

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM**  
**WORLD GEOGRAPHY**

	<b>Suggested Time Line</b> <i>How much time will be spent of this learning?</i>	<b>Essential Questions and Content</b> <i>What will be taught? (broken down by chapter/section)</i>	<b>NJCCC Standards</b> <i>What state standards will be met by these objectives?</i>	<b>Instructional Objectives</b> <i>The students will be able to...</i>	<b>Assessment</b> <i>What evidence will I collect that demonstrates that the students have achieved the objective?</i>	<b>Instructional Domain</b> <i>How will the learning be structured</i>	<b>Instructional Activities</b> <i>What will the students do to achieve the objective?</i>
<b>Unit 3- Europe and Russia</b>	8 weeks						
Chapter 12		How are large countries in Southern Europe affected by history? How did it affect the current societies, cultures, and governments?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> </ul>
	Section 1- Physical Geography	A1, A5, A6, A7	1. <b>Describe</b> Southern Europe's physical features 2. <b>Describe</b> the region's climate and resources				
	Section 2- Greece	C5	1. <b>Report</b> on the early history Greece 2. <b>Name</b> the factors that have helped to shape Greece's culture 3. <b>Discuss</b> how many people in Greece today are looking for new economic opportunities.				
	Section 3- Italy	A11, B1	1. <b>List and describe</b> the three periods that make up Italian history 2. <b>Describe</b> how religion and local traditions have helped shape Italy's culture. 3. <b>Describe</b> the two distinct economic regions of Italy today				
	Section 4- Spain and Portugal	A11, D5, D8	1. <b>Discuss</b> how over the centuries, Spain and Portugal have been part of many large and powerful empires. 2. <b>Describe</b> how the cultures				

				of Spain and Portugal reflect their long histories. 3. <b>Discuss</b> the economic histories of Spain and Portugal			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
Chapter 13	What role does geography play in the current culture and natural resources of the West-Central European countries?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
	Section 1- Physical Geography	A8		<p>1. <b>Describe</b> the physical features of West-Central Europe</p> <p>2. <b>Describe</b> the climate and resources of West-Central Europe's</p>			
	Section 2- France and the Benelux Countries	A11, B4, D3, D4, D5, D7		<p>1. <b>Discuss</b> the history of France and its evolution from a kingdom to an empire to a colonial power and to a republic</p> <p>2. <b>Describe</b> how the culture of France has contributed to the world's arts and ideas.</p> <p>3. <b>Describe</b> how France today is a farming and manufacturing center.</p> <p>4. <b>Discuss</b> the economies and standard of living of the Benelux Countries</p>			
	Section 3- Germany and the Alpine Countries	A1, A5, A7, B1, D5, D6, E5		<p>1. <b>Discuss</b> how after a history of division and two world wars, Germany is now a unified country.</p> <p>2. <b>Describe</b> the culture of German culture and how it is growing more diverse.</p> <p>3. <b>Compare and contrast</b> Eastern Germany and the rest of Germany</p> <p>4. <b>Describe</b> the cultures and economies of the Alpine Countries</p>			

Chapter 14		How do the two main regions in Northern Europe affect the continent? How can a country become one of the most stable and prosperous regions in Europe?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level thinking skills</li> <li>• Chapter Reviews</li> <li>• Standardized test practices</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> <li>• Guided and independent writing</li> <li>• Conferencing</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea Questions</li> <li>• Case Studies</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Focus on Culture Activities</li> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
		Section 1- Physical Geography		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Discuss</b> the physical features of Northern Europe</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> the natural resources of Northern Europe</li> <li>3. <b>Describe</b> the climates of Northern Europe</li> </ol>			
		Section 2- The British Isles	A11, D1, E5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Name</b> the factors that have shaped the history of the British Isles.</li> <li>2. <b>Describe</b> how British culture, such as government and music, has influenced much of the world.</li> <li>3. <b>Discuss</b> how peace in Northern Ireland and strong economies are important issues for British Isles today.</li> </ol>			
		Section 3- Scandinavia	D2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Discuss</b> the history of Scandinavia going back to the Vikings.</li> <li>2. <b>Identify</b> what Scandinavia is known for today</li> </ol>			
Chapter 15		Why does the geography of Eastern Europe vary greatly from place to place? How has the histories of those countries shape and affect life today?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and assess questions</li> <li>• Close Up Activities</li> <li>• Open ended questions</li> <li>• Critical thinking questions</li> <li>• Higher level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiated instruction</li> <li>• Flexible Grouping</li> <li>• Overhead</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Teacher modeling</li> <li>• Guided and independent reading</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Maps and Pictures</li> <li>• Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities</li> <li>• Bell Ringers and PODs</li> <li>• Main Idea</li> </ul>
		Section 1-	B4, E1, E2	1. <b>Identify</b> the physical			

		Physical Geography		features of Eastern Europe 2. <b>Describe</b> the climate and vegetation of Eastern Europe	thinking skills • Chapter Reviews • Standardized test practices • Group discussion • Written and oral tests and quizzes • Projects • Journal writing • Essay writing • Teacher observation • Homework • Self Assessment • Presentations • Rubrics	• Guided and independent writing • Conferencing • Technology • Direct Instruction • Guided and independent research	Questions • Case Studies • Close Up Activities • Focus on Culture Activities • Social Studies Skills Activities • Writing Workshop Activities • Interactive Map Activities • Direct Teach Activities • Discussions • Cooperative Learning Activities • Word Wall Vocabulary • Structured Writing Prompts • Respond to Pictures • Persuasive Writing • Graphic Organizers • Critical Viewing and Listening • Research • Note taking • Research
		Section 2- Poland and the Baltic Republics	D8	1. <b>Describe</b> how history ties Poland and the Baltic Republics together. 2. <b>Differentiate</b> between what the cultures of Poland and the Baltic Republics how in common with what is different 3. <b>Discuss</b> how economic growth is a major issue in the region today.			
		Section 3- Inland Eastern Europe	E5	1. <b>Discuss</b> how the histories and cultures of inland Eastern Europe vary from country to country. 2. <b>Discuss</b> how most of inland Eastern Europe today has stable governments, strong economies, and influential cities.			
		Section 4- The Balkan Countries	B2, D2, D5, D6, D8	1. <b>Explain</b> the history of the Balkan countries as one of conquest and conflict. 2. <b>Identify</b> the factors that shaped the cultures of the Balkan countries 3. <b>Name</b> the two major challenges for the region today.			
Chapter 16		How has history and government affected Russia and the Caucasus Republics? Does geographical size play a role?			• Review and assess questions • Close Up Activities • Open ended questions • Critical thinking questions • Higher level thinking skills • Chapter Reviews • Standardized test practices	• Differentiated instruction • Flexible Grouping • Overhead • Graphic Organizers • Teacher modeling • Guided and independent reading • Guided and independent writing • Conferencing • Technology	• Exploring Maps and Pictures • Focus on Reading, Writing, Speaking, Viewing Activities • Bell Ringers and PODs • Main Idea Questions • Case Studies • Close Up Activities • Focus on Culture
		Section 1- Physical Geography	A8, E3	1. <b>Describe</b> the physical features of Russia 2. <b>Describe</b> the climates of Russia and the Caucasus. 3. <b>Identify</b> the resources in Russia and the Caucasus and their ability to access them			

		Section 2- History and Culture of Russia	A1, A5, A6, A7, C5	<p>1. <i>Describe</i> how the Russian Empire grew under powerful leaders, but unrest and war led to its end.</p> <p>2. <i>Discuss</i> how the Soviet Union emerged as a Communist superpower with rigid government control.</p> <p>3. <i>Identify</i> what has influenced Russia's culture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Written and oral tests and quizzes</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Journal writing</li> <li>• Essay writing</li> <li>• Teacher observation</li> <li>• Homework</li> <li>• Self Assessment</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Rubrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct Instruction</li> <li>• Guided and independent research</li> </ul>	<p>Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Studies Skills Activities</li> <li>• Writing Workshop Activities</li> <li>• Interactive Map Activities</li> <li>• Direct Teach Activities</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Cooperative Learning Activities</li> <li>• Word Wall Vocabulary</li> <li>• Structured Writing Prompts</li> <li>• Respond to Pictures</li> <li>• Persuasive Writing</li> <li>• Graphic Organizers</li> <li>• Critical Viewing and Listening</li> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Note taking</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
		Section 3- Russia Today	A11, B4, C5, D1, D8, E2	<p>1. <i>Identify</i> the purpose of the Russian Federation and what it is designed to do</p> <p>2. <i>Describe</i> Russia's physical geography, cities, and economy define its many culture regions.</p> <p>3. <i>Recall</i> the numerous challenges that Russia faces today</p>			
		Section 4- The Caucasus		<p>1. <i>Discuss</i> how many groups have ruled and influenced the Caucasus during its long history.</p> <p>2. <i>Identify</i> the economic goals of the Caucasus today and the challenges they face achieving them</p>			