

Using *South Carolina: An Atlas* to teach the 5 Themes of Geography

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Overview

This lesson uses *South Carolina: An Atlas* to explore the Five Themes of Geography. Included is a “warehouse” of activities that can be used to explore these themes.

Connection the Curriculum

This geography lesson is connected to social studies

South Carolina Social Studies Content Standards

3-1.2 Interpret thematic maps of South Carolina places and regions that show how and where people live, work, and use land and transportation.

3.1.4 Explain the effects of human systems on the physical landscape of South Carolina over time, including the relationship of population distribution and patterns of migration to natural resources, climate, agriculture, and economic development.

South Carolina Social Studies Literacy Elements

F. Ask geographic questions: Where is it located? Why is it there? What is significant about its location? How is its location related to that of other people, places, and environments?

G. Make and record observations about the physical and human characteristics of places

I. Use maps to observe and interpret geographic information and relationships

K. Use texts, photographs and documents to observe and interpret social studies trends and relationships

L. Interpret calendars, time lines, maps, charts, tables, graphs, flow charts, diagrams, photographs, paintings, cartoons, architectural drawings, documents, letters, censuses and other artifacts

M. Use tables and graphs to observe and interpret geographic trends and relationships

P. Locate, gather and process information from a variety of primary and secondary sources including maps

S. Interpret and synthesize information obtained from a variety of sources—graphs, charts, tables, diagrams, texts, photographs, documents and interviews

V. Use a variety of media to develop and organize integrated summaries of social studies information

W. Apply geographic models, generalizations and theories to the analysis, interpretation and presentation of geographic information

Grade Range

Grades 3-8 but can be taught to a wide range of grades. Select exercises from the “warehouse” that fit your grade.

Time

An exercise from the “warehouse” can be taught in one or two 40-minute periods.

Materials Needed

1. 5 Themes Handout
2. *South Carolina: An Atlas*
3. *South Carolina: An Atlas* 5 Themes skills practice exercises

Objectives

- The students will name the 5 Themes of Geography
- The students will identify examples of the 5 Themes of Geography
- The students will describe why characteristics of South Carolina are examples of the 5 Themes

Suggested Procedures

1. Begin the lesson by having the students read the sentence, “Look Paul HE Is Mooning Robert.” (Sentence can easily be modified for appropriate grade levels)
2. Reveal that the first letters of each word correspond to the 5 Themes of Geography.
3. Instruct students in how each of the 5 Themes relate to a geographic concept. Relate the 5 Themes to a local area to reinforce the concept.
4. 5 Themes examples can be found in *Geography in Cartoons- Highsmith Inc. 1996*
5. Teachers will have the students say the 5 Themes of Geography.
6. Students will complete the *Atlas* 5 Themes skills practice exercises.
7. Additional exercises from the “warehouse” may be assigned as needed.

Lesson Extensions

1. Using *South Carolina: An Atlas*, the following samples taken from the “warehouse” handout:
 - Use page 30 and identify the counties that are located in the Columbia Metropolitan Statistical area. Research and explain what are the criteria of a metropolitan statistical area.
 - Create a web diagram with Place at its center. Explore the atlas and write down the subject of any map or chart that you feel exhibits the theme.
 - Identify the canals shown on page 21. Explain why canals are an example of Human Environment Interaction.
 - Identify the Railroads shown on page 21. Explain why railroads are an example of movement.
 - Describe at least 3 regions of South Carolina that you are part.
2. Students can be assigned to apply the 5 Themes to their homes and families. This is also a great way to get to know more about them

Suggested Evaluation

Assess student completion of the 5 Themes handout.

Materials Provided

- 5 Themes of Geography Notes/Handout
- “Warehouse” of questions and activities
- South Carolina: An Atlas* 5 Themes skills practice exercises

Resources

South Carolina: An Atlas

South Carolina Geographic Alliance

www.cas.sc.edu/cege

Geography in Cartoons- Highsmith Inc. 1996

http://myschools.com/offices/cso/social_studies/social.htm

5 Themes Extension and Practice

Location

- What 2 ways is the location of South Carolina described on page 1?
 - 1.
 - 2.

Place

- Explain how the maps on page 9 show Place?

- What type of place, human or physical, is illustrated?

- Find where you are located and identify what is the average temperature and precipitation.

Human Environment Interaction

- Identify 3 examples of Human Environment Interaction exhibited on page 33.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

Movement

- What is the earliest example of Movement shown in the atlas? What movement is shown or illustrated in this map?

Region

Use the map on page 5 and identify the 2 United States landform regions that South Carolina is located within. On page 6, identify the landform regions into which South Carolina is divided. (The SCGA has other lesson plans that involve physically creating these regions)

5 Themes “Warehouse” of Activities and Questions using *South Carolina: An Atlas*

Location

- What 2 ways is the location of South Carolina described on page 1?
- Look at the counties Clarendon and Fairfield on page 2; give a relative description of the location of their county seats. Name 2 other counties that have a similar type of location. Why do you think they have that location?
- The map on page 22 shows the path of Sherman’s March through South Carolina. On which 3 cities did his armies converge? Which city did his armies surprisingly not attack?
- Use page 30 and identify the counties that are located in the Columbia Metropolitan Statistical area. Research and explain what are the criteria of a metropolitan statistical area.
- The map on page 16 shows the Revolutionary War engagements fought in South Carolina. Chose 2 of the engagements and explain how location played a role in its occurrence.
- Create a web diagram with Location at its center. Explore the atlas and write down the subject of any map or chart that you feel exhibits the theme.
- Choose any of the examples of Location in the atlas and write a summary using the 5 Themes Summary format to explain why it shows the theme.
- Use your local paper and find an example of Location. This can be combined with the summary to create a 5 Themes project. Directions and scoring rubric can be found in the “warehouse.”

Place

- Create a web diagram with Place at its center. Explore the atlas and write down the subject of any map or chart that you feel exhibits the theme.
- Explain why the map on page 9 shows Human Place.
- Place is the characteristics that make an area unique. Use the atlas and write a paragraph identifying at least 3 characteristics that make South Carolina unique.
- Choose any of the examples of Place in the atlas and write a summary using the 5 Themes Summary format to explain why it shows the theme.
- Use your local paper and find an example of Place. This can be combined with the summary to create a 5 Themes project. Directions and scoring rubric can be found in the “warehouse.”

Human Environment Interaction

- Choose any of the examples of Human Environment Interaction in the atlas and write a summary using the 5 Themes Summary format to explain why it shows the theme.
- Use your local paper and find an example of Human Environment Interaction. This can be combined with the summary to create a 5 Themes project. Directions and scoring rubric can be found in the “warehouse.”

- Create a web diagram with Human Environment Interaction at its center. Explore the atlas and write down the subject of any map or chart that you feel exhibits the theme.
- Identify the canals shown on page 21. Explain why canals are an example of Human Environment Interaction.
- The maps on page 19 show commercial agriculture. Explain why commercial agriculture is an example of both Human Environment Interaction and Movement.
- Identify 3 examples of Human Environment Interaction shown on page 33.

Movement

- What is the earliest example of Movement shown in the atlas? What movement is shown in this map?
- Use the map and information on pages 27 and 28 to explain how the theme Movement explains South Carolina's increase in population. Use at least 3 examples in your explanation.
- Define *push*, and *pull factors*. Describe possible push factors shown on page 25? Describe possible pull factors shown on page 35.
- Create a web diagram with Movement at its center. Explore the atlas and write down the subject of any map or chart that you feel exhibits the theme.
- Identify the Railroads shown on page 21. Explain why railroads are an example of movement.
- Choose any of the examples of Movement in the atlas and write a summary using the 5 Themes Summary format to explain why it shows the theme.
- Use your local paper and find an example of Movement. This can be combined with the summary to create a 5 Themes project. Directions and scoring rubric can be found in the "warehouse."

Region

- Choose any of the examples of Region in the atlas and write a summary using the 5 Themes Summary format to explain why it shows the theme.
- Use your local paper and find an example of Region. This can be combined with the summary to create a 5 Themes project. Directions and scoring rubric can be found in the "warehouse."
- Describe at least 3 regions of South Carolina that you are part.
- Create a web diagram with Region at its center. Explore the atlas and write down the subject of any map or chart that you feel exhibits the theme.
- Use the map on page 5 and identify the 2 United States landform regions that South Carolina is placed. On page 6, identify the landform regions that South Carolina is divided. (The Alliance has other lesson plans that involve physically creating these regions)

How to Write a 5 Themes Summary (Paragraph)

- A. Your summary should begin with the definition of the theme.
- B. After your definition you should describe your picture/map/illustration in detail. You should tell the where, the what, and the why.
- C. To conclude your summary you will explain why your picture/map/illustration shows the theme.

Name _____

Directions: In this project you are to illustrate each of the 5 Themes of Geography (one for each theme) using illustrations focusing on South Carolina. Illustrations can include pictures, maps, drawings, cartoons, or anything you find that will illustrate that theme. Each illustration should be accompanied by a written summary (paragraph) describing how your illustration demonstrates that theme. Illustrations should be neat, color is not necessary. Paragraphs should be written in ink or typed, pencil is not acceptable. They should also be grammatically correct. Projects can be done in poster, folder, PowerPoint, or Word Document form. Models will be shown.

Scoring Rubric

Location	Place	HEI	Movement	Region
<u>Illustration</u> <i>Correctly shows theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat</i> 5pts	<u>Illustration</u> <i>Correctly shows theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat</i> 5pts	<u>Illustration</u> <i>Correctly shows theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat</i> 5pts	<u>Illustration</u> <i>Correctly shows theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat</i> 5pts	<u>Illustration</u> <i>Correctly shows theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat</i> 5pts
<u>Summary</u> <i>Correctly connects illustration to theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat and grammatically correct</i> 5pts	<u>Summary</u> <i>Correctly connects illustration to theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat and grammatically correct</i> 5pts	<u>Summary</u> <i>Correctly connects illustration to theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat and grammatically correct</i> 5pts	<u>Summary</u> <i>Correctly connects illustration to theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat and grammatically correct</i> 5pts	<u>Summary</u> <i>Correctly connects illustration to theme</i> 5pts <i>Neat and grammatically correct</i> 5pts