

The Five Themes of Geography Through South Africa

Gail Streett

Greenland Schools

Lesson Type: Single lesson, PowerPoint

Length: 2 class periods

Grade Levels: 4 – 7

Overview: Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of the Five Fundamental Themes of Geography through a photo essay of South Africa.

Supplies: The 5 Themes of Geography Through South Africa PowerPoint CD.

Standards: Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks, **Strand:** Geography

Standard 1: Physical and Spatial

Students shall develop an understanding of the physical and spatial characteristics and applications of geography.

Standard 2: Culture and Diversity

Students shall develop an understanding of how cultures around the world develop and change.

Standard 3: Interaction of People and the Environment

Students shall develop an understanding of the interactions between people and their environment.

Objectives: Students will learn the five Themes of Geography and apply them to their home environment.

Strategies: Students will view the Power Point and discuss each of the Themes introduced. The PowerPoint can be advanced manually to allow for discussion time. Discussion will center on the application of these Themes to interpretation of their home country, state or town.

Assessment: Students will respond in writing to specific questions throughout the PowerPoint and complete others on the worksheet provided.

Name_____

Date_____

The Five Themes of Geography Through South Africa

1. What is one way you can describe the absolute location of your state or town?
2. Use three different examples to describe your state's or town's relative location.
3. Describe a physical aspect of your state or town that you think gives a visitor a sense of "place" for the area. Explain your choice.
4. List 3 types of movement evident in your state or town.
5. Describe one form of Human/Environment Interaction in your state or town that stems primarily from the physical environment and one that stems more from the needs of human activity.
6. Identify your state or town as belonging to a specific region. Explain why it fits into that regional description.

Answers for slides numbered for discussion:

Stop for student input in writing or orally on slides 7 – 20. In describing a sense of place, students should consider the photograph for clues to cultural information, physical information in landforms, climate, soil, or vegetation as well as clues to the political and economic area depicted.

In the section of the presentation which asks for the type of movement shown in the slide, the following can be used as a guide.

Slide #	Types of Movement
22	Human Migration
23	Goods, culture, art
24	Ideas
25	Goods/ideas (newspapers)/culture (spices)
26	Culture – Angelina Jolie
27	Transportation on water Transportation on rail
28	Culture – introduction of SA music to tourists
29	Hostel – explain what a Hostel is. What kinds of exchanges might occur between people of different countries in conversations at a Hostel?

In the section on Regions, the following can be used as a guide.

Slide #	Region
43	Political – regional boundaries
44	Physical – coastal region
45	Physical – flora
46	Physical and political
50	Physical and political
51 – 54	Cultural regions evidenced by clothing, art, housing, face painting Physical
55	Themes: Place (modern, western) Region – urban, climate Movement – transportation system Human/Environment Interaction - architecture Location – relative location – near the mtns