

Victory Christian School

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GEOGRAPHY

Guide to: Skills Checklist, Tools, Resources

INTRODUCTION: Knowledge and understanding of geography is knowledge and understanding of the world and its people, not just another school subject. Therefore, the limits of our geographical knowledge determine the limits of our vision of the world. It is important to develop the habit of looking up the location of each unknown place we hear about and learning about its people. Thus, we can develop a caring attitude about those outside our own daily lives and begin to see the world as God sees it-----a multitude of precious souls in need of His salvation.

GEOGRAPHICAL SKILLS CHECKLIST: There are certain basic facets and skills children will need to learn to be geographically literate. The following should be helpful:

- () See and appreciate God as Creator and Sustainer of the earth, heavens, and everything therein.
- () Understand the influence of the Flood on the earth's topography and climate.
- () Learn names, locations, and relative sizes of continents, nations, capitals, important cities, oceans, seas, mountain ranges, rivers, lakes, etc.
- () Learn geographical terms (hemisphere, isthmus, etc.)
- () Learn physical characteristics of different places in the world.
 - * Climate * Terrain (mountains, rivers, lakes, plains)
 - * Vegetation and soil * Natural resources * Indigenous animals
- () Learn directions (N, S, E, W, NE, etc.) and how to use a compass
- () Learn map and globe skills.
 - * Symbols * Scale (miles to inches) * Latitude and longitude grids
- () Analyze advantages and disadvantages of different locations for people to live in (e.g., harbors, fertile valleys, tropical climate, etc.)
- () Understand the interaction between people and their environment
 - * How the environment affects people (e.g. warm, humid South-----slower pace)
 - * How people affect the environment (e.g., dams, bridges, irrigation)
- () Understand migration and transportation of people, goods, ideas, and information.
 - * E.g., God's dispersion of people at the Tower of Babel
 - * E.g., Information Superhighway
- () Study unique characteristics of different regions in the world.
 - * History * Culture * Religion * Economics * Politics

TOOLS TO STUDY GEOGRAPHY:

- * Globe and Wall Map * Map Links and Memory Hooks (use of "Post-a-Note" labeling on the map where people live that are known and anything that is important to the student)
- * Geography Texts * Country index card file * Picture flash cards
- * Stamp collecting * Country Notebooks * Missionary Stories * Geography games

TEACHING GEOGRAPHY WITH MEANING AND A MISSION: There are at least 12 major subdivisions in the study of geography, which can be placed into two main categories: physical and social.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY includes the study of the earth's physical features (such as mountains, rivers, arable land, climate, plants and animals) and their influences.

SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY examines peoples and cultures by region, including economics, politics, governmental systems, religions, and general ways of life.

IDEA: use of *Operation World* by Patrick Johnstone covers 230+ countries of the world.

Operation World organizes information about each country into helpful, basic categories of area, peoples, literacy, capital, economy, politics, religion and prayer points.

Operation World is available from Christian Book Distributors - Tel# (800)707-0533

RESOURCES: Audio Forum - Tel#(888)773-2548 *** God's World - Tel #(800)951-5437 ***
Beautiful Feet Books - Tel#(800)889-1978 *** Bend Cornerstone Books - Tel # (800)487-5952