

Grade 2 Social Studies Unit Preview

Unit 1: My Community

Lesson One: What is a community?

Objectives: (The student will be able to)

- Identify and demonstrate appropriate social skills necessary for working in a cooperative group such as sharing concern, care, and respect among group members.
- Present social studies information in a variety of ways, such as plays, skits, posters, songs, poems, murals, and oral presentations.

Vocabulary/Concepts

community – A place where people live, work, play and solve problems	location – A place
problem – Something that needs to be fixed or solved	

Lesson Two: How are communities different?

Objectives: (The student will be able to)

- Identify natural/physical features and human – made features using maps and photographs.
- Describe and classify regions using climate, vegetation, animal life, and natural/physical features.

Vocabulary/Concepts

urban community – A community that is in or like a city	suburban community - A community with many houses, stores and businesses, but few or no skyscrapers.
rural community – A community with few houses and some farms or open land	

Lesson Three: What does a map show?

Objectives: (The student will be able to)

- Identify the purpose and use of a globe and a variety of maps and atlases, such as school maps, neighborhood maps and simple atlases.
- Identify and use map elements, such as title, compass rose, simple grid system, legend/key, date, and author to interpret a map.
- Describe a place using bird’s eye view, and satellite images, photographs, and pictures.

Vocabulary/Concepts

map elements – The parts of the map	key – Explains the symbols on the map
grid system – A set of lines on a map or globe that cross one another to help locate specific places	compass rose – The symbol on a map that shows where the directions north, south, east, and west are located
bird’s eye view – A view from above	

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Lesson Four: What are the names of the continents and oceans?

Objectives: (The student will be able to)

- Identify the equator, poles, seven continents, four oceans, and countries on a map and globe.
- Identify the purpose and use of a globe.

Vocabulary/Concepts

continent – One of the seven large bodies of land on Earth	ocean – One of the major large bodies of water
globe – A model of the Earth	

Lesson Five: What is Geography?

Objectives: (The student will be able to)

- Identify natural/physical features and human – made features using maps and photographs.
- Use note taking and organizational strategies to record and organize information.

Vocabulary/Concepts

physical/natural features – Something that is found in nature, such as weather, plant life, land, and water (Examples include mountains, peninsulas, oceans, and rivers.)	human-made features – The features on the earth’s surface that have been constructed by people (Examples include buildings, bridges, or roads.)
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Lesson Six: How can we compare regions?

Objectives: (The student will be able to)

- Describe and classify regions using climate, vegetation, animal life, and natural/physical features.
- Identify natural/physical features and human – made features using maps and photographs.

Vocabulary/Concepts

plains region – A large, flat region that is usually without trees	mountain region – A region made up of mountain ranges
coastal region – An area next to the sea	