

EXTENSIONS IN GEOGRAPHY AT THE 9-12 LEVEL

Initially we review or remind students of:

- the history of the Earth
- geological processes
- geographic features
- map making
- map reading
- chemical elements, Periodic Table of Elements

Each year we have a theme:

I. World Geography

- A. construct a world atlas
- B. Travel “around the world from continent to continent”
 1. Asia – write autobiography of child in each country
 2. Africa – journey between two cities or travel brochures of regions
 3. Latin America – Fiesta with food, music and costumes
 4. Europe, Oceania, and Canada – Dioramas/Natural History Museum
- C. Emphasis in mapping
 1. Cultural Geography
 2. Political Geography
 3. Economic Geography
 4. Environmental Geography
 5. Physical Geography
 6. Biomes, Animals, Plants

When studying the world we include famous people and places, events in history and current events. Students perform, write, research, and edit. They also create art from different countries or continents, i.e. African cloth, masks, aboriginal art.

II. U.S. Atlas

- A. Emphasis on constructing an atlas of the United States
 1. Historic sites
 2. Geographic features
 3. Famous people
 4. Products
 5. Cities
 6. Botany – Zoology
- B. U. S. History
 1. Presidential Timeline
 2. Explorers
 3. Government – national and local
 4. History Museum – based on geographic areas of the U.S.
 5. Native Americans and their cultures – Museum
 6. Local trips to study geology and history
 7. American authors and poets
 8. Famous Americans from each state
 9. Special geography features in each state

C. Activities

1. Reader's Theater
2. Art projects
3. Class trip to Washington, D.C.

III. Imaginary Island – each student creates their own island country. They develop every aspect of the island based on where it is located on the globe.

- A. review formation of islands
- B. decide where island is going to be
 1. Latitude
 2. Longitude
- C. Research closest neighboring country
- D. Draw maps and using knowledge of geographic features
- E. Consider all the influences on island based on location of island
 1. How was island formed
 2. ocean currents
 3. weather patterns/air currents
 4. calculate size of island/ square mileage
 5. culture/ 14 points to consider

The students develop detailed cultural events on their islands. They also develop stories and art from island, write folk tales, write music, and poetry.