

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM**  
**WORLD GEOGRAPHY**

	<b>Suggested Time Line</b> <i>How much time will be spent of this learning?</i>	<b>Essential Questions and Content</b> <i>What will be taught? (broken down by chapter/section)</i>	<b>NJCCC Standards</b> <i>What state standards will be met by these objectives?</i>	<b>Instructional Objectives</b> <i>The students will be able to...</i>	<b>Assessment</b> <i>What evidence will I collect that demonstrates that the students have achieved the objective?</i>	<b>Instructional Domain</b> <i>How will the learning be structured</i>	<b>Instructional Activities</b> <i>What will the students do to achieve the objective?</i>
<b>Unit 2- The Americas</b>	9 weeks						
Chapter 5		How has the geography and government of the United States affected its history and current cultures?					
		Section 1- Physical Geography	A1, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, B1, B5	1. <b>List</b> the major physical features of the United States. 2. <b>Describe</b> the climate of the United States and its various regions 3. <b>Discuss</b> the natural resources of the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> </ul>
		Section 2- History and Culture	A7, B1, B2, B5, D1, D2, D6, D8	1. <b>Recall</b> that the United States is the world's first modern democracy. 2. <b>Characterize</b> the people and culture of the United States			
		Section 3- The United States	A7, A8, A11, B1, B4, B5, C5, D1, D2, D3, D4, D7, E2, E3, E5, E6, E7	1. <b>List</b> the four regions of the United States 2. <b>Discuss</b> how the United States has a strong economy and a powerful military but is facing the challenge of world terrorism.			

							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
Chapter 6	How has Canada's geography and government affected its history and current economy and population?						
	Section 1- Physical Geography	A7, A8, B1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Describe</b> the wide variety of physical features in Canada</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> the location and climate of Canada</li> <li>3. <b>Explain</b> how Canada is rich in natural resources</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>	
	Section 2- History and Culture	A7, B6, C5, D6, D8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Report</b> on early history of Canada going back to the 1600's</li> <li>2. <b>List</b> the two factors that have shaped Canadian culture</li> </ol>				
	Section 3- Canada Today	A1, A5, B1, B4, C5, D7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Describe</b> the government of Canada</li> <li>2. <b>List and describe</b> the four distinct geographic and cultural regions of Canada</li> <li>3. <b>Discuss</b> how Canada's economy is largely based on trade with the United States</li> </ol>				
Chapter 7	How does Mexico's natural environment differ from other local regions? How has						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking,</li> </ul>

		colonization and Native American culture affected Mexico today?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<p>Viewing Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
		Section 1- Physical Geography	A7, A8, B1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>List and describe</b> Mexico's physical features</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> Mexico's climate and vegetation.</li> <li>3. <b>List</b> the key natural resources in Mexico</li> </ol>			
		Section 2- History and Culture	A7, B6, C5, D6, D8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Discuss</b> the early cultures of Mexico</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> what has shaped Mexico's culture</li> <li>3. <b>Discuss</b> what has influenced Mexico's customs and traditions today</li> </ol>			
		Section 3- Mexico Today	B1, B4, D3, D7, E1, E2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Describe</b> how government has traditionally played a large role in Mexico's economy.</li> <li>2. <b>List and describe</b> the four distinct culture regions of Mexico</li> </ol>			
Chapter 8		What is unique about the history and geography of Central America and the Caribbean? How have their histories created instability in those areas today?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture</li> </ul>
		Section 1- Physical Geography	A8, B1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Describe</b> the physical features of Central America and the Caribbean</li> <li>2. <b>Discuss</b> the climate and vegetation of Central</li> </ol>			

				America and the Caribbean 3. <b>Describe</b> the key natural resources of Central America and the Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
		Section 2- Central America	A3, A4, D1, D8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> the source of influence on the history of Central America</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> the culture of Central America</li> <li>3. <b>Explain</b> how the countries of Central America today have challenges and opportunities</li> </ol>			
		Section 3- The Caribbean Islands	A1, A5, E5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Discuss</b> the history of the Caribbean islands</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> how the culture of the Caribbean islands shows signs of past colonialism and slavery</li> <li>3. <b>Discuss</b> the governments and economies of the Caribbean islands today</li> </ol>			
Chapter 9		How have outside influences affected the current cultures and economies of the Caribbean and South America? What effect does geography have on those areas?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach</li> </ul>
		Section 1- Physical Geography	C1, E4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> the physical features and wildlife of Caribbean South America</li> <li>2. <b>Explain</b> what affects the region's climate and vegetation.</li> <li>3. <b>Describe</b> the resources of Caribbean South America</li> </ol>			
		Section 2- Columbia		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> what has shaped Columbia's history</li> <li>2. <b>Compare and contrast</b> the benefits of a rich culture and</li> </ol>			

				many natural resources with the effects of a long period of civil war.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
		Section 3- Venezuela and the Guianas	A3, D7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> the influences on the history and culture of Venezuela</li> <li>2. <b>Discuss</b> how oil production plays a large role in Venezuela's economy and government.</li> <li>3. <b>Describe</b> the culture and resources of the Guianas</li> </ol>			
Chapter 10		How does the geography of South American Countries and past immigration affect their people and cultures?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> </ul>
		Section 1- Physical Geography	A2, A7, C1, C2, E2, E4, E5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Describe</b> the physical features of Atlantic South America</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> the climate and vegetation in the region</li> <li>3. <b>Identify</b> the major source of its natural resources.</li> </ol>			
		Section 2- Brazil	A2, B2, B4, B6, C3, C5, D2, D4, D6, D8, E2, E5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> the factors that have affected Brazil's history</li> <li>2. <b>Discuss</b> the people and cultures of Brazil</li> <li>3. <b>Describe</b> how Brazil is experiencing population growth in its cities and new development in rain forest areas.</li> </ol>			
		Section 3- Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay	A2, A8, A11, B1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> the factors that have dominated the history and culture of Argentina.</li> <li>2. <b>Discuss</b> the role that Argentina's capital, Buenos Aires, plays in the country's</li> </ol>			

				government and economy today. 3. <b>Identify</b> the influences on Uruguay 4. <b>Describe</b> Paraguay and it's rural location			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
Chapter 11		How has the physical geography, history, and culture affect South American countries and their current issues?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> </ul>
		Section 1- Physical Geography	A5, A8, C1, E4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Name</b> the main physical feature of Pacific South America.</li> <li>2. <b>Discuss</b> the region's climate and vegetation and how it changes with elevation.</li> <li>3. <b>Describe</b> the key natural resources in the region</li> </ol>			
		Section 2- History and Culture		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Identify</b> the influences on the countries of Pacific South America</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> the culture of Pacific South America</li> </ol>			
		Section 3- Pacific South America Today	B2, D2, D4, D7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Describe</b> the economy and political instability of Ecuador</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> the Bolivian government's attempts at trying to gain stability and improve its economy.</li> <li>3. <b>Discuss</b> how Peru has made progress against poverty and violence.</li> <li>4. <b>Evaluate</b> the government and economy of Chile</li> </ol>			

							• Research