Grade 8: Citizenship and Civic Engagement in Today’s Society

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

8.G1.1 Use geographic tools and representations to analyze historical and modern political and economic issues and events. Key tools and representations such as maps, globes, aerial and other photos, remotely sensed images, tables, graphs, and geospatial technology

1. Mapping a Cookie: Applying the 5 Themes of Geography and DOGSTAILS
2. Rephotography: A Cool GeoTool
3. 5 Themes of Geography: A Basis for Understanding Geography
5. DOGSTAILS: An Introduction to Map Reading Skills
6. From Pearl Harbor to the Rise of Mushrooms: World War II in the Pacific
7. Ground Shaking: Earthquakes Happen Every Day
8. Migration: “Push and Pull” Factors
9. Sustainability: The High Cost of Not Eating Locally
10. The Cold War: It’s Not Rocket Science or Is It?
11. Vote for Me!
12. Where Are They Safe? Understanding Presidential Succession
13. Lockbox Lesson: Large Vs. Small Scale Maps—Can You Breakout of the Map?
14. Storm Trackers: Tropical Storms Around the World
15. Hunger Games: Districts and Linear Functions
16. Elevation and Plate Tectonics
17. How Much of the U.S. Population is Foreign-Born?

Human-environment interactions are essential aspects of human life in all societies.

8.G2.1 Examine impact of and responses to environmental issues such as air, water, and land pollution, deforestation, urban sprawl, and changes to climate.

1. Trees in the Desert: Using the Principles of Xeriscape
2. Use Dr. Seuss’s The Lorax to Explore Environmental Issues
4. Plastic Soup: A PSA for the Ocean
5. Shh…What Was That Noise? Identifying Sound Decibels
6. Time to Talk: We Are Running Out of Soil
7. When Nature Strikes: Natural Hazards Safety Booklet
8. Wetlands: Why Are They Endangered

8.G2.2 Evaluate how political, social, and economic decisions throughout time have influenced cultural and environmental characteristics of various places and regions.

1. Create A City: An Urban Planning Exercise
2. TALES FROM THE CRYPT: Learning about Geography and History from Your Local Cemetery
3. STAR IT--Simplify the Article’s Really Important Topic Focus: The 5 Themes of Geography
5. American Dream
6. Observing the Characteristics of Cultures
7. The Rajah’s Rice: Comparing India’s Population Over Time

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

8.G3.1 Evaluate the impact of economic, political, and social decisions that have caused conflict or promoted cooperation throughout time.

1. Where, Why, and by Whom are Lines Drawn?
2. Jerusalem: A Holy City
3. Why They Come—Push and Pull Factors in Migration
4. Domestic Dependent Nations: Tribal Governments in the United States
5. Rights:The 14th Amendment
Global Interconnections and spatial patterns are a necessary part of geographic reasoning.

8.G.4.1 Take an active stance on a geographic issue reflecting its scale (local, regional, state, national, or global)

1. [Deforestation: A GeoInquiry](#)
2. [Hot Town—Summer in the City](#)
3. [NIMBY: Not in My Backyard](#)
4. [Operation Yellow Ribbon: Canada and 9/11](#)
5. [Fun in the Sun?](#)
6. [The Electoral College](#)