

Geography Lesson Guide

Grade 1

Our Wide World - B

Classroom Atlas Program

Unit 1 - I Am a Special Person

- Desk Map Activity #1: Whose Room is This?
Students recognize that a map is an overhead view of a place.
- Desk Map Activity #2: Showing Objects on a Map
Students locate features on a map.

Unit 2 - I Have a Family

- Desk Map Activity #1: Who is in This Room?
Students design symbols from a bird's eye view and create a map key.
- ***Note:** To introduce bird's eye view do the following activity:
Find a yellow recycling bin. Have children sit at their desks and draw the bin head-on. Next, have children stand on a table or chair and draw the top of the bin. This will look like a doughnut. Discuss bird's eye view vs. head-on view.*

Unit 3 - I am a Student

Optional

Unit 4 - I Go To School

- Desk Map Activity #1: What's in a School?
Students locate places on a map relative to other places.
- Desk Map Activity #2: Who Works in a School?
Students design symbols that stand for people.

Unit 5 - Getting Along With Others

Optional

- Desk Map Activity: Getting Along at school
Students practice with symbols in an abstract way.

Unit 6 - Learning About Neighborhoods

- Activity Sheet: Make a Neighborhood AND Home Connection
- Desk Map Activity: Making Symbols for a Neighborhood Map
Students identify places in a neighborhood practicing using symbols.
- Whole Group Activity: Our School Neighborhood
Optional

Unit 7 - Learning About Communities

- Literature Activity: What is a Community?
Students explore the term “community.”
- Desk Map Activity: Finding Directions
Students are introduced to cardinal directions.
- Activity Sheet: A Community Map
Students trace a route on a map.
- Whole Group Activity: Directions in Our Classroom
Students face cardinal directions in the classroom.

Unit 8 - Learning About Our Country

- Literature Activity:
Note: *This lesson is not included in program.*
Students identify the U.S. and identify NY State and Wash. D.C.

Read the book, Me on the Map (in classrooms already) to identify room, street, town, state, country, and world. Also, read the book, Woodrow, the White House Mouse (in classrooms already) to introduce Washington D.C.

- Desk Map Activity #1: Our Country Has 50 States
Students trace boundaries of NYS and other states.
- Activity Sheet: A Map of Our Country
- Desk Map Activity #2: Practicing Directions
Students practice using cardinal directions.

Atlas Connection: Teacher's Guide

- *Lesson 1: First Reading*
- *Lesson 2: Exploring the Big book- Stop at pages 6-7, The World*

Unit 9 - Learning About the World

Students recognize Earth as a planet, and differentiate land and water.

Note: *Instead of the Literature Activity provided, use to Google Earth to recognize the Earth. First, zoom in on your school. Then zoom out to the state, country, continents and the world.*

- Activity Sheet: Our Country and its Neighbors
Students identify Canada and Mexico
- Desk Map Activity #1: A World Map
Students differentiate land and water on a world map.
- Desk Map Activity #2: Where in the World Are We?
Students locate and explain where they live using world and US maps.

Atlas Connection: Teacher's Guide

- *Lesson 2: Exploring the Big Book pages 6-9*

Atlas Connection: Primary Atlas

- *The World and Continents pp. 6-16*

Atlas Connection: Teacher's Guide/Optional reinforcement and assessment

- *Lesson 3: Extending the Concepts pages 10-11*
- *Lesson 4: Using Task Cards and Student Atlases pages 12-13*

Unit 10 - Caring For Earth

Optional: Objectives are covered in 2nd grade.

- Connects to Sustainability

Unit 11 - Understanding the Past

Optional: Objectives covered through the curriculum

Unit 12 - How People Lived Long Ago

Optional: Objectives covered through the curriculum.

Unit 13 - People Came to America

Optional: Objectives taught during the study of Columbus Day.

Unit 14 - People Shared Customs

- Desk Map Activity: People Brought Customs to America
This lesson can be done in conjunction with the study of celebrations around the world.

Unit 15 - Honoring Our Flag's Country

This unit can be done in conjunction with the study of the flag. Pick and choose activities for your celebration of Flag Day in June.

Unit 16 - Working

Optional- Desk Map Activity: Jobs at Home and At School

Students create symbols for jobs.

This unit can be done in conjunction with the study of needs, wants and jobs.

Unit 17 - Going Places

- Literature Activity: Read the guided reading book, Transportation Now and Then (in classrooms already.)
- Desk Map Activity: How Goods Get From Here to There
Students draw transportation routes on maps.

Unit 18 - Using Resources-

These are perfect lessons for teaching recycling and sustainability. Students identify a natural resource. The teacher should introduce the definition of natural resources in the Literature Activity.

- Desk Map Activity: Finding Things That Come From Plants
Students use the picture of the bedroom to locate items that come from plants.

Unit 19 - Celebrating Special Days

Optional

Unit 20 - Helping One Another

Optional

Grade 2
Our Wide World - C
Classroom Atlas Program

Unit 1 - Map Skills

Students review maps, symbols, legends/key, compass rose, and boundaries.

- Desk Map Activity #1: How to Read Map Symbols and Map Legends or Keys
- Desk Map Activity #2: How To Use a Compass Rose to Find Directions

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 1: How To Use Your Atlas*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 2: Comparing Maps and Globes*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 24: Symbols, Legends and Compass Rose*

Unit 2 - We are Alike , We are Different

Students locate and identify places on a map.

- Desk Map Activity #1: Some of My Favorite Things
Use your large neighborhood map to identify your school, shops, parks etc...

Unit 3 - We Belong to Groups

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 4 - We Live in Neighborhood and Communities

Students will identify neighborhood features

- Desk Map Activity #1: Neighborhoods Features and Services

Unit 5 - We Live in Different Kinds of Communities

Students learn about similarities and differences among rural, urban, and suburban communities

- Desk Map Activity: Mapping a Farm Town

Unit 6 - Our Country

Students identify NY State, state capital, the 49 other states and recognize the U.S. as a country.

- Literature Activity:
Note: This lesson is not included in program.
- Read the book, Stringbean's Trip to the Shining Sea (Mulberry Books) by Vera B. & Jennifer Williams
(From Publishers Weekly:
Stringbean Coe and his older brother Fred take a long trip from their home in Jeloway, Kans., to the Pacific Ocean, riding in Fred's ancient truck, which has a little house built on the back. And like most travelers, they take pictures and send postcards home to their parents.)
- Desk Map Activity #1: Your State
- Desk Map Activity #2: Our Country
- Activity Sheet: What State Is That?

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 7: The United States*

Unit 7 - Our World

Students will identify continents, bodies of water, hemispheres

- Desk Map Activity #1: Water, Water Everywhere
- Desk Map Activity #2: Continents and Countries
- Desk Map Activity #3: Our Neighbors, Canada and Mexico
- Desk Map Activity #4: Hemispheres

- Activity Sheet: Where in The World Do I Live? (Enlarge to poster size)

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 3: The World*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 10: North America*

Unit 8 - Our Land and Water

Students will identify landforms, bodies of water, climate and the affects on human activity.

- Whole Group Activity: Land and Water
Note: *For features and meanings of landforms and bodies of water go to page 36-37 in the Atlas.*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 23: Geographical Terms*
- *Desk Map Activity: What to Do?*

Unit 9 - Using Natural Resources to Protect Our Earth

Students will identify natural resources and ways to conserve them. This should be used in conjunction with recycling and sustainability.

Unit 10 - Work

Objectives covered in the Social Studies curriculum

Unit 11 - Making Goods, Getting Them to Market

Objectives covered in good and services lessons

Unit 12 - Money

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 13 - My History

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 14 - Our Country's History

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 15 - Historic Americans

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 16 - Holidays Celebrate History

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 17 - Community and State Government

- Desk Map Activity #1: At Your Service- **Use large neighborhood map**
- Desk Map Activity #2: State Capital

Unit 18 - Our Country's Government

- Activity sheet: Special Places in Washington D.C.

***Note:** The National Geographic Big Book of maps (in all second grade classrooms) has a large map of Washington D.C.*

Unit 19 - Our Country's Flag

Use in conjunction with celebration of our flag

Unit 20 - Many Countries, One World

- Desk Map Activity: Learning About Countries

Grade 3
Our Wide World - D
Classroom Atlas Program

Unit 1 - Map Skills

Students practice using symbols, map legends, and a compass rose. They are introduced to map scale.

- Activity Sheet: This is Where I Live
- Desk Map Activity #1: How to read map
- Desk map Activity #2: How to Use a Compass Rose To Locate Places
- Desk Map Activity #3: Introduction To Map Scale

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 1: How to use Your Atlas (review if needed)*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 2: Comparing Maps and Globes (review if needed)*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 25: Scale*

Unit 2 - Locating World Communities

Students locate the equator and prime meridian on a world map, and learn and use latitude and longitude to locate places on a map.

- Desk Map Activity #1: Learning about Latitude
Note: Review cardinal directions
- Desk Map Activity #2: Learning about Longitude
- Whole Group Activity: Using a Grid System
- Activity Sheet: Where in the World Am I

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 4: More About the World*

Atlas Connection

- *Activities 18 and 19: Asia –During study of Tokyo*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 26: Longitude and Latitude*

Unit 3 - World Regions: Wet Places and Dry Places

Students define region and locate regions in the world.

- Activity Sheet: Wet Regions and Dry Regions
- Whole Group Activity: Landform regions
- Desk Map Activity: Locating Wet Regions and Dry Regions
- Activity Sheet: Comparing Cold Regions and Warm Regions

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 5: World Land Use*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 6: World Climate*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 9: United States Regions*

Unit 5 - Ancient Communities

Omit

Unit 6 - History Impacts World Communities

Omit

Unit 7 - People On The Move

**To be done with history of New York City and PBS Big Apple Website

Unit 8 - World Communities Grow and Change

**This Unit can be done in conjunction with The Growth of NY City

- Desk Map Activity #1: The History of a Community
- Whole Group Activity: Effect of Community Growth

Unit 9 - Families of the World

Omit

Unit 10 - The World's Children

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 11 - Education Around The World

- Desk Map Activity #1: Students Around the World
This lesson should be taught with the introduction of cultural universals.
- Cross-Curricular Activity: Language Arts
What Would You Like to Know?

Unit 12 - Natural Resources of the World

Students will review the definition of natural resources.

- Desk Map Activity #1: Making a Natural Resource Map

Unit 13 - Changing the Environment

- Desk Map Activity: How People Sometimes Harm Earth's Land and Water
- Use in conjunction with the water unit
- Activity Sheet: Save Water
- Citizenship Activity: Disposing of Garbage

Unit 14 - Meeting Human Needs and Wants

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 15 - The World Economy

- Whole Group Activity - What to Produce

- Desk Map Activity- World Trade

Unit 16 - Citizens of the World

Objectives covered in Social Studies curriculum

Unit 17 - Governments of the World

Students will understand the term “National Capital” and locate national capitals around the world.

- Desk Map Activity #1- National Capitals

Unit 18 - Holidays and Celebrations

Objectives covered in S.S. curriculum

Unit 19 - Sharing Cultures

To be done in conjunction with Cultural Universals unit.

- Whole Group Activity - What is Culture?

Unit 20 - Famous Structures Around the World

Use in conjunction with New York City landmarks in Social Studies curriculum.

- Desk Map Activity - Locating Famous World Structures

Grade 4

Desk Map Activity Program United States Classroom Atlas Program

Desk Map Activity 1: Symbols, Legend, Direction

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 9 - Identifying Features on a Map*

Desk Map Activity 2: Scale and Direction

Atlas Connection

Optional

- *Worksheet 2 - From Model to Map*

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 3 - An Orange as the Earth*

Atlas Connection:

- *Worksheet 4 - Fixed Points on the Compass*

Desk Map Activity 3: Latitude and Longitude

- Read activity sheet together to identify the major lines of latitude and longitude. May require additional practice.

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 5 - Grid Games*

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 6 - Hemispheres as References*

Atlas Connection

Optional

- *Worksheet 10 - Researching the World's Extremes*

Atlas Connection

Optional

- *Worksheet 16 - Extreme Perspectives*

Desk Map Activity 4: Special Maps

- Do the first part on page 25
- Page 26: Special Map of US agricultural products is **optional**

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 8: Choosing the Best Map*

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 20: Choices in Different Climates*

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 25: Map Challenge*

Atlas Connection

Optional

- *Worksheet 26: Advertising the Northeast*
- ##### ***Optional***

Desk Map Activity 5: The First Americans

Optional - Connects to third grade Native Americans

Desk Map Activity 6: Europeans Explore the Americas

- Connect with Explorers

Desk Map Activity 7: Explorers Go West

Optional)

Desk Map Activity 8: Land and Population Growth

Optional

Atlas Connection

- *Worksheet 15: City Search for Stolen Treasure*

Desk Map Activity 9: Choosing a Place to Settle

- Connect with Explorers

Atlas Connection:

- *Worksheet 44: Stories of the First People*

Desk Map Activity 10: Early Transportation

Desk Map Activity 11: A Land of Wonders

- Reviews latitude and longitude

Desk Map Activity 12: Watching Waterways

Desk Map Activity 13: Reaching the Summit

Atlas Connection

Optional

- *Worksheet: Mountain Climbing, River Rafting*

Desk Map Activity 14: Inventing a New Vehicle

Optional

Desk Map Activity 15: Place Identity

Optional

Atlas Connection

- *Lesson and Worksheet 21: A Dictionary of Environment Terms*

Desk Map Activity 16: A Natural Hazard

Optional

Desk Map Activity 17: The Case of the Missing Cities

- Reviews latitude and longitude

Desk Map Activity 18: Capital to Capital

Desk Map Activity 19: Where Do You Want to Live?

Optional

Desk Map Activity 20: Farming in the United States

Optional

Desk Map Activity 21: Land of Plenty

Desk Map Activity 22: Places on the Shelf

Optional

Desk Map Activity 23: Advising New Immigrants
Optional

Desk Map Activity 24: A New United States

Grade 5
Desk Map Activity Program
Classroom Atlas Program

Desk Map Activity 1: The Map Legend

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 1: Introduction*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 2: Legend and Scale*

Desk Map Activity 2: Continent and Oceans

Desk Map Activity 3: Direction and Scale

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 3: Geographical Terms*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 6: Directions*

Desk Map Activity 4: Hemispheres

Desk Map Activity 5: Latitude and Longitude

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 4: Latitude and Longitude*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 5: Alphanumeric Grid*

Desk Map Activity 6: Special Purpose Maps

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 14: United States Regions*

Desk Map Activity 7: Early Civilizations

Optional

Desk Map Activity 8: World Explorations

Review of fourth grade

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 7: World Physical Map*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 8: World Political Map*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 10: North America: Physical and Political Maps*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 14: United States Regions*
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Atlas Connection

- *Activity 15: Canada Physical and political Maps*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 17: Mexico and Middle America Physical and Political Maps*

Atlas Connection

- *Activity 21: Europe Physical and Political Maps*
- **NOTE:** *It is recommended that teachers cover Atlas Connection Activity 21: Europe Physical and Political Maps in connection with the Immigration unit.*

Atlas Connection

- *Activities: 19-33*
- **NOTE:** *Activities 19 to 33 do not introduce further map skills but they do introduce the geography of the continents. They may be used as applicable during **current events**. For example, a discussion about the Olympics may fit nicely with Atlas Connection Activity 25: Asia ~ Physical and Political Maps, as well as Atlas Connection Activity 28 ~ China/ Mongolia/Japan/ Korea Political Map. This would be a great resource to explore continents further.*

Desk Map Activity 9: Some Significant World Events
Optional

Desk Map Activity 10: Conflicts in History of the World
Optional

Desk Map Activity 11: Draw it Like It Is
Optional

Desk Map Activity 12: Missing the Mountains
Optional

Desk Map Activity 13: Watching the Rivers Flow

Desk Map Activity 14: Oil is Slippery Stuff
- Connects with Sustainability

Desk Map Activity 15: Good Morning, America
- Connects with Sustainability

Desk Map Activity 16: World Time Zones

Desk Map Activity 17: A Space Traveler Gets Rich
Optional

Desk Map Activity 18: Rich Nations, Poor Nations
Optional

Desk Map Activity 19: World Religions
Optional

Desk Map Activity 20: Life and Death
Optional

Desk Map Activity 21: Opposites Attract
Optional

Desk Map Activity 22: Danger! Danger! Natural Hazards

Desk Map Activity 23: Environmental Disasters: Desertification

Optional

- Connects to sustainability

Desk Map Activity 24: Endangered Species

Optional review or give to fourth grade

Desk Map Activity 25: The Current State of the World

- Connect with Sustainability