



## Unit Two

### Unit Title: The United States and Canada

#### World Geography

#### Unit Length and Description:

**4 weeks**

This unit focuses on the physical and human geography of the United States and Canada. Regarding physical geography, the unit explores how location has shaped the history of the two countries and led to regional labels. The unit also analyzes human activities such as migration patterns, standards of living, and environmental issues involving conservation and the use of natural resources.

#### Standards:

##### **Standard 1: World in Spatial Terms and Uses of Geography**

WG.1.4	Use geographic representations to locate the world's continents, major landforms, major bodies of water and major countries and to solve geographic problems
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##### **Standard 2: Physical Systems**

WG.2.2	Identify and locate world climate regions and evaluate the impact of the Earth/Sun relationship, ocean currents, wind currents, and elevation on each climate region
WG.2.3	Compare and contrast regions of the world by analyzing the plant and animal life indigenous to the region (ecosystems)
WG.2.4	Explain and give examples of natural and human processes that shape Earth's surface and identify specific locations where these processes occur

##### **Standard 3: Region**

WG.3.1	Analyze how cooperation, conflict, and self-interest impact the cultural, political, and economic regions of the world and relations between nations
WG.3.2	Determine the unifying characteristics that regions possess and explain changes that they have experienced over time
WG.3.3	Explain how human and physical characteristics facilitate or hinder regional interactions

##### **Standard 4: Place**

WG.4.1	Determine the physical and human characteristics that comprise the identity of a given place
WG.4.2	Analyze the distinguishing physical characteristics of a given place to determine their impact on human activities
WG.4.3	Identify and analyze distinguishing human characteristics of a given place to determine their influence on historical events
WG.4.4	Evaluate the impact of historical events on culture and relationships among groups

##### **Standard 5: Human Systems**

WG.5.1	Describe and classify reasons for human migration in terms of push or pull factors to determine the changes and similarities in these factors over time
WG.5.2	Use population pyramids, geographic data and maps to analyze the current impact of population growth and to predict future population trends
WG.5.3	Describe and illustrate specific examples of economic interdependence in various regions
WG.5.4	Determine the factors that contribute to a country's standard of living
WG.5.5	Explain how changes in technology have contributed to the spread of ideas and information throughout the world

**Standard 6: Environment and Society**

WG.6.3	Analyze the distribution of resources and describe their impact on human systems (past, present, and future)
WG.6.4	Assess the role of government and business in preserving or consuming natural resources and protecting or destroying the physical environment

<b>Enduring Understandings- Compelling Question:</b>	<b>Essential Questions- Supporting Question:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How does the movement and migration of people and ideas affects the past, present, and future?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How does where you live influence how you live?</li> <li>In what ways do human interact with the environment?</li> <li>Why do people move? How does this movement affect existing communities? How does it affect new communities?</li> </ul>