



Pictures Paint More Than Words: Images and Media Influence

Author: Jody Leeds
Grade Level 7
Duration: 2-3 class periods

National Standards

GEOGRAPHY

Element 1: The World in Spatial Terms

1. How to use maps and other geographic representations, geospatial technologies, and spatial thinking to understand and communicate information

Element 2: Places and Regions

6. How culture and experience influence people's perception of places and regions

Element 4: Human Systems

9. The characteristics, distribution and migration of human populations on Earth's surface

10. The characteristics, distribution and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics

13. How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface

AZ Standards

ELA

Reading

Key Ideas and Details

7.RI.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Writing

Production and Distribution of Writing

7.W.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7.W.7 Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

Language

Conventions of Standard English

7.L.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. a. Use a comma to separate coordinate adjectives. b. Use correct spelling.

Arizona Social Science Standards

GEOGRAPHY

The use of geographic representations and tools helps individuals understand their world.

7.G1.2 Analyze various geographic representations and use geographic tools to explain relationships between the location of places and their environments.

Examining human population and movement helps individuals understand past, present, and future conditions on Earth's surface.

7.G3.4 Evaluate human population and movement may cause conflict or promote cooperation.

Global interconnections and spatial patterns are a necessary part of geographic reasoning.

7.G4.1 Analyze cultural and environmental characteristics among various places and regions of the world.

7.G4.4 Explain an issue in terms of its scale (local, regional, state, national, or global)

HISTORY

The development of civilizations, societies, cultures, and innovations have influenced history and continue to impact the modern world.

7.H1.1 Analyze the rise and decline, interactions between, and blending of cultures and societies.

Cycles of conflict and cooperation have shaped relations among people, places, and environments.

7.H2.2 Compare the multiple causes and effects of conflict and approaches to peacemaking.

Economic, political, and religious ideas and institutions have influenced history and continue to shape the modern world.

7.H3.2 Analyze how economic and political motivations impact people and events.

7.H3.4 Explain the influence of individuals, groups, and institutions on people and events in historical and contemporary settings.

7.H3.5 Investigate a significant historical topic from global history that has significance to an issue or topic today.

Patterns of social and political interactions have shaped people, places, and events throughout history and continue to shape the modern world.

7.H4.1 Evaluate how the diversity of a society impacts its social and political norms.

7.H4.2 Evaluate the changing patterns of class, ethnic, racial, and gender structures and relations; consider immigration, migration, and social mobility.

Overview

The 20th and 21st centuries have seen their share of devastating human events in the world. Students are often moved to action by looking at photos and learning about displaced persons/refugees.

Purpose

In this lesson students will learn how pictures (usually generated by the media) can influence the public's perceptions of locations experiencing strife.

Materials

- World Map
<https://geoalliance.asu.edu/sites/default/files/maps/World-at.pdf>
- 8 Photos with Questions (PowerPoint)
- Computer and projection device
- Chart paper
- Markers
- Reflection
- Internet and computer access for all students
- Writing Prompt and Scoring Guide

Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Identify physical and human features in images.
2. Make inferences from viewing images.
3. Identify how the media plays a role in influencing a perception of a place.
4. Research a current scene of conflict.
5. Locate places a world map.
6. Present information in a clear and concise way.

Procedures

Prior to the lesson: print the 8 images in the PowerPoint. Do not include the information on the back side that identifies more about the photo.

SESSION ONE

1. Begin the lesson with a review of what are human and physical features and what are inferences.
2. Divide students into 8 groups seated at tables with one piece of chart paper and one marker.
3. Place one picture at each table and instruct the students to examine it and answer the three question after a group discussion. Answers should be written on their chart paper. Caution students to leave enough room for 8 photos in all.
4. Trade photos with another group and do the same activity until all groups have seen all 8 photos.
5. If time, have students share their responses and location guesses.

SESSION TWO and THREE

1. Distribute world maps to each student.
2. Project the photos and share the actual description (backside) of the photo given in the PowerPoint. Then point out the location on the wall map or projected world map. Have the students find the location on their maps and label it.
3. Explain the Writing Prompt and Scoring Guide. The objective is to paint a picture so others will understand what is happening in that particular location.
4. When they have completed their newspaper story, have the students write a reflection identifying how images in the media can influence the perception of people and places.

Assessment

ELA and Social Science

The writing assignment will be graded using the scoring guide. Mastery will be considered 50 points or higher.

The Reflection is worth 25 points. Mastery will be considered 20 points or higher.

Geography

The world maps can be graded for accuracy in identifying the locations. Mastery will be considered 7 of the 8 countries correctly identified.

Extensions

Encourage students to act upon their reflection statements: "What can I do to help?"

Sources

www.ushmm.org

<https://www.ushmm.org/research/research-in-collections/search-the-collections/bibliography/darfur>