate communication, collaboration, and leadership skills that can be developed through school, home, work, and extracurricular activities for use in a career.
TECH.8.1.8	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.8.A	Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.
TECH.8.1.8.A.1	Demonstrate knowledge of a real world problem using digital tools.
TECH.8.1.8.A.2	Create a document (e.g., newsletter, reports, personalized learning plan, business letters or flyers) using one or more digital applications to be critiqued by professionals for usability.
TECH.8.1.8.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems.
TECH.8.1.8.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.
TECH.8.1.8.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.
TECH.8.1.8.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.8.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
TECH.8.1.8.C.1	Collaborate to develop and publish work that provides perspectives on a global problem for discussions with learners from other countries.
TECH.8.1.8.D	Digital Citizenship: Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.

TECH.8.1.8.D.CS1	Advocate and practice safe, legal, and responsible use of information and technology.
TECH.8.1.8.E	Research and Information Fluency: Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.
TECH.8.1.8.F	Critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making: Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources.
TECH.8.2.8	Technology Education, Engineering, Design, and Computational Thinking - Programming: All students will develop an understanding of the nature and impact of technology, engineering, technological design, computational thinking and the designed world as they relate to the individual, global society, and the environment.
TECH.8.2.8.B	Technology and Society: Knowledge and understanding of human, cultural and society values are fundamental when designing technology systems and products in the global society.

21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

21st Century Skills

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

Differentiation

Different Differentiations that will be employed in this unit include:

- Allowing students to work in small group assignments to complete (graphic organizers, projects, and assessments)
- Allow work to be submitted online and allow extra time to complete assignments

- Different Summative Assessments (Projects, Google Forms, Open Ended, Essays)
- Allowing students to design their own Fortfied City based off their own interests

Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas

- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

Different Special Education Learning adaptations that will be employed in the unit include:

- Allowing extra time to complete assignments (Travel Brochure, DBQ, Essay)
- Playing Kahoot at the end of each unit as the primary resource for a study guide
- Printed copy of the essay outline/notes in order to modify essay assignment

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes

- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

English Language Learning (ELL)

Different English Language Learning strategies that can be used for this Unit include:

- Create documents through different Google programs to translate documents to specific languages
- HMH Spanish/English Workbook for the Module Unit to help identify main ideas for the unit
- Allowing students to use open book, notes, and study guide for the Unit 2 assessment

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)

- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

At Risk

Different Intervention Strategies that will be employed in the unit include:

- Allowing students to make test corrections for Unit 2 assessment to help students identify main ideas of Unit 2
- Allowing students to work in groups for the brochure project
- Allowing students to use open book, notes, and study guides for Unit 2 Assessment

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

Different Talented and Gifted adaptations that will be employed in the unit include:

- Students create their own Fortified City after studying the Inca Empire's Machu Picchu
- Students write their own journal entry with the fall of the Aztec Empire Painting Picture
- Students create their own alliances to defend the Aztec Empire from being conquered by the Spanish Empire
- Having high order thinking questions (open ended) on assessments to challenge and further explain the main ideas for the unit

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

Sample Lesson