

Theme

A

China on a Globe

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PURPOSE

To familiarize students with China's location and some of its major geographic and political features.

THEME STATEMENT

People, Places & Environment (PPE): Humans create spatial views and geographic perspectives of the world to make informed and critical decisions about relationships.

SUGGESTED TIME

One class period of forty minutes.

KEY VOCABULARY & CONCEPTS

Absolute location, relative location, latitude, hemisphere.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Globes (one for every three students), string, maps of Asia.

INITIATION (Inquiry, Preview, Involvement)

1. Ask students where China is located. Record the answers on the board.
2. Students locate China on maps in their textbooks and/or on wall maps.
3. Students state general facts about China using these maps. Record responses on the board.

DEVELOPMENT (Instruction, Data Collection, Organization)

1. Divide the class into groups of three.
2. Distribute Student Handout #1 to each group.
3. Students follow instructions on the handout and answer the questions.

SUMMARY

Adaptable Levels
Grades 4-8

Related Themes
USGC

Values
Cooperation, cross-cultural
understanding

Skills
Map reading, inductive
reasoning

Integration
Social studies, math

EXTENSION/ENRICHMENT (Idea Articulation, Ownership, Experimentation)

- Have one student in each group use a map to answer questions. Discuss within the group the advantages and disadvantages of using either the map or globe.
- Make a Playdough map or cookie dough map of China.

ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENT

1. Completion of Student Handout #1.
2. Students make five general statements about China's location and geography that were learned from this activity.

KEY QUESTIONS

- Where is China located?
- What are some of China's important geographic features?
- How do each of these features affect the people and environment of China?

STUDENT HANDOUT #1:

China on a Globe

1. Locate China on a globe. In which hemisphere is China located?

2. Trace China's boundaries using your finger. Name the countries bordering China:

3. Name the islands off the coast of China:

4. List the bodies of water that border China:

5. Put your finger on the northernmost point of China. Give the absolute location:

6. Follow this line of latitude until you reach North America. What large bay in North America is at the same latitude? _____
7. Place your finger on the southernmost point in China. Give the absolute location of this place: _____
8. Follow this line of latitude until you reach North America. Describe your location using relative location: _____
9. Using the information from the above exercises, what can you tell about China?

10. Using a piece of string, measure the distance across China from east to west along the 37° north latitude line: _____
11. Locate China's major rivers. Trace each one with your finger. List these rivers:

12. What general direction do China's rivers flow? _____

(Continued...)

13. Locate China's national capital (which is also its second largest city).
Name China's capital: _____
Give its absolute location: _____
Give its relative location: _____
14. Using a string, measure the distance from China's capital to the capital of the U.S.
What is the approximate distance in miles? _____
15. Where are most of China's cities located? _____
16. China's largest city, located at 40°N and 116°E is: _____
17. Find a large city in the U.S. located at approximately the same latitude:

18. Tianjin is China's third largest city.
Give its absolute location: _____
Give its relative location: _____
19. Measure the distance between Shanghai and Beijing: _____
20. What geographic feature is located along the southwest border of China?
