



Michigan State University
Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad 2009:
Nepal in the Contemporary World



Lesson Plan
from

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Title: RESEARCHING THE COUNTRY OF NEPAL

Subject Areas: Geography

Grade Levels: Fifth

Length of Lesson: 1-2 class periods (1-2 one hour days)

Summary/Overview: This lesson will introduce students to the country of Nepal as well giving practice researching using a variety of maps, internet sites and expository text. It will also segway into more detailed research about Nepal's three main regions. This unit can be used as a precursor to the fifth grade unit on the thirteen colonies and their three colonial regions or can be done afterward. Either way comparisons between the Nepal's regions and the three colonial regions can be made.

Primary Objectives: SWBAT (Students will be able to...)

- Identify the location of Nepal on a Map as well as give its absolute location
- describe certain characteristics of the country of Nepal
- Use maps and internet research sites to learn about Nepal as a country

Required Resources/Materials:

- RESEARCHING A COUNTRY graphic organizer
- Student lined notebook for journaling
- <http://countrystudies.us/nepal/21.htm>
- <http://countrystudies.us/nepal/30.htm>
- <http://countrystudies.us/nepal/41.htm>
- <http://countrystudies.us/nepal/36.htm>
- <http://geology.com/world/nepal-satellite-image.shtml>
- Scanned pages from EKTA School Atlas

Procedure:

Anticipatory set: Bring in a globe or wall map to class. Ask a student volunteer to come up and tell where they live. (Student responses may include the state, the country the town, continent....maybe even the planet) Ask them how they could be more specific.

We are trying to show that there are MANY different ways of describing a place.

Opening the lesson:

When we describe **where** we live we can describe it in many different ways. When we describe the place that we live we can describe it in many different ways as well. For example when we describe where we can use relative location like next to the river or near the yellow house by the fire department or across the street. We can also use absolute location as in an address or using latitude and longitudinal readings. Likewise, when we describe the place that we live we can do so in many different ways. We could say we live in the brown, two story house, with the red door or we live at Normandy Square Apartment complex.

SAY:

When we describe a country we are also looking at different characteristics. We may look at physical characteristics, location, people, religion and or politics. We get to know more about the world through the study of countries. We also can learn more about ourselves as a country when we learn about other countries in the world.

Now give the students the Graphic Organizer: **RESEARCHING A COUNTRY**. Using scanned maps, and proven internet sites have the students fill in the information. As students finish the research have them check their answers against others in their groups. As a concluding exercise ask students to write in their journals something about their country study that they found either interesting or something they would like to know more about or study further.

CONCLUDING THE LESSON

Share with students that although fifth grade is primarily a study of the United States we can better understand our place in the world when we look at and study other places in the world. We will also be looking at drawing comparisons between the United States and Nepal more throughout our study of Geography.

EXTENDING THE LESSON

Students can create a variety of graphs using the information found in the atlas pages of Nepal

Students may use the scanned pages and the information gathered to create brochures, television commercials or billboards advertising people to settle in Nepal

Assessments:

RESEARCHING A COUNTRY GRAPHIC ORGANIZER
SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNING JOURNAL
TEACHER OBSERVATION

Michigan Content Expectations Met:

- Standard II.1 Diversity of People, Places, and Cultures
- Standard II.2 Human/Environment Interaction
- Standard II.4 Regions, Patterns, and Processes

Bibliography Unique to this lesson: