

PS89Q 3rd Grade Passport Social Studies

Grade: 3rd Unit: 1 Time Frame: September – mid November Essential Question: Why does geography matter?	
Focus Questions: (What is my child thinking about?)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do geographers look at the world? • How do geographers use tools to interpret maps? • How do physical features and climate affect human settlement? • How do communities adapt to and modify environments to meet their needs? • What is culture? 	
Student Outcomes: (What can my child do after this unit is over?)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the continents and oceans using globes and maps. • Use map features such as title, legend or key, compass orientation, author, date, grid, and scale to interpret political, physical, vegetation, and resource maps. • Use cardinal and intermediate directions and principal parallels to locate communities or resources relative to the United States and other selected world communities. • Examine how communities adapt to and/or modify their environment to meet their needs. • Develop a working definition of culture by examining a variety of cultures as well as their own. 	
Performance Tasks: (End-of-Unit task)	Formative Assessment:
<p>Students create a physical map of their own made up country to select the best location for human settlement</p> <p>Students use compass orientation to explain where features are located. Students describe the physical features and explain how humans can use the natural resources available to support their settlement.</p> <p>Students label where we are on the map. They label their planet, continent, country, state, and town.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students use the compass rose to locate places • on a map. • Students read riddles and use the compass rose to find where they are in the world. • Students look at menus from around the world to see how different cultures use different ingredients in their food. • Students label the seven continents and five oceans.
Extension Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Research</u>: Major natural resources or man-made structures on a continent. What is used for and/or why was it built? • <u>Informational Writing</u>: Students conduct an interview with a family member. They write about their family's culture and may include recipes. • <u>Opinion Writing</u>: Bring in a family artifact. Describe how the artifact represents your culture and why it is important to you. • <u>Opinion Writing</u>: Why does New York State make a great home for residents? • <u>Map Making</u>: Create a map of your own state. Where would the major city be? Add in landforms. • <u>Book Making</u>: Create an informational book. Choose a continent to write about. Sections can include: natural resources, landforms, location, population, countries.... 	