

OTP9 Geography

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

Unit Overview

Students will be able to understand and identify the basic functions of their home town, surrounding areas.

In this unit, students will identify their personal address and city of New Jersey while understanding they are one of 3 major regions of the United States. Students will examine the various landforms and water systems throughout New Jersey that will be important for navigation and recreation.

Transfer

- Independently identify their home address and local surroundings including the landforms and water systems of their city and state.
 - When given a neighborhood, city, or state map students will be able to differentiate multiple components that comprise each area.
 - Apply various comprehension strategies to connect and make meaning with text
 - Students will be able to use text features (maps, diagrams, headings, tables, etc.) to interpret text
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Meaning

Understandings

Students will understand

- Map Skills
- Geographical terminology
- New Jersey's landforms, water systems, and natural resources
- Our country's various regions and what makes them unique

Essential Questions

Students will keep considering...

- Compared to surrounding cities and states, how does Williamstown and New Jersey differ from surrounding cities and states in the grand scheme of the state?
- What are the commonalities and differences of a variety of maps (town, city, state, transportation, recreational, business) that give you the ability to navigate in real life settings?

Application of Knowledge and Skill

Students will know...

Students will know...

- Personal address including street, city, state, and zip code.
- Location of New Jersey compared to surrounding states and the tri-state area.
- Locations of each region of the United States.
- Identify absolute location compared to specific news and events happening around the world (where they are specifically on a map).

Students will be skilled at...

Students will be skilled at...

- Reading and utilizing maps in a general setting

Academic Vocabulary

maps
physical maps
compass rose
latitude
longitude
environment
regions
natural resources
landforms
waterways
legend

Target 1

- Students will define various landforms and water systems within New Jersey while comparing to the Tri-State area.

Learning Goal 3

- Students will define and compare the 4 regions of the United States.

Target 1

- Students will discover the locations, functions, climates, and roles of the Northeastern United States.

Target 2

- Students will discover the locations, functions, climates, and roles of the Midwestern United States.

Target 3

- Students will discover the locations, functions, climates, and roles of the Southern United States.

Target 4

- Students will discover the locations, functions, climates, and roles of the Western United States.

Learning Goal 4

- Students will be able to read, identify, and utilize various maps.

Target 1

- Students will be able to read and distinguish different elements on a map for navigational purposes.

Summative Assessment

Link to summative assesment guidelines and tools: <http://www.edudemic.com/summative-and-formative-assessments/>

<https://sites.educ.ualberta.ca/staff/olenka.bilash/Best%20of%20Bilash/summativeassess.html>

- End of semester exam
- end of unit or chapter tests
- essay or report
- oral examination
- participation in lecture, discussion or group work
- performance task with rubric or checklist

- presentation
- projects
- structured observation

21st Century Life and Careers

CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP8.1	Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of problems when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. They carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through their own actions or the actions of others.

Formative Assessment and Performance Opportunities

Link to formative assesment guidelines and tools:

<https://www.nwea.org/blog/2016/take-three-55-digital-tools-and-apps-for-formative-assessment-success/>

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1nzhdnyMQmio5lNT75ITB45rHyLISHEEHZIHTWJRqLmQ/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000#slide=id.gb49e70aa_370

<http://www.edudemic.com/summative-and-formative-assessments/>

- do now
- exit ticket
- graphic organizer
- questioning/discussion
- role play
- simulation
- task analysis

- task rubric
- teacher observation
- think-pair-share
- visual representations
- weekly quiz
- work product

Differentiation/Enrichment

- 1:1 instruction
- community based instruction
- cueing/prompting
- reinforcement activities
- role playing/simulation
- small group instruction
- visual supports

Unit Resources

"Learning About My State" - Reproducible/Workbook plus Teacher's Guide

"Exploring Our 50 States - USA LAND OF THE FREE"- Resource Book for Middle and Upper Grades

"United States Geography" Middle/Upper Grades

"Hands on History-Geography Activities" -Activity Supplement

"Daily Geography Practice" (grade 6) - reproducible activity book

"Basic Geography Binder"

Local Geography Folder located in the OTP SS Curriculum Folder

[Google Earth](#)

various books

various workbooks

board games

interactive activities

online activities

video presentation

[Geography Resources website](#)

[Time Zone Map](#)

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