

Main Criteria: Virtual Field Trips

Secondary Criteria: National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Geography Standards (NGS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Grade: 6

Virtual Field Trips

Amazon Rainforest - People and Threats - Grades 6-8

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 6 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.1.	'Culture' refers to the socially transmitted behaviors, beliefs, values, traditions, institutions, and ways of living together of a group of people.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.3.	How culture influences the ways in which human groups solve the problems of daily living.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.6.	That culture may change in response to changing needs, concerns, social, political, and geographic conditions.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.7.	How people from different cultures develop different values and ways of interpreting experience.

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.7.	Draw inferences from data about the ways in which given cultures respond to persistent human issues, and how culture influences those responses.

THEME	NCSS.2.	TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PAST AND ITS LEGACY.
CATEGORY	2.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	2.1.6.	The origins and influences of social, cultural, political, and economic systems.
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THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.1.	The theme of people, places, and environments involves the study of the relationships between human populations in different locations and geographic phenomena such as climate, vegetation, and natural resources.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.2.	Concepts such as: location, region, place, and migration, as well as human and physical systems.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.5.	The concept of regions identifies links between people in different locations according to specific criteria (e.g., physical, economic, social, cultural, or religious).
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.6.	Patterns of demographic and political change, and cultural diffusion in the past and present (e.g., changing national boundaries, migration, and settlement, and the diffusion of and changes in customs and ideas).
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7.	Human modifications of the environment.

THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to regions, nations, and the world in the past and present.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.3.	Acquire, organize, and analyze information and use geographic tools to draw conclusions about historic or current national and global environmental change.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.5.	Identify and interpret "push" and "pull" factors involved in the migrations of people in this nation and other parts of the world.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.6.	Evaluate the consequences of human actions in environmental terms.

THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.3.	PRODUCTS - Learners demonstrate understanding by:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.3.6.	Graphing patterns of human migration in a selected place on the globe.
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THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: mores, norms, status, role, socialization, ethnocentrism, cultural diffusion, competition, cooperation, conflict, race, ethnicity, and gender.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.9.	That groups and institutions influence culture in a variety of ways.

THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION 9.1.2. Global factors such as cultural, economic, and political connections are changing the places in which people live (e.g., through trade, migration, increased travel, and communication).

THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION 9.2.3. Investigate and explain the ways in which aspects of culture, such as language, beliefs, and traditions, may facilitate understanding, or lead to misunderstanding between cultures.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Science

Grade 6 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: The four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify and describe patterns in the environment that result from the interaction of Earth's physical processes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.7.1.A.2. Identify and describe the patterns that result from the connections between climate and vegetation (e.g., examples of patterns of ecosystems and biomes).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Describe how the components of ecosystems are connected and contribute to the energy of their own cycles, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.A.1. Describe the flow of energy and the cycling of matter through an ecosystem (e.g., the food chain, photosynthesis).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.B.	Construct a model to explain how an ecosystem works, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.B.3. Construct a flow chart to explain the interactions of components within an ecosystem (e.g., water cycle, oxygen and carbon dioxide exchange, producers, consumers, and decomposers).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: Physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Describe and explain how physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.2.A.2. Explain how different locations can have similar ecosystems as a function of temperature, precipitation, elevation, and latitude by using climographs and vegetation maps.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: Climate primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe and explain how climate (temperature and rainfall) primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.3.A.3. Explain how biomes do not always follow lines of latitude by identifying the influences of oceans and mountain ranges on the distribution of climate and vegetation.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.1.	Economic Activities: The functions of different types of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.1.A.	Describe and analyze the functions of economic activities in the primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary sectors, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.11.1.A.2. Describe the sequence of activities that occur in the manufacture of products (e.g., in the production of a computerized sewing machine, the iron-ore mining is primary, smelting iron and steel are secondary, selling of the steel sewing machines is tertiary, and advertising is quaternary).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.4.	Urban Forms and Functions: Land uses in urban areas are systematically arranged
BENCHMARK	HS.12.4.A.	Describe and analyze the spatial patterns of land use in cities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.12.4.A.3. Identify and describe a controversial land-use issue in the community and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of making the change in use (e.g., widening a street for more lanes of traffic, tearing down an old building for a new park, converting green space into a new building complex).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: Human modifications of the physical environment in one place often lead to changes in other places
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Describe and explain how human-induced changes in one place can affect the physical environment in other places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	ES.14.1.A .2.	Describe how human changes to land cover can have negative impacts on other areas (e.g., deforestation and downstream flooding, siltation, soil erosion).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.3.	Consequences for People and Environments: The physical environment can both accommodate and be endangered by human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.14.3.A.	Analyze the positive and negative consequences of humans changing the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.14.3.A
.3. Analyze the ways humans can have positive effects on the physical environment (e.g., open green space protection, wetland restoration, sustainable forestry).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of resources, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.16.1.A
.1. Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.3.	Sustainable Resource Use and Management: Humans can manage resources to sustain or prolong their use
BENCHMARK	ES.16.3.A.	Explain how renewable resources can be continuously replenished through sustainable use, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.16.3.A
.1. Describe and explain how sustainable management techniques can be applied in farming, forestry, and fishing (e.g., soil banks and contour plowing, sustainable timber harvesting practices, aquaculture).

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 6 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.3.	How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth's surface
STRAND	WST.3.3.	Spatial Models: Models are used to represent spatial processes that shape human and physical systems
BENCHMARK	WST.3.3.A.	Describe the processes that shape human and physical systems (e.g., diffusion, migration, and plate tectonics) using models, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION WST.3.3.A.1. Describe a model that illustrates the diffusion of cultural characteristics (e.g., music styles, clothing styles, fast-food preferences).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Different types of regions are used to organize and interpret areas of Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A	Identify and explain the criteria used to define formal, functional, and perceptual regions, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.1.	Identify and explain the bases for the formal region(s), functional region(s), and perceptual region(s) for the community or state where the students live (e.g., for Michigan, the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek Metropolitan Statistical Area is a formal region, the fruit belt in Southwest Michigan is a functional region, Kalamazoo as the snow belt capital of Lake Michigan is a perceptual region).
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EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Analyze collected maps with regional labels as examples of formal, functional, or perceptual regions (e.g., maps of physical regions as formal, weather maps as functional, tourist maps as perceptual).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: The four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A	Identify and describe patterns in the environment that result from the interaction of Earth's physical processes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the patterns that result from the connections between climate and vegetation (e.g., examples of patterns of ecosystems and biomes).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: Physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A	Describe and explain how physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Explain how different locations can have similar ecosystems as a function of temperature, precipitation, elevation, and latitude by using climographs and vegetation maps.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.9.	The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.9.3.	Migration: There are multiple causes and effects of migration
BENCHMARK	HS.9.3.B	Identify and explain push and pull factors influencing decisions to migrate, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.B.1.	Identify and explain the role of pull factors (e.g., better jobs, cultural opportunities, better education) as reasons for migration.
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EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.B.2.	Identify and explain the role of push factors (e.g., political unrest or war, famine, loss of jobs) as reasons for migration.
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.9.	The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.9.3.	Migration: There are multiple causes and effects of migration
BENCHMARK	HS.9.3.C.	Describe the consequences of migration for people as well as on the origin and destination places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.C.1.	Identify and describe positive and negative impacts that might occur at the places of origin for emigration (e.g., falling real estate prices, money being sent back home by migrants, fewer people to pay taxes resulting in reduced government resources in the original location).
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EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.C.2.	Identify and describe positive and negative impacts that might occur at migration destinations (e.g., increased real estate prices, more competition for jobs and possible impact on local wage rates, increased tax base, increased economic activity).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.10.	The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
STRAND	HS.10.1.	Characteristics of Culture: There are many different cultures, each with its own distinctive characteristics
BENCHMARK	HS.10.1.A.	Compare the cultural characteristics of different cultures, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.10.1.A.3.	Describe and explain the spatial patterns of different cultural characteristics across regions or countries (e.g., the pattern of languages and dialects within a country, the architectural styles predominant in rural areas of European countries, the worldwide distribution of different religions).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.2.	Location and Spatial Patterns of Economic Activities: Access to factors of production, such as capital, labor, raw materials, and energy, influence the location of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.2.A.	Compare and explain the advantages of one location over another in the access to factors of production, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.11.2.A.1.	Explain why certain locations have developed a reputation for producing specific goods or services (e.g., Wyoming is known for its coal and natural gas deposits, China is known for assembly and manufacturing labor, New York is known as a center for investment capital).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.4.	Urban Forms and Functions: Land uses in urban areas are systematically arranged
BENCHMARK	HS.12.4.A.	Describe and analyze the spatial patterns of land use in cities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.12.4.A.3.	Identify and describe a controversial land-use issue in the community and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of making the change in use (e.g., widening a street for more lanes of traffic, tearing down an old building for a new park, converting green space into a new building complex).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
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STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.3.	Describe how cultures value things differently in terms of resource use (e.g., Old Order Amish choose not to use petroleum and electricity, Muslims and Jews choose not to use pork as a food source, many cultures around the world choose not to use insects as food source).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.17.	How to apply geography to interpret the past
STRAND	UG.17.1.	Using Geography to Interpret the Past: A historical event is influenced by the geographic context (the human and physical characteristics of places and environments) in which it occurred
BENCHMARK	UG.17.1.A.	Analyze and explain the influence of the geographic context on historical events, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.17.1.A.1.	Analyze the significance of physical features that have influenced historical events (e.g., the role of hydrologic features such as the fall line, Cumberland Gap, the Ohio River, the Ogallala Aquifer, or artesian wells of the Great Plains in the settlement of the United States, the role of ocean currents and prevailing winds in exploration by Columbus, the forced transport of Africans to North and South America).

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Science

Grade 6 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.MS-PS	PHYSICAL SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-PS1	Matter and Its Interactions
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-PS1-3 Gather and make sense of information to describe that synthetic materials come from natural resources and impact society.

STRAND	NGSS.MS-LS	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-LS2	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-2 Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-3 Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-4 Construct an argument supported by empirical evidence that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem affect populations.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-LS2-5	Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.
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STRAND	NGSS.MS-ESS	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-ESS2	Earth's Systems
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS2-1	Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.
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STRAND	NGSS.MS-ESS	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-ESS3	Earth and Human Activity
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-1	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.
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PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-3	Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.
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PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-4	Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems.
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Main Criteria: Virtual Field Trips

Secondary Criteria: National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Geography Standards (NGS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Grade: 7

Virtual Field Trips

Amazon Rainforest - People and Threats - Grades 6-8

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 7 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.1.	'Culture' refers to the socially transmitted behaviors, beliefs, values, traditions, institutions, and ways of living together of a group of people.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.3.	How culture influences the ways in which human groups solve the problems of daily living.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.6.	That culture may change in response to changing needs, concerns, social, political, and geographic conditions.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.7.	How people from different cultures develop different values and ways of interpreting experience.

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.7.	Draw inferences from data about the ways in which given cultures respond to persistent human issues, and how culture influences those responses.

THEME	NCSS.2.	TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PAST AND ITS LEGACY.
CATEGORY	2.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	2.1.6.	The origins and influences of social, cultural, political, and economic systems.
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THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.1.	The theme of people, places, and environments involves the study of the relationships between human populations in different locations and geographic phenomena such as climate, vegetation, and natural resources.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.2.	Concepts such as: location, region, place, and migration, as well as human and physical systems.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.5.	The concept of regions identifies links between people in different locations according to specific criteria (e.g., physical, economic, social, cultural, or religious).
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.6.	Patterns of demographic and political change, and cultural diffusion in the past and present (e.g., changing national boundaries, migration, and settlement, and the diffusion of and changes in customs and ideas).
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7.	Human modifications of the environment.

THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to regions, nations, and the world in the past and present.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.3.	Acquire, organize, and analyze information and use geographic tools to draw conclusions about historic or current national and global environmental change.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.5.	Identify and interpret "push" and "pull" factors involved in the migrations of people in this nation and other parts of the world.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.6.	Evaluate the consequences of human actions in environmental terms.

THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.3.	PRODUCTS - Learners demonstrate understanding by:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.3.6.	Graphing patterns of human migration in a selected place on the globe.
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THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: mores, norms, status, role, socialization, ethnocentrism, cultural diffusion, competition, cooperation, conflict, race, ethnicity, and gender.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.9.	That groups and institutions influence culture in a variety of ways.

THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION 9.1.2. Global factors such as cultural, economic, and political connections are changing the places in which people live (e.g., through trade, migration, increased travel, and communication).

THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION 9.2.3. Investigate and explain the ways in which aspects of culture, such as language, beliefs, and traditions, may facilitate understanding, or lead to misunderstanding between cultures.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Science

Grade 7 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: The four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify and describe patterns in the environment that result from the interaction of Earth's physical processes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.7.1.A.2. Identify and describe the patterns that result from the connections between climate and vegetation (e.g., examples of patterns of ecosystems and biomes).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Describe how the components of ecosystems are connected and contribute to the energy of their own cycles, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.A.1. Describe the flow of energy and the cycling of matter through an ecosystem (e.g., the food chain, photosynthesis).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.B.	Construct a model to explain how an ecosystem works, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.B.3. Construct a flow chart to explain the interactions of components within an ecosystem (e.g., water cycle, oxygen and carbon dioxide exchange, producers, consumers, and decomposers).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: Physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Describe and explain how physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.2.A.2. Explain how different locations can have similar ecosystems as a function of temperature, precipitation, elevation, and latitude by using climographs and vegetation maps.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: Climate primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe and explain how climate (temperature and rainfall) primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.3.A.3. Explain how biomes do not always follow lines of latitude by identifying the influences of oceans and mountain ranges on the distribution of climate and vegetation.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.1.	Economic Activities: The functions of different types of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.1.A.	Describe and analyze the functions of economic activities in the primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary sectors, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.11.1.A.2. Describe the sequence of activities that occur in the manufacture of products (e.g., in the production of a computerized sewing machine, the iron-ore mining is primary, smelting iron and steel are secondary, selling of the steel sewing machines is tertiary, and advertising is quaternary).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.4.	Urban Forms and Functions: Land uses in urban areas are systematically arranged
BENCHMARK	HS.12.4.A.	Describe and analyze the spatial patterns of land use in cities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.12.4.A.3. Identify and describe a controversial land-use issue in the community and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of making the change in use (e.g., widening a street for more lanes of traffic, tearing down an old building for a new park, converting green space into a new building complex).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: Human modifications of the physical environment in one place often lead to changes in other places
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Describe and explain how human-induced changes in one place can affect the physical environment in other places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	ES.14.1.A .2.	Describe how human changes to land cover can have negative impacts on other areas (e.g., deforestation and downstream flooding, siltation, soil erosion).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.3.	Consequences for People and Environments: The physical environment can both accommodate and be endangered by human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.14.3.A.	Analyze the positive and negative consequences of humans changing the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.14.3.A
.3. Analyze the ways humans can have positive effects on the physical environment (e.g., open green space protection, wetland restoration, sustainable forestry).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of resources, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.16.1.A
.1. Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.3.	Sustainable Resource Use and Management: Humans can manage resources to sustain or prolong their use
BENCHMARK	ES.16.3.A.	Explain how renewable resources can be continuously replenished through sustainable use, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.16.3.A
.1. Describe and explain how sustainable management techniques can be applied in farming, forestry, and fishing (e.g., soil banks and contour plowing, sustainable timber harvesting practices, aquaculture).

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 7 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.3.	How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth's surface
STRAND	WST.3.3.	Spatial Models: Models are used to represent spatial processes that shape human and physical systems
BENCHMARK	WST.3.3.A.	Describe the processes that shape human and physical systems (e.g., diffusion, migration, and plate tectonics) using models, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION WST.3.3.A.1. Describe a model that illustrates the diffusion of cultural characteristics (e.g., music styles, clothing styles, fast-food preferences).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Different types of regions are used to organize and interpret areas of Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A	Identify and explain the criteria used to define formal, functional, and perceptual regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.1.	Identify and explain the bases for the formal region(s), functional region(s), and perceptual region(s) for the community or state where the students live (e.g., for Michigan, the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek Metropolitan Statistical Area is a formal region, the fruit belt in Southwest Michigan is a functional region, Kalamazoo as the snow belt capital of Lake Michigan is a perceptual region).
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Analyze collected maps with regional labels as examples of formal, functional, or perceptual regions (e.g., maps of physical regions as formal, weather maps as functional, tourist maps as perceptual).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: The four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A	Identify and describe patterns in the environment that result from the interaction of Earth's physical processes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the patterns that result from the connections between climate and vegetation (e.g., examples of patterns of ecosystems and biomes).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: Physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A	Describe and explain how physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Explain how different locations can have similar ecosystems as a function of temperature, precipitation, elevation, and latitude by using climographs and vegetation maps.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.9.	The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.9.3.	Migration: There are multiple causes and effects of migration
BENCHMARK	HS.9.3.B	Identify and explain push and pull factors influencing decisions to migrate, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.B.1.	Identify and explain the role of pull factors (e.g., better jobs, cultural opportunities, better education) as reasons for migration.
EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.B.2.	Identify and explain the role of push factors (e.g., political unrest or war, famine, loss of jobs) as reasons for migration.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.9.	The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.9.3.	Migration: There are multiple causes and effects of migration
BENCHMARK	HS.9.3.C.	Describe the consequences of migration for people as well as on the origin and destination places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.C. 1.	Identify and describe positive and negative impacts that might occur at the places of origin for emigration (e.g., falling real estate prices, money being sent back home by migrants, fewer people to pay taxes resulting in reduced government resources in the original location).
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EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.C. 2.	Identify and describe positive and negative impacts that might occur at migration destinations (e.g., increased real estate prices, more competition for jobs and possible impact on local wage rates, increased tax base, increased economic activity).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.10.	The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
STRAND	HS.10.1.	Characteristics of Culture: There are many different cultures, each with its own distinctive characteristics
BENCHMARK	HS.10.1.A.	Compare the cultural characteristics of different cultures, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.10.1.A. .3.	Describe and explain the spatial patterns of different cultural characteristics across regions or countries (e.g., the pattern of languages and dialects within a country, the architectural styles predominant in rural areas of European countries, the worldwide distribution of different religions).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.2.	Location and Spatial Patterns of Economic Activities: Access to factors of production, such as capital, labor, raw materials, and energy, influence the location of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.2.A.	Compare and explain the advantages of one location over another in the access to factors of production, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.11.2.A. .1.	Explain why certain locations have developed a reputation for producing specific goods or services (e.g., Wyoming is known for its coal and natural gas deposits, China is known for assembly and manufacturing labor, New York is known as a center for investment capital).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.4.	Urban Forms and Functions: Land uses in urban areas are systematically arranged
BENCHMARK	HS.12.4.A.	Describe and analyze the spatial patterns of land use in cities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.12.4.A. .3.	Identify and describe a controversial land-use issue in the community and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of making the change in use (e.g., widening a street for more lanes of traffic, tearing down an old building for a new park, converting green space into a new building complex).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
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STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.3.	Describe how cultures value things differently in terms of resource use (e.g., Old Order Amish choose not to use petroleum and electricity, Muslims and Jews choose not to use pork as a food source, many cultures around the world choose not to use insects as food source).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.17.	How to apply geography to interpret the past
STRAND	UG.17.1.	Using Geography to Interpret the Past: A historical event is influenced by the geographic context (the human and physical characteristics of places and environments) in which it occurred
BENCHMARK	UG.17.1.A.	Analyze and explain the influence of the geographic context on historical events, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.17.1.A.1.	Analyze the significance of physical features that have influenced historical events (e.g., the role of hydrologic features such as the fall line, Cumberland Gap, the Ohio River, the Ogallala Aquifer, or artesian wells of the Great Plains in the settlement of the United States, the role of ocean currents and prevailing winds in exploration by Columbus, the forced transport of Africans to North and South America).

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Science

Grade 7 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.MS-PS	PHYSICAL SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-PS1	Matter and Its Interactions
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-PS1-3 Gather and make sense of information to describe that synthetic materials come from natural resources and impact society.

STRAND	NGSS.MS-LS	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-LS2	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-2 Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-3 Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-4 Construct an argument supported by empirical evidence that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem affect populations.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-LS2-5	Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.
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STRAND	NGSS.MS-ESS	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-ESS2	Earth's Systems
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS2-1	Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.
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STRAND	NGSS.MS-ESS	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-ESS3	Earth and Human Activity
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-1	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.
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PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-3	Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.
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PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-4	Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems.
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Main Criteria: Virtual Field Trips

Secondary Criteria: National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Geography Standards (NGS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Grade: 8

Virtual Field Trips

Amazon Rainforest - People and Threats - Grades 6-8

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

Grade 8 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.1.	'Culture' refers to the socially transmitted behaviors, beliefs, values, traditions, institutions, and ways of living together of a group of people.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.3.	How culture influences the ways in which human groups solve the problems of daily living.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.6.	That culture may change in response to changing needs, concerns, social, political, and geographic conditions.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.1.7.	How people from different cultures develop different values and ways of interpreting experience.

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.7.	Draw inferences from data about the ways in which given cultures respond to persistent human issues, and how culture influences those responses.

THEME	NCSS.2.	TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PAST AND ITS LEGACY.
CATEGORY	2.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	2.1.6.	The origins and influences of social, cultural, political, and economic systems.
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THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.1.	The theme of people, places, and environments involves the study of the relationships between human populations in different locations and geographic phenomena such as climate, vegetation, and natural resources.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.2.	Concepts such as: location, region, place, and migration, as well as human and physical systems.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.5.	The concept of regions identifies links between people in different locations according to specific criteria (e.g., physical, economic, social, cultural, or religious).
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.6.	Patterns of demographic and political change, and cultural diffusion in the past and present (e.g., changing national boundaries, migration, and settlement, and the diffusion of and changes in customs and ideas).
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7.	Human modifications of the environment.

THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to regions, nations, and the world in the past and present.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.3.	Acquire, organize, and analyze information and use geographic tools to draw conclusions about historic or current national and global environmental change.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.5.	Identify and interpret "push" and "pull" factors involved in the migrations of people in this nation and other parts of the world.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.6.	Evaluate the consequences of human actions in environmental terms.

THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.3.	PRODUCTS - Learners demonstrate understanding by:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.3.6.	Graphing patterns of human migration in a selected place on the globe.
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THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: mores, norms, status, role, socialization, ethnocentrism, cultural diffusion, competition, cooperation, conflict, race, ethnicity, and gender.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.9.	That groups and institutions influence culture in a variety of ways.

THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:

LEARNING EXPECTATION 9.1.2. Global factors such as cultural, economic, and political connections are changing the places in which people live (e.g., through trade, migration, increased travel, and communication).

THEME	NCSS.9.	GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE.
CATEGORY	9.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:

LEARNING EXPECTATION 9.2.3. Investigate and explain the ways in which aspects of culture, such as language, beliefs, and traditions, may facilitate understanding, or lead to misunderstanding between cultures.

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Science

Grade 8 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: The four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify and describe patterns in the environment that result from the interaction of Earth's physical processes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.7.1.A.2. Identify and describe the patterns that result from the connections between climate and vegetation (e.g., examples of patterns of ecosystems and biomes).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Describe how the components of ecosystems are connected and contribute to the energy of their own cycles, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.A.1. Describe the flow of energy and the cycling of matter through an ecosystem (e.g., the food chain, photosynthesis).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.B.	Construct a model to explain how an ecosystem works, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.1.B.3. Construct a flow chart to explain the interactions of components within an ecosystem (e.g., water cycle, oxygen and carbon dioxide exchange, producers, consumers, and decomposers).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: Physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Describe and explain how physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.2.A.2. Explain how different locations can have similar ecosystems as a function of temperature, precipitation, elevation, and latitude by using climographs and vegetation maps.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: Climate primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe and explain how climate (temperature and rainfall) primarily determines the characteristics and geographic distribution of biomes, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION PS.8.3.A.3. Explain how biomes do not always follow lines of latitude by identifying the influences of oceans and mountain ranges on the distribution of climate and vegetation.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.1.	Economic Activities: The functions of different types of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.1.A.	Describe and analyze the functions of economic activities in the primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary sectors, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.11.1.A.2. Describe the sequence of activities that occur in the manufacture of products (e.g., in the production of a computerized sewing machine, the iron-ore mining is primary, smelting iron and steel are secondary, selling of the steel sewing machines is tertiary, and advertising is quaternary).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.4.	Urban Forms and Functions: Land uses in urban areas are systematically arranged
BENCHMARK	HS.12.4.A.	Describe and analyze the spatial patterns of land use in cities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION HS.12.4.A.3. Identify and describe a controversial land-use issue in the community and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of making the change in use (e.g., widening a street for more lanes of traffic, tearing down an old building for a new park, converting green space into a new building complex).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: Human modifications of the physical environment in one place often lead to changes in other places
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Describe and explain how human-induced changes in one place can affect the physical environment in other places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	ES.14.1.A.2.	Describe how human changes to land cover can have negative impacts on other areas (e.g., deforestation and downstream flooding, siltation, soil erosion).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.3.	Consequences for People and Environments: The physical environment can both accommodate and be endangered by human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.14.3.A.	Analyze the positive and negative consequences of humans changing the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.14.3.A.3. Analyze the ways humans can have positive effects on the physical environment (e.g., open green space protection, wetland restoration, sustainable forestry).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of resources, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.16.1.A.1. Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.3.	Sustainable Resource Use and Management: Humans can manage resources to sustain or prolong their use
BENCHMARK	ES.16.3.A.	Explain how renewable resources can be continuously replenished through sustainable use, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION ES.16.3.A.1. Describe and explain how sustainable management techniques can be applied in farming, forestry, and fishing (e.g., soil banks and contour plowing, sustainable timber harvesting practices, aquaculture).

National Geography Standards (NGS)

Social Studies

Grade 8 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.3.	How to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth's surface
STRAND	WST.3.3.	Spatial Models: Models are used to represent spatial processes that shape human and physical systems
BENCHMARK	WST.3.3.A.	Describe the processes that shape human and physical systems (e.g., diffusion, migration, and plate tectonics) using models, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION WST.3.3.A.1. Describe a model that illustrates the diffusion of cultural characteristics (e.g., music styles, clothing styles, fast-food preferences).

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Different types of regions are used to organize and interpret areas of Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A	Identify and explain the criteria used to define formal, functional, and perceptual regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.1.	Identify and explain the bases for the formal region(s), functional region(s), and perceptual region(s) for the community or state where the students live (e.g., for Michigan, the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek Metropolitan Statistical Area is a formal region, the fruit belt in Southwest Michigan is a functional region, Kalamazoo as the snow belt capital of Lake Michigan is a perceptual region).
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Analyze collected maps with regional labels as examples of formal, functional, or perceptual regions (e.g., maps of physical regions as formal, weather maps as functional, tourist maps as perceptual).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: The four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A	Identify and describe patterns in the environment that result from the interaction of Earth's physical processes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the patterns that result from the connections between climate and vegetation (e.g., examples of patterns of ecosystems and biomes).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: Physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A	Describe and explain how physical processes determine the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Explain how different locations can have similar ecosystems as a function of temperature, precipitation, elevation, and latitude by using climographs and vegetation maps.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.9.	The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.9.3.	Migration: There are multiple causes and effects of migration
BENCHMARK	HS.9.3.B	Identify and explain push and pull factors influencing decisions to migrate, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.B.1.	Identify and explain the role of pull factors (e.g., better jobs, cultural opportunities, better education) as reasons for migration.
EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.B.2.	Identify and explain the role of push factors (e.g., political unrest or war, famine, loss of jobs) as reasons for migration.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.9.	The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.9.3.	Migration: There are multiple causes and effects of migration
BENCHMARK	HS.9.3.C.	Describe the consequences of migration for people as well as on the origin and destination places, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.C. 1.	Identify and describe positive and negative impacts that might occur at the places of origin for emigration (e.g., falling real estate prices, money being sent back home by migrants, fewer people to pay taxes resulting in reduced government resources in the original location).
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EXPECTATION	HS.9.3.C. 2.	Identify and describe positive and negative impacts that might occur at migration destinations (e.g., increased real estate prices, more competition for jobs and possible impact on local wage rates, increased tax base, increased economic activity).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.10.	The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics
STRAND	HS.10.1.	Characteristics of Culture: There are many different cultures, each with its own distinctive characteristics
BENCHMARK	HS.10.1.A.	Compare the cultural characteristics of different cultures, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.10.1.A. .3.	Describe and explain the spatial patterns of different cultural characteristics across regions or countries (e.g., the pattern of languages and dialects within a country, the architectural styles predominant in rural areas of European countries, the worldwide distribution of different religions).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.2.	Location and Spatial Patterns of Economic Activities: Access to factors of production, such as capital, labor, raw materials, and energy, influence the location of economic activities
BENCHMARK	HS.11.2.A.	Compare and explain the advantages of one location over another in the access to factors of production, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.11.2.A. 1.	Explain why certain locations have developed a reputation for producing specific goods or services (e.g., Wyoming is known for its coal and natural gas deposits, China is known for assembly and manufacturing labor, New York is known as a center for investment capital).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.4.	Urban Forms and Functions: Land uses in urban areas are systematically arranged
BENCHMARK	HS.12.4.A.	Describe and analyze the spatial patterns of land use in cities, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.12.4.A. .3.	Identify and describe a controversial land-use issue in the community and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of making the change in use (e.g., widening a street for more lanes of traffic, tearing down an old building for a new park, converting green space into a new building complex).
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ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
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STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: People can have different viewpoints regarding the meaning and use of resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Describe examples of how cultures differ in their definition and use of resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Describe differences in the types of resources used in different geographic contexts in various parts of the world (e.g., the use of wood or animal dung versus electricity or natural gas as a cooking fuel, the use of electrical appliances versus doing household chores by hand).
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.3.	Describe how cultures value things differently in terms of resource use (e.g., Old Order Amish choose not to use petroleum and electricity, Muslims and Jews choose not to use pork as a food source, many cultures around the world choose not to use insects as food source).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.17.	How to apply geography to interpret the past
STRAND	UG.17.1.	Using Geography to Interpret the Past: A historical event is influenced by the geographic context (the human and physical characteristics of places and environments) in which it occurred
BENCHMARK	UG.17.1.A.	Analyze and explain the influence of the geographic context on historical events, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.17.1.A.1.	Analyze the significance of physical features that have influenced historical events (e.g., the role of hydrologic features such as the fall line, Cumberland Gap, the Ohio River, the Ogallala Aquifer, or artesian wells of the Great Plains in the settlement of the United States, the role of ocean currents and prevailing winds in exploration by Columbus, the forced transport of Africans to North and South America).

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Science

Grade 8 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.MS-PS	PHYSICAL SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-PS1	Matter and Its Interactions
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-PS1-3 Gather and make sense of information to describe that synthetic materials come from natural resources and impact society.

STRAND	NGSS.MS-LS	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-LS2	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-2 Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-3 Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION MS-LS2-4 Construct an argument supported by empirical evidence that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem affect populations.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-LS2-5	Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.
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STRAND	NGSS.MS-ESS	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-ESS2	Earth's Systems
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS2-1	Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.
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STRAND	NGSS.MS-ESS	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-ESS3	Earth and Human Activity
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-1	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.
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PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-3	Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.
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PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-ESS3-4	Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems.
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