

Using the Geographic Definition to Guide inquiry in geographic focused Social Studies Strands

-Consider how the geographic definition can assist the inquiries that are conducted in your classrooms. This will move the focus from content to a greater emphasis on location.

The definition is what is where?, Why there? And why care?

We believe that this can be a guide for teachers and students and it lends itself well to applying disciplinary thinking

| Grade 1 Strand B <i>Interrelationships, Cause and Consequence, Significance; Patterns and Trends</i> | | |
|--|--|---|
| What is Where? | Why there? | Why care? |
| <p>What makes up the natural and built environment? (parks, stores, farms, schools, rivers)</p> <p>What are some distinct areas in the local community?</p> <p>What are the services in the local community?</p> | <p>How do the natural and built features meet needs? How does their location make a difference?</p> <p>What is the interrelationship between people and the natural and built features of their community?</p> | <p>How would life be different if the natural and built features of our local environment changed?</p> <p>How can we responsibly interact with our natural and built environment?</p> |

Grade 2 Strand B

Cause and Consequence, Interrelationships; Patterns and Trends, Significance

| What is Where? | Why there? | Why care? |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Where are different communities around the world? (countries, continents, physical features, and bodies of water around the world)</p> <p>What are the lifestyles like and how do people address their needs?</p> | <p>How does location, climate, and physical features influence the ways people address their needs?</p> | <p>How important is sustainability in people's interrelationship with their natural environment? What are some of the consequences of sustainable and/or non-sustainable actions?</p> |

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Grade 3 Strand B

Cause and Consequence, Perspective, Interrelationships; Patterns and Trends, Significance

| What is Where? | Why there? | Why care? |
|--|--|---|
| <p>What are some major connections between features of the natural environment of a region and the type of land use and/or the type of community that is established in that region? (towns and cities, rivers, roads, homes, business, industry, landform regions)</p> <p>What are the types of employment related to the natural environment?</p> <p>What are the different land uses in a community?</p> <p>What are some of the main patterns in population distribution and land use?</p> | <p>Why are employment opportunities different in different regions?</p> <p>Why are cities and towns located where they are?</p> <p>What do you notice about reserve communities?</p> | <p>What are the short- and/or long-term effects on the environment of different types of land and/or resource use?</p> <p>“What types of development might result in water pollution?” “What criteria might you use to judge the impact of land and/or resource use?”</p> |

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Cause and Consequence, Perspective, Interrelationships; Patterns and Trends, Significance

| Grade 4 Strand B | | |
|---|---|--|
| What is Where? | Why there? | Why care? |
| <p>What is the long-term impact of human activities?</p> <p>What makes a region a region?</p> <p>What are the characteristics of the physical regions in Canada?</p> <p>What are the significant human activities (needs and wants) in a particular region?</p> <p>What are the political regions in Canada?</p> <p>What types of industrial development rely on the natural environment?</p> <p>What challenges are associated with balancing human needs/wants and activities with environmental?</p> <p>What are the perspectives related to different industries?</p> | <p>Why are different industries related to the physical regions located where they are?</p> <p>Why are stewardship activities critical in particular regions?</p> | <p>What impact can the natural environment of different regions have on human activities?</p> <p>What impact can human activities have on the natural environment?</p> <p>How do we find the balance between environmental stewardship and human needs/ wants?</p> |

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Cause and Consequence, Interrelationships, Perspective, Significance

| Grade 5 Strand B – This strand has a focus on civics, however the investigation of social and environmental issues has a geographic component. | | |
|---|---|--|
| What is Where? | Why there? | Why care? |
| <p>What and where are social and environment issues in Canada? <i>(child poverty on reserves or in large cities, homelessness, bullying in schools, access to health care, climate change in the Arctic, waste disposal, or deforestation)</i></p> <p>What groups experience the greatest impact? <i>(a thematic map showing the extent of the areas affected by climate change or how air pollution generated in one jurisdiction affects another; a demographic map showing levels of poverty or homelessness in different provinces)</i></p> <p>What groups should be consulted when policy to address an issue like climate change or a new transit system is being developed?"</p> | <p>Why are impacts greater in certain areas?</p> <p><i>(information from a line or bar graph to determine variations in homelessness in several municipalities; use a double bar graph to help them determine the effectiveness of recycling and waste-diversion programs)</i></p> | <p>How can governments and citizens work to combat social and environmental issues?</p> <p><i>(Examine different positions on the issues, including the position of the level (or levels) of government responsible for addressing the issues)</i></p> <p>"In coming up with a way to address this issue, why is it important to consider the perspectives of all stakeholders?"</p> |



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Interrelationships; Perspective, Cause and Consequence, Significance; Patterns and Trends

| Grade 6 Strand B | | |
|---|---|---|
| What is Where? | Why there? | Why care? |
| <p>What and where are some global issues of political, social, economic, and/or environmental importance?</p> <p>Identify significant aspects of the involvement of Canada and Canadians in some regions around the world.</p> <p>In what ways is Canada's economy related to the global economy?</p> | <p>Why is Canada involved in different places?</p> <p>(explain the importance of international cooperation in addressing global issues)</p> | <p>How does Canada make a difference in the world?</p> <p>(evaluate the effectiveness of selected actions by Canada and Canadian citizens in the international arena)</p> |