

7th Grade Social Studies  
First Semester Geography (revised 2020)

**Course Description:** Students in 7th grade Geography will comprehend the nature of the earth in space and the forces, both internal and external, that shape the earth and affect human lives. Students will become proficient at using the tools of Geography to understand how physical and human elements interact with life on earth in the past, present, and possible future. Students will understand the political structure of world-wide human geography with a special focus on the United States of America.

**Big Ideas:**

1. I can explain the earth's place in space, how the sun and moon affect life on earth, and what forces, both internal and external, shape the earth.
2. I can identify physical attributes of the earth, how they have changed through time, and how they have affected humanity.
3. I can identify major characteristics of human geography through time and recall political details such as continents, countries, and major cities.
4. I can use maps, graphs, charts, and other tools to find location, show facts about various regions of the world and how they change through time, and analyze information concerning physical and human Geography.

**Essential Questions:**

1. How well do I understand the forces effecting and shaping the earth and how do they influence my life?
2. What do I understand about human/environment interaction, and how well can I participate with the best interests of both in mind in the short and long term?
3. What do I understand about the movements and political divisions of humanity on earth both from the present and historical perspective, and how does that affect me?
4. How well do I understand expressions of human culture from the past, in the present, and what might be possible in the future?

**Essential Learner Outcomes:**

EC4A7,1-4 Apply the following concepts: investment, productivity, Gross Domestic Product, and inflation.

EC4B7 Explain the consequences of personal and public economic decisions.

EC4F7 Interpret the past, explain the present, and predict the future consequences of economic decisions.

EG5A7a,b Use geographic research sources to process and report information to solve problems. Construct maps.

EG5B7a Locate major cities and nations of the world in historical context.

EG5C7a Explain physical characteristics, such as climate, topography, relationship to water and ecosystems.

EG5E7 Explain causes and effects of migration streams, movements of people to job markets, barriers to human movement, and how people overcome such barriers.

EG5F7 Explain how regions of the world relate to one another and change over time.

TS7B7a Use maps, graphs, statistical data, timelines, charts, and diagrams to interpret, draw conclusions, and make predictions.

TS7B7b Create maps, graphs, timelines, charts, and diagrams to communicate.