



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

6th Grade

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit
World Geography/ Eastern Hemisphere

Suggested Timeline
36 weeks

Grade Level Summary

The 6th Grade course includes a 6-week program on economic principles and personal financial literacy concepts in partnership with Junior Achievement USA. The remainder of the course focuses on geographic education.

The primary goal of geographic education is to present information and facts about the Eastern Hemisphere; to introduce and reinforce the 5 themes of geography: Movement, Region, Human-Environment Interaction, Location and Place. A secondary goal is to have the students recognize themselves as a global citizen.

All sixth grade students take this course which was designed in alignment with the Pennsylvania Core Standards. Students will develop a better understanding of geographical characteristics by examining regions of the Eastern Hemisphere including global, cultural, and environmental concerns. This Northern Middle School course serves as an introduction to World Cultures/Geography.

The course is also intended to develop several key social studies skills. This procedural knowledge includes, but is not limited to the following:

- distinguishing between primary and secondary sources
- understanding cause and effect
- analyzing maps, charts, and tables
- using Close reading strategies to examine a variety of mediums
- drawing conclusions
- formulating thoughtful responses to document based questions
- encourage creativity and individualized thinking
- utilizing a variety of technological resources

Grade Level Units

Essentials of Geography, Europe, Russia and the Eurasian Republics, Sub-Saharan Africa, Southwest Asia and North Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, the Pacific Realm, and Antarctica



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Grade 6

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit:
JA BizTown

Suggested Timeline
5-6 weeks

Unit Title
JA BizTown

Unit Summary

JA BizTown is conducted in cooperation with Junior Achievement USA (JA; JA USA). These programs encourage confidence in young people and motivate them to achieve their personal, educational, and career goals. JA programs help young people understand work readiness, entrepreneurship, and personal financial literacy. JA BizTown encompasses important aspects of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, providing students in grades five through six with a solid foundation of business, economics, and free enterprise education. Through daily lessons, hands-on activities, and active participation in a simulated community, students are encouraged to use critical-thinking skills as they learn about key economic concepts. This unit concludes with a trip to the local JA BizTown simulation city.

JA BizTown Topics include:

Community and Economy
Financial Literacy
Work Readiness
Business Management

Unit Essential Questions

1. What is an economy, and how does it work?
2. How does a free enterprise system work?
3. What are taxes, and what do they pay for?
4. What is a financial institution, and what does it do?
5. How do I use a checking account?
6. Why should I save money?
7. What is the difference between a debit card and a credit card?
8. How do I know what kind of career is right for me?
9. How do I get a job?
10. How do I interview for a job?
11. How are people elected?
12. What costs are involved in running a business?
13. Why should I advertise?
14. What are the parts of a Friendly Letter?
15. How much should I charge for my goods and services?

Key Understandings

1. Interactions between goods, services, and resources impact people and the circular flow within an economy.
2. Identify three basic economic questions of what, how and for whom to produce.
3. Role of government in business, citizen responsibilities, public vs. private goods and services, and charitable giving.
4. Various services provided by financial institutions and what may required to access those services
5. The balance between saving and spending
6. Various payment options that are available when purchasing goods and/or services and the advantages/disadvantages of each option
7. Interests and skills can lead workers to careers
8. Determine operating costs associated with running a business and calculate these expenses
9. Setting the right price is crucial as it affects the revenue of a business. Business costs will also have an impact on what consumers will pay.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

6.1.6.B	Compare ways that people meet their needs with how they meet their wants. Describe how resources are combined to produce different goods and services.
6.1.6.C	Define opportunity cost and describe the opportunity cost of personal choice.

6.1.6.D	Identify incentives that affect personal choices.
6.2.6.A	Describe the interaction of consumers and producers of goods and services in the state and national economy.
6.2.6.D	Describe how prices influence both buyers and sellers and explain why prices may vary for similar products.
6.5.6.A	Describe how the availability of goods and services is made possible by the work of members of the society.

Important Standards Addressed in the Unit

CC.2.2.6.B.2	Understand the process of solving a one-variable equation or inequality and apply it to real-world and mathematical problems.
CC.2.2.6.B.1	Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
CC.2.1.6.E.4	Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers.
CC.2.1.6.E.2	Identify and choose appropriate processes to compute fluently with multi-digit numbers
13.1.5.A	Describe the impact of individual interests and abilities on career choices.
13.1.5.B	Describe the impact of personal interest and abilities on career choices.
13.2.8.A	Identify effective speaking and listening skills used in a job interview.
13.3.5.B	Explain the importance of working cooperatively with others at both home and school to complete a task.

Misconceptions

- Good and services are always available for those who have the money
- Money is automatically deposited into accounts
- Money is meant to be spent
- Paying for stuff is all the same
- I should get the job of my choice
- Owning a business is all about making money

Proper Conceptions

- Money is earned through wages and salaries that in turn are used to purchase goods/services or are saved.
- A free enterprise economy relies on consumers spending money. Wise management of personal finances should include savings.
- There are various options of payment; each has its advantages and disadvantages
- Job/career exploration includes applications, interviews, and work experience. The job of your choice does not always land on your lap.
- Business ownership comes with costs, and setting the right prices influence total profit of the business. Customer service and ranking may also influence business profits.

Concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Circular Flow of economic activity ● Goods and Services ● Free Market and Enterprise ● Personal Financial Management ● Interest and Skills Inventories ● Employment process ● Election process 	Competencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify goods, services, and resources (human, natural, and capital) ● Demonstrate the circular flow of an economy ● Explain why free enterprise is important to the U.S. economy and freedoms people exercise. 	Vocabulary: Circular Flow Resources Free Enterprise Scarcity Goods Services Entrepreneur Consumers and Producers
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguish the differences between public and private goods and services and provide examples of each. • Opening and managing bank accounts • Utilization of checkbook, endorsing a check, depositing funds, check registers, and recording changes in balance • Identify consequences of insufficient funds in account balances • Compare and contrast credit cards and debit cards • Identify the advantages or disadvantages of various payment options • Distinguish between the four primary career types • Categorize STEM careers into different types • Complete an accurate job application for their JA BizTown job of choice. • Identify desirable interviewing skills and behaviors • Identify various operating costs for a business and calculate total expenses (salaries plus operating costs) • Describe characteristics of effective advertising. • Explain the relationships between profits, revenues, and costs • Determine appropriate prices for goods and services 	<p>Prototype Profit Philanthropy Private/Public goods and services Taxes Nonprofit</p> <hr/> <p>Financial Institutions Check Checking account Savings account Certificate of deposit (CD) ATM (automated teller machine) Safe deposit box Online banking Loan (personal, business, and credit card) Debit card Credit card Endorse Income Paycheck Transaction Deposit Ticket Check Registers Bounced Check Interest Compound Interest Accrue Debit Card Credit Card</p> <hr/> <p>Interests and Skills Employee and Employer Soft Skills Resume Applicant Job Interview Candidate Campaign Referendum</p> <hr/> <p>Operating Costs Advertising Salaries Revenue Expenses Promissory Note Customer Service Slogans and Jingles Selling Price Inventory</p>
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Assessments: Various activities, Lemonade Stand, Pay Day, Check it Out! Scenarios, Saving and Spending Game, Interest and Skills Surveys, Job applications, speed interviews and ratings, Letter to Editor, Setting Selling Price, various written assessments, and enrichment activities

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

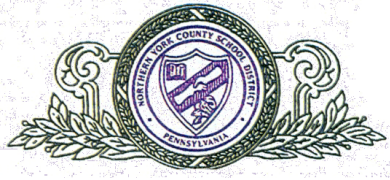
Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching: Domain 3 Instruction

Lessons are designed with appropriate goals, questioning and pacing. The online digital library will augment the textbook to provide balanced instruction. Strategies such as using think time, turn and talk, give one get one, strategic student grouping and discussion questions can be employed throughout the lesson. Varied questioning techniques aiming at higher order thinking skills, cooperative learning situations, and technology integration.

Differentiation:By utilizing a variety of techniques including the blended learning approach, differentiation of instructional delivery and the demonstration of mastery can be customized for each student. Tools such as learning management systems allow for students to progress through units at their individual pace while teachers facilitate and monitor progress towards required competencies. Pre assessments may allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of each topic so that instruction could be tailored to meet each student's needs.

Interdisciplinary Connections:The implementation of PA Core Standards provides explicit opportunities for interdisciplinary connections. Through this unit of study, students will be engaged in critical reading and writing exercises to deepen their economics, personal financial literacy, and work/career readiness. Concepts relating to science,math, technology, art, and music will be infused through individual and group projects and discussions. Several lessons rely on multiple mathematical applications and calculations.

Additional Resources: JA BizTown Teacher Guide and Overview, Local business owners and operators, Parents/Family/Community members, Financial Institutions



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Grade 6

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit:
Essentials of Geography

Suggested Timeline
2 weeks

Unit Title

Essentials of Geography

Unit Summary

Geography uses maps and the five themes of geography to study political and physical systems. The five themes of geography are used to categorize similar geographic information and provide a framework for students to think like a geographer. The themes are: location, region, human/environment interaction, place and movement.

Unit Essential Questions

16. How do people use geography, and how has the environment and geography influenced cultures around the world?
17. How do people use geography?
18. How has geography influenced cultures around the world?
19. What shapes the earth's varied environments?

Key Understandings

10. 5 Themes of Geography, Purpose of Maps, Global Issues
11. Geographers use themes and divide the world into regions to understand the world.
12. The ways people speak, eat, work, play, govern and worship
13. Climate regions and ecosystems shape the environment.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

7.1.6.A	Describe how common geographic tools are used to organize and interpret information about people, places, and environment.
7.1.6.B	Describe and locate places and regions as defined by physical and human features.
7.2.6.A	Describe the characteristics of places and regions.

Important Standards Addressed in the Unit

CC.8.5.6-8.A.	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
CC.8.5.6-8 D	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
CC.8.5.6-8 E	Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
CC.8.5.6-8 G	Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
CC.8.5.6-8.I	Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic

Misconceptions

- Continents = Countries

Proper Conceptions

- Continents consist of countries

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All maps are the same. • People who live in other countries do “weird” things. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps have many purposes. • Other cultures may be different from our culture.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of maps • Five Themes of Geography: Movement, Region, Human-Environment Interaction, Location and Place 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify continents and oceans. • Describe the difference between types of maps. • Identify major world religions. • Compare different forms of government. • Identify climate regions and how they affect life on earth. • Identify threats to natural habitats and ways in which people are trying to reduce those threats. • Learn what culture is and how <i>place</i> influences the development of culture. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Absolute location Relative location Region Continent Latitude Longitude Prime meridian Hemisphere Scale Cartographer Elevation Plain Plateau Climate Culture Monotheistic Polytheistic government</p>
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Assessments: Tests/Quizzes, Map activities, Homework, Projects, Cooperative activities, Presentations, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

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Lessons are designed with appropriate goals, questioning and pacing. The online digital library will augment the textbook to provide balanced instruction. Strategies such as using think time, turn and talk, give one get one, strategic student grouping and discussion questions can be employed throughout the lesson. Varied questioning techniques aiming at higher order thinking skills, cooperative learning situations, and technology integration.

Differentiation: By utilizing a variety of techniques including the blended learning approach, differentiation of instructional delivery and the demonstration of mastery can be customized for each student. Tools such as learning management systems allow for students to progress through units at their individual pace while teachers facilitate and monitor progress towards required competencies. Pre assessments may allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of each topic so that instruction could be tailored to meet each student’s needs.

Interdisciplinary Connections: The implementation of PA Core Standards provides explicit opportunities for interdisciplinary connections. Through this unit of study, students will be engaged in critical reading and writing exercises to deepen their understanding of the five themes of geography. Concepts relating to science, math, technology, art, and music will be infused through individual and group projects and discussions.

Additional Resources: Textbook (National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography), Polar LibGuides, online learning, learning management system, Google Apps for educators, google classroom, screencasts, guest speakers, primary and secondary sources in print as well as online, online collaborative communities, media center, videos, news sources



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit:
Europe

Suggested Timeline
4 weeks

Unit Title
Europe

Unit Summary

Europe's interaction globally today stems from its physical geography, cultural diversity and historic achievements.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does Europe's geography and history influence Europe today?
2. How did Europe's physical geography encourage interaction with other regions?
3. How did Europe develop and extend its influence around the world?
4. How is the diversity of Europe reflected in its cultural achievements?
5. What are the costs and benefits of European unification?

Key Understandings

1. Political/Physical Geography, Industrial Revolution, Nationalism, Cold War, Languages and Culture, European Union, Changes in Governments, Changing Demographics
2. The landforms and resources in Europe support many economic activities.
3. Europeans colonized and eventually revolutionized industry. Growing tensions created nationalism leading to the Cold War.
4. Europe has a great variety of languages, cultures and cities leading to the development of the arts. Landforms and climate have influenced the traditions of Europe, such as cooking.
5. The European Union and the Euro unite Europe both economically and politically. Eastern European countries face challenges in transition to democracy.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

7.1.6.B.	Describe and locate places and regions as defined by physical and human features.
7.2.6.A	Describe the characteristics of places and regions .
7.3.6.A	Describe the human characteristics of places and regions using the following criteria: Population, Culture, Settlement, Economic activities, Political activities
7.4.6.A	Describe and explain the effects of the physical systems on people within regions.
7.4.6.B	Describe and explain the effects of people on the physical systems within regions.

Important Standards Addressed in the Unit

CC.8.5.6-8.A	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
CC.8.5.6-8 D	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

CC.8.5.6-8 E.	Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
CC.8.5.6-8 G	Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
CC.8.5.6-8.I	Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic

<p>Misconceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe is a country • All Germans are/were Nazis 	<p>Proper Conceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe is a continent consisting of many diverse countries. • Naziism was a political concept, not a description of a nationality.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Geography • Industrial Revolution • Nationalism (and WWI) • Cold War (and WWII) 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the land regions and climates and how they affect settlements. • Identify economic activities supported by Europe’s landforms and interaction with other regions. • Evaluate how industrialization changed European economies and people’s way of life. • Explain the nationalist tensions and struggles for power that led to WWI, and the conflicts that resulted in the Cold War. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Uplands, polder, fjord, textile, nationalism, concentration camp, reparations, Industrial Revolution, Cold War, Holocaust, Iron Curtain, tariff, euro, sovereignty, democratization, privatization</p>
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Assessments: Tests/Quizzes, Map activities, Homework, (Google) Presentations, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

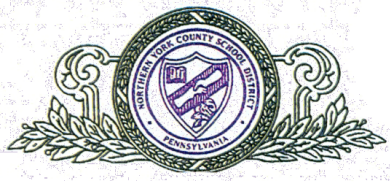
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Differentiation:By utilizing a variety of techniques including the blended learning approach, differentiation of instructional delivery and the demonstration of mastery can be customized for each student. Tools such as learning management systems allow for students to progress through units at their individual pace while teachers facilitate and monitor progress towards required competencies. Pre assessments may allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of each topic so that instruction could be tailored to meet each student’s needs.

Interdisciplinary Connections:The implementation of PA Core Standards provides explicit opportunities for interdisciplinary connections. Through this unit of study, students will be engaged in critical reading and writing exercises to deepen their understanding of the five themes of geography. Concepts relating to science,math, technology, art, and music will be infused through individual and group projects and discussions.

Additional Resources: Textbook (National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography),Polar LibGuides, online learning, learning management system, Google Apps for educators, google classroom, screencasts, guest speakers, primary and secondary sources in print as well as online, online collaborative communities, media center, videos, news sources



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit:
Russia and the Eurasian
Republics

Suggested Timeline
4 weeks

Unit Title	Russia and the Eurasian Republics
Unit Summary	Learn how the geography, climate, and history of Russia and the Eurasian republics continue to have a huge impact on economic, political and environmental life today.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How have size, climate and geographic isolation influenced Russian culture?
2. How have size and extreme climates shaped Russia and the Eurasian republics?
3. How has geographic isolation influenced the region's history?
4. What features, such as size and climate, have influenced Russian culture?
5. How have Russia and the Eurasian republics dealt with recent political, economic and environmental challenges?

Key Understandings

1. Political and Physical geography, isolation, changes in government, environmental challenges, Communism
2. Russia and the Eurasian republics cover a huge area and contain a variety of geographic features and extreme climates. Climate impacts where and how people live. Natural resources are plentiful, but human activities damage the surrounding landscape.
3. Location, size, isolation and climate are geographic strengths that aid in defense. Isolation kept Russia from following patterns of industrialization and democracy prevalent in Western Europe.
4. The Trans-Siberian Railroad links Russia and St. Petersburg is a center of culture, industry and trade. These, along with a variety of climates, impact cultures.
5. Economic problems and people's desire for independence caused the collapse of the Soviet Union. Russia controls its regions from Moscow. Natural resources enrich the economies.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

7.1.6.B.	Describe and locate places and regions as defined by physical and human features.
7.2.6.A	Describe the characteristics of places and regions .
7.3.6.A	Describe the human characteristics of places and regions using the following criteria: Population, Culture, Settlement, Economic activities, Political activities
7.4.6.A	Describe and explain the effects of the physical systems on people within regions.
7.4.6.B	Describe and explain the effects of people on the physical systems within regions.

Important Standards Addressed in the Unit

CC.8.5.6-8.A.	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
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CC.8.5.6-8.I	Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic

<p>Misconceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eurasia is a continent. ● Russia has a cold climate. 	<p>Proper Conceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eurasia is a land mass. ● Russia has a variety of climate regions.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Climate ● Government ● Natural Resources ● Communism 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Analyze the physical features, extreme climates and natural resources that characterize and affect people’s lives in Russia. ● Describe how the physical geography of Central Asia affects people who live there. ● Analyze how Russia is both European and Asian in nature. ● Explain the government and economic system of the Soviet Union. ● Analyze the relationship between climate and culture. ● Explain the importance of the Trans-Siberian Railroad and describe how St. Petersburg’s past influences the present. ● Explain the causes and effects of the collapse of the U.S.S.R. and analyze the structure of Russia’s government today. ● Explain how oil and natural gas contribute to the economies and governments. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Steppe, taiga, tundra, permafrost, peat, semiarid, arid, secular, reign, communism, socialism, collective farms, propaganda, nomads, yurts, terrain, gauge, port, diplomacy, perestroika, glasnost, autonomy, coup</p>
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Assessments: Folk Tale/ World Heritage guide Project, Tests/Quizzes,Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

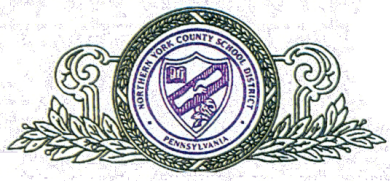
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Additional Resources: Textbook (National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography),Polar LibGuides, online learning, learning management system, Google Apps for educators, google classroom, screencasts, guest speakers, primary and secondary sources in print as well as online, online collaborative communities, media center, videos, news sources



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject Social Studies	Grade 6	Unit Sub-Saharan Africa	Suggested Timeline 3 weeks
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Unit Title
Sub-Saharan Africa

Unit Summary
Today's African cultures stem from the physical geography and historic achievements, developing its modern diversity..

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does Africa's geography and history influence Africa today?
2. How has the varied geography of sub-Saharan Africa affected people's lives?
3. How did trade networks and migration influence the development of African civilization?
4. What historical and geographic factors have influenced the cultures of sub-Saharan Africa?
5. How have conflict and government instability slowed economic development in sub-Saharan Africa?

Key Understandings

1. Political/Physical geography, Trade networks and migration, Colonization and modernization, government instability and economic development
2. Geography in sub-Saharan Africa includes Great Rift Valley, rain forests, steppes, plateaus, basins, highlands and desert. Economic development opportunities exist in Southern Africa.
3. Migration influenced culture and language. Trade developed powerful states and empires. Colonization and imperialism were influential to cultures.
4. Colonial borders ignored existing traditional cultural borders. Music continues to connect the people to their past, and communicates their culture to the world. Scientists continue to study the value of traditional medicine. Kenya is modernizing its economy and improving its standard of living.
5. Management of minerals and oil, as well as food availability, and civil wars continue to slow economic development. The government in South Africa is working to make changes and is now one of the most prosperous.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

7.1.6.B.	Describe and locate places and regions as defined by physical and human features.
7.2.6.A	Describe the characteristics of places and regions .
7.3.6.A	Describe the human characteristics of places and regions using the following criteria: Population, Culture, Settlement, Economic activities, Political activities
7.4.6.A	Describe and explain the effects of the physical systems on people within regions.
7.4.6.B	Describe and explain the effects of people on the physical systems within regions.

Important Standards Addressed in the Unit

CC.8.5.6-8.A	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
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CC.8.5.6-8 D	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
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CC.8.5.6-8.I	Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic

<p>Misconceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Africa is a country ● Africa has no cities or developed areas ● All areas of Africa suffer from high poverty and limited resources. 	<p>Proper Conceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Africa consists of many varied nations with rich histories and cultures. ● Africa has many major cities with transportation and communication like cities in the U.S. ● Africans experience similar advantages and disadvantages as other regions.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Influence of trade ● Migration ● Colonialism ● Changes in population ● Physical geography ● Natural Resources and economic development ● Conflict and Government Instability 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Locate and describe physical geography. ● Analyze the influences that affect population. ● Describe and understand how natural resources shape the land and economic development. ● Analyze the cause and effects of the Bantu migration. ● Examine the impact of trade on population and development of states. ● Describe the effects of European colonization and events that led to independence. ● Understand the legacy of colonialism and the steps that Africa is taking to form stable countries. ● Examine the role of music and its influence. ● Analyze the challenges Kenya has faced and the progress it has made. ● Understand the need to preserve traditional cultures. ● Understand the challenges of harnessing oil and mineral resources and improving agriculture. ● Compare and contrast Sudan and Somalia. ● Explain how democratic government brought an end to apartheid. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Basin, savannah, desertification, deforestation, highlands, rain forest, hydroelectric power, landlocked, escarpment, habitats, poaching, ecotourism, agricultural revolution, caravans, lingua franca, alluvial, imperialism, colonialism, ethnic groups, Griots, modernization, literacy rate, minerals, commodities, coup, famine, refugees, clans, segregation, apartheid,</p>
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Assessments: Africa Puzzle Map Test, Culture Journal Project, Tests/Quizzes, Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching: Domain 3 Instruction

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Additional Resources: Textbook (National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography), Polar LibGuides, online learning, learning management system, Google Apps for educators, google classroom, screencasts, guest speakers, primary and secondary sources in print as well as online, online collaborative communities, media center, videos, news sources



World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit
Southwest Asia and North Africa

Suggested Timeline
3 weeks

Unit Title

Southwest Asia and North Africa

Unit Summary

Ancient history and current conflicts throughout Southwest Asia and North Africa, along with physical geography, have contributed to cultural diversity and modernization.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does SW Asia and North Africa's geography and history influence the region today?
2. How have the climate and location influenced the region in the past and today?
3. How did civilizations develop?
4. How did an advanced civilization develop in Egypt?
5. How have resources and migration shaped culture?
6. What forces have affected the development of modern countries in the region?

Key Understandings

1. Political/Physical geography, Trade networks and migration, Colonization and modernization, government instability and economic development
2. Regions are hot, water is scarce and oil is plentiful. Tigris and Euphrates Rivers support life. The Anatolian and Iranian Plateaus have a long history as a crossroads of trade.
3. Mesopotamia's early civilization contributed to other cultures. The world's most influential religions spread through migration, missionaries and trade, but had origins in SW Asia. The Ottoman Empire left behind powerful legacies.
4. The Nile River provided water, fertile plains and transportation allowing the Egyptians to build the great pyramids and develop their civilization.
5. Trade and migration continue to define the region. Istanbul continues to be a crossroads of trade, while Dubai has become a multicultural modern city.
6. A variety of governments, oil production, and long standing conflicts affect modern times.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

7.1.6.B.	Describe and locate places and regions as defined by physical and human features.
7.2.6.A	Describe the characteristics of places and regions .
7.3.6.A	Describe the human characteristics of places and regions using the following criteria: Population, Culture, Settlement, Economic activities, Political activities
7.4.6.A	Describe and explain the effects of the physical systems on people within regions.
7.4.6.B	Describe and explain the effects of people on the physical systems within regions.

Important Standards Addressed in the Unit

CC.8.5.6-8.A	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
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CC.8.5.6-8 D	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
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CC.8.5.6-8.I	Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic

<p>Misconceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This region is all deserts and arid climates • These countries are relatively poor • All countries in this region are “unfriendly” towards the U.S. and other Western countries. 	<p>Proper Conceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While it is arid, there are areas with abundant water and resources. • Discovery of oil deposits, major trade routes, and geographic location provide opportunities for extreme wealth • Cultural, religious, and economic pressures result in conflict both inside and outside of this region. Citizens in North Africa and SW Asia struggle for stability.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical geography • Monotheistic religions • Migration and trade • Governments and conflict • Oil and economics • Ancient history 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze the geography and describe the significance of these physical features: Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, Arabian Peninsula, Anatolian and Iranian Plateaus, Mesopotamia, Nile River • Compare the origins and diffusion of 3 monotheistic religions. • Explain the historical importance of the Ottoman Empire, ancient Egypt, and the Great Pyramids. • Analyze trends in migration and trade. • Analyze the cultural importance of Istanbul and the rapid development of Dubai. • Compare and contrast governments. • Analyze the importance of oil in the economies. • Understand the issues that divide Israelis and Palestinians. • Analyze the history and present-day situations in Afghanistan and Iraq. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Arid, alluvial plain, silt, irrigation, petroleum, oases, qanats, city-states, monotheistic, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, diffusion, sultans, religious tolerance, floodplain, strait, mosque, sheikh, emirates, reserves, self rule, extremists, terrorists</p>
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Assessments: Africa Puzzle Map Test, Benefits of Education Geo Activity, Tests/Quizzes, Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

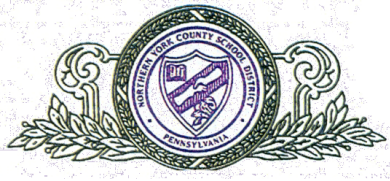
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World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject
Social Studies

Grade
6

Unit
South Asia

Suggested Timeline
3 weeks

Unit Title
South Asia

Unit Summary

South Asia faces economic challenges due to high population and environmental issues. Stable governments contribute to steady improvements. History and modern traditions continue to contribute to political and cultural growth and diversity.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does South Asia's geography, history, and population influence the region today?
2. How do South Asia's water systems affect how people in the region live?
3. How have physical features, religion and empires shape South Asia's borders?
4. How is diversity reflected in South Asia's cultures?
5. Why has India experienced an economic boom?
6. What are some effects of South Asia's rapid changes?

Key Understandings

Political/ Physical Geography

1. History and Colonialism/ Government and Economics/ Culture
2. Physical features, such as mountains, rivers and a delta create challenges. Seasonal monsoons provide water and fresh soil for agriculture. South Asia faces a water crisis due to pollution, water scarcity and flooding.
3. Ancient civilizations developed around the river systems and made cultural contributions in religion, science and the arts, Colonialism, independence and conflict created borders.
4. Hinduism unifies its followers. Traditions is important in everyday life and blends with modern practices. Music and movies help unify the diverse cultures.
5. The stable democratic government supports a growing population by improving infrastructure.
6. Rapid urbanization and population growth has led to overcrowding in South Asia. Pakistan's changing government has made the country economically and politically unstable. Bangladesh is still fighting poverty, but is beginning to grow economically due to a democratically elected government.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

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<p>Misconceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● South Asia is the same as the rest of Asia. 	<p>Proper Conceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● South Asia has individual and distinct cultures.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical Geography ● Economy and environment ● Ancient civilization ● World Religions ● Urbanization and modern culture ● Independence and conflict 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Analyze how the physical features, climate and water systems affect its population patterns. ● Analyze the impact of the Green Revolution on India’s economy and environment. ● Explain the causes and effects of pollution, drought, and flooding and describe efforts toward improvement. ● Identify and examine ancient civilizations and historic empires and how geography influenced their development. ● Compare and contrast the major religions. ● Describe events leading to India’s independence and Partition and conflict over Kashmir. ● Analyze the importance of Hinduism and ancient traditions in unifying modern culture. ● Describe aspects of daily life and popular culture,, including education, clothing, food, sports, movies and music. ● Examine the structure of India’s government, infrastructure, and rapid economic growth. ● Draw conclusions about the challenges India faces as the world’s largest democracy. ● Identify the effects of rapid urbanization. ● Analyze the effects of Pakistan’s military and civilian governments. ● Identify the causes of poverty in Bangladesh, and how it is developing its economy. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>subcontinent, delta, elevation, subsistence farmers, monsoon, arable, famine, sustainable, empire, Buddhism, Hinduism, cultural hearth, civil disobedience, displace, karma, pilgrimages, discrimination, literacy rate, democracy, federal republic, infrastructure, outsource, developed nation, developing nation, modernization, push-pull factor, military dictatorship, cyclone,</p>
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Assessments: India and Pakistan project, Endangered Species project, Tests/Quizzes, Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

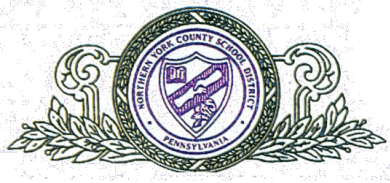
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World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject Social Studies	Grade 6	Unit East Asia	Suggested Timeline 4 weeks
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Unit Title	East Asia
Unit Summary	East Asia is a land of contrasts in geography, history, and cultures. Despite variations in government systems, most countries have established economic success. Traditional beliefs maintain a strong role in modern practices.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does East Asia's geography, history, government and culture influence the region today?
2. How did geographic factors affect population distribution?
3. What influences, beliefs, and encounters helped shape China?
4. What factors had an impact on the histories of Japan and Korea?
5. How do traditions and modernization create a unique way of life in East Asia?
6. What problems does East Asia face today and what are its opportunities?

Key Understandings

1. Landforms, water, and climate influence where people live. The Korean peninsula has similar geography, yet it remains divided. Mongolians have adapted to their harsh, dry environment.
2. Dynasties ruled and shaped China for 2000 years and the teachings of Confucius influenced society. Goods and ideas were spread via the Silk Road. Communists changed life for the people of China.
3. History in Japan included a role for Samurai, but today it has transformed itself into a modern economy. Korean culture was influenced by a series of kingdoms and dynasties, but in recent years, was has divided the peninsula.
4. Buddhism and other religions spread throughout East Asia. Chinese inventions continue to be used today. Shanghai's growth has resulted in a building and population boom. Anime reflects Japanese culture and is popular around the world. Bullet trains and other high speed travel have transformed travel.
5. China has become a global economy leader. Its one child policy affected population. The Three Gorges Dam has benefits and drawbacks. Taiwan is a democratic country with a strong economy. Japan's economy has declined and is causing challenges. North and South Korea have different governments, economic systems and ways of life.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

7.1.6.B.	Describe and locate places and regions as defined by physical and human features.
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Misconceptions

- The region of East Asia shares a collective history and culture that is very similar and uniform (i.e. Asian).
- The people of East Asia lack ethnic diversity

Proper Conceptions

- China, Japan, and Korea have very different traditions and beliefs and there are multiple distinct ethnic groups
- Economic and political differences exist throughout the region

<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Geography • Economic growth • Ancient civilizations and founding beliefs • Urbanization and modern culture • Governments and conflict 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze how the physical features and climate influence population patterns. • Compare and contrast North and South Korea’s physical geography, economic and government systems. • Explain how the people of Mongolia have adapted to their desert country. • Trace the development of the early Chinese dynasties and the later importance of the Silk Road. • Identify the main ideas of Confucianism. • Explain how the Communist Revolution in China changed the government and economy. • Describe the role of the samurai and shogun in Japanese society. • Analyze how and why Japan industrialized. • Explain how Korea developed a distinct culture. • Analyze the causes and effects of the Korean War. • Religious traditions, Chinese inventions, Japanese anime, and the development of bullet trains have contributed to the culture and development of East Asia. • Understand the reasons behind Shanghai’s growth, and explain how 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Mainland, basins, loess, archipelago, typhoon, DMZ, steppes, semi arid, gers, yurts, dynasty, caravans, collective farms, samurai, shogun, zaibatsu, armistice, animism, polytheism, multinational corporation, economic globalization, anime, manga, gross domestic product, gorge, reservoir, martial law, drought, famine,</p>
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	<p>China has become a leader in the global economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Analyze the effects of China’s population policy. ● Explore the benefits and drawbacks of building the Three Gorges Dam. ● Describe Taiwan’s government and economy and explain its relationship to China. ● Explain why Japan’s economy has declined and identify the country’s challenges. 	
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Assessments: “I Predict” Response, Cherry Blossom Project, Tests/Quizzes,Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

Suggested Strategies to Support Design of Coherent Instruction

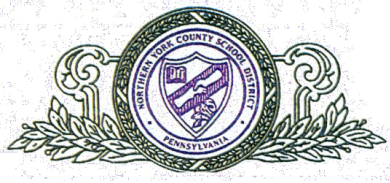
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World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject Social Studies	Grade 6	Unit Southeast Asia	Suggested Timeline 3 weeks
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Unit Title	Southeast Asia
Unit Summary	Southeast Asia's divisions are due to geographic features, as well as language and cultural diversity. History and traditions continue to play a key role in shaping life. Governments are working on unification with mixed results.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does Southeast Asia's geography, history, government and culture influence the region today?
2. What are the geographic conditions that divide SE Asia into many different parts?
3. How have physical barriers in SE Asia influenced its history?
4. How have local traditions and outside influences shaped cultures?
5. How are SE Asia's governments trying to unify their countries?

Key Understandings

1. Political/ Physical Geography/History /Government and Economics/Culture
2. Mountains, rivers, mainlands, islands and rainforests divide the region.
3. The development of trade in SE Asia influenced colonization. Indonesia and the Philippines have faced similar challenges in becoming independent.
4. Religions have been shaped by local traditions and outside influences. Thai culture reflects traditional foundations and modern influences. Language diversity developed due to migration and isolation. Some countries are working to protect the endangered Asian elephant.
5. Emphasizing economic growth has shown some success, but internal migration has had mixed results. Access to new media sources is changing the strict control on information formerly held by the government in Malaysia.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

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<p>Misconceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SE Asia has the same culture as the rest of Asia. 	<p>Proper Conceptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geographic isolation caused distinct cultures to emerge.
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<p>Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Geography Economic growth and modernization Trade and Colonialism Government 	<p>Competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze and understand the importance of the location and physical geography. Draw conclusions about geographic conditions and unexplored areas affecting life in island nations. Analyze the role of physical geography in the history and culture. Compare and contrast the histories of Indonesia and the Philippines. Identify prominent religions. Analyze how Thailand’s culture is influenced by traditions and modern life. Understand the variety of languages spoken. Analyze the factors causing the Asian elephant to be endangered. Compare the problems of governing Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Explain the process and effects of internal migration. Understand the ways in which new media may change Malaysian society. 	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>Land bridge, subsistence fishing, monopoly, wats, monks, dialect, language diffusion, poaching, fragmented country</p>
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Assessments: Instagram Project,, Tests/Quizzes,Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

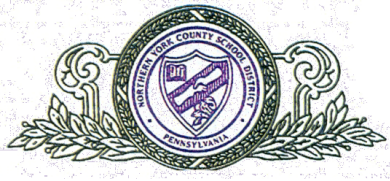
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World Geography / Eastern Hemisphere

Subject Social Studies	Grade 6	Unit Australia, the Pacific Realm, and Antarctica	Suggested Timeline 2 weeks
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Unit Title	Australia, the Pacific Realm, and Antarctica
Unit Summary	This region of diverse histories continues to reflect modern concerns related to scientific and technological advances. While becoming increasingly urban, the region has maintained its cultural and natural heritage.

Unit Essential Questions

1. How does geography, history, science and culture influence Australia, the Pacific Realm and Antarctic today?
2. How did geographic isolation influence the development of this region?
3. How did geographic isolation shape the history?
4. How is this region becoming connected to the rest of the world?
5. What new economic patterns are emerging?

Key Understandings

1. Political/ Physical Geography/Environmental Changes and Concerns/Preserving Languages and Culture/ Impact of Migration/ Economics and Trade
2. Many plants and animals are found exclusively in this region, but the introduction of non native species has changed the natural habitats. The Great Barrier Reef is threatened by human activities.
3. Australia's indigenous people developed in isolation. Island inhabitants developed skills to adapt to life. Immigrants led to the development of the new country. Languages spoken by native people are being revitalized.
4. Most Australians live in coastal cities, having migrated from rural areas and from other countries as well. Polynesian people maintained their traditions even after migrating to cities. Antarctica remains a center for scientific research.
5. Trade is a source of economic growth. Indigenous people are working toward social and political equality. Tourism is a major industry. New Zealand is protecting its culture and environment while developing new uses for natural resources.

Focus Standards Addressed in the Unit

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Misconceptions

- Australia is not developed.
- They stand on their heads or they are upside down.
- People don't live in Antarctica.

Proper Conceptions

- Australia is one of the most urbanized countries.
- Seasons may be flipped, but people are not.
- Scientists study at research stations in Antarctica.

Concepts

- Physical Geography
- Environmental Changes and Concerns
- Languages and Culture
- Migration
- Economics and Trade

Competencies

- Identify and describe the location of geographic features of the region.
- Analyze the impact of isolation on indigenous species.
- Explain the impact of invasive species.
- Synthesize information about changes to the Great Barrier Reef.
- Analyze how the languages and culture of Australia's indigenous people developed, and understand the importance of language preservation.
- Draw conclusions about how ancient seagoing societies migrated to the Pacific Islands.
- Describe the impact of the convict system on the development of Australia.
- Analyze causes of urban and rural migration.
- Describe how Australia has been shaped by immigration.
- Analyze the history and cultural characteristics of Polynesia.
- Examine the history of human involvement in Antarctica.
- Understand how trade has influenced the economies.
- Learn about the efforts to secure rights for indigenous people.
- Analyze the impact of adventure tourism in the region.

Vocabulary:

Urban, salinization, immigration, oral tradition, emigrated, alliances, free trade agreements, assimilation, reclaim, adventure tourism, glacier, crevasses, renewable energy, geothermal energy, Maori, Aborigine

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examine how New Zealand protects its cultural heritage and develops its renewable energy sources.	
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Assessments: Guidebook Research Project, Indigenous Species Research, Constellations in the Southern Hemisphere Research, Tests/Quizzes, Map activities, Homework, Cooperative activities, Analysis of Current Events, exit slips

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Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching: Domain 3 Instruction

Lessons are designed with appropriate goals, questioning and pacing. The online digital library will augment the textbook to provide balanced instruction. Strategies such as using think time, turn and talk, give one get one, strategic student grouping and discussion questions can be employed throughout the lesson. Varied questioning techniques aiming at higher order thinking skills, cooperative learning situations, and technology integration.

Differentiation: By utilizing a variety of techniques including the blended learning approach, differentiation of instructional delivery and the demonstration of mastery can be customized for each student. Tools such as learning management systems allow for students to progress through units at their individual pace while teachers facilitate and monitor progress towards required competencies. Pre assessments may allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of each topic so that instruction could be tailored to meet each student's needs.

Interdisciplinary Connections: The implementation of PA Core Standards provides explicit opportunities for interdisciplinary connections. Through this unit of study, students will be engaged in critical reading and writing exercises to deepen their understanding of the five themes of geography. Concepts relating to science, math, technology, art, and music will be infused through individual and group projects and discussions.

Additional Resources: Textbook (National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography), Polar LibGuides, online learning, learning management system, Google Apps for educators, google classroom, screencasts, guest speakers, primary and secondary sources in print as well as online, online collaborative communities, media center, videos, news sources, Time for Kids magazines

Created By:

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