Around the World… in six months

My Country Social Studies 7 PeBL Project

**Task:** Your job is to conduct in-depth research on one Pacific Rim or Circumpolar country and create a display of information, culture and artifacts to share with your classmates at the end of May in a Celebration of Past and Present World Societies/Civilizations. Each student will focus on a different country.

**Countries to choose from:**

* Iceland
* Finland
* South Korea
* Nicaragua
* Malaysia
* New Zealand
* If you have another country in mind please ask Ms. Warnock

**Report:** Your country report will consist of sections for physical geography, cultural characteristics, and the country’s role in the world. See the attached chart for the questions and information you need to answer. You will need to create a written report answering in detail all the information. You will also need to create a summary of your main points for your display.

**Artifact:** Your project will be a display so you also need to include at least one homemade or replicated artifact. This could be:

* Diorama/Model/Large 3D Map
* Diorama of a historical event
* Drawing of an event or cultural festival
* Recreate a recipe to make food from that country for people to taste
* Recreate piece of music or art or dance
* Anything that you find interesting! Just run it past Ms. W

**Proper Citation:** Any sources you use will need to be properly cited. We will learn about this in class. At the beginning be sure to write down any websites or books you use to research your topic.

**Bonus:** The day of the presentation you may want to include some other cultural items at your country “booth”. For instance, you could have music from that country playing, a video of that country, traditional clothes, flags, physical objects you did not make yourself, etc.

**Warning!!!** The country report is long and will take a lot of time, but don't worry. By the time you finish, you will have had the chance to show how you meet almost all of the outcomes needed for seventh grade social studies. You can see the outcome that each section refers to in the outcomes section. The report has been broken into little chunks. Each individual parts will be due at different times.

**Title Page:** Your name, my name, the subject, and date will be at the top of the first page.

**Introduction:** The first paragraph of your country report will be the introduction. The introduction should also give a short overview of your report. The goal of the introduction is to connect with your audience so that they want to keep reading your report. Why does this country matter? Who cares? What’s the point?

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| Section | Outcome(s) |
| 1. Physical Geography  * The natural features of the country * **You will need to include a hand coloured political AND physical map** | |
| 1. Location and region  * Where is the country located? * What is the size of the country? * Did the country ever own more or less land? * Does the country have any territories elsewhere in the world? * What region is the country in? * What makes this area a region? | **DR7.1** *I can analyze and use various types of maps in order to situate current issues in Canada, and in a selection of Pacific Rim and northern circumpolar countries.* |
| 1. Physical features impacting the border  * Refer to our Borders Project |
| 1. Important physical features of the country  * What is the physical geography of your country? * Describe the physical features * How do these physical features bring unit and diversity to the country? Use examples. |
| 1. Climate  * What are the main biomes of the country? * What is the climate of your country? Is the climate the same everywhere in the country? * Does it have the same climate as other countries in this region? How is that climate characterized? * What natural disasters can occur in this country? Give an example of how natural disaster impact the country. | **DR7.2** *I can analyze the impact of human habitation on the natural environment in Canada, and in a selection of Pacific Rim and northern circumpolar countries* |
| 1. Land use  * How does the climate impact the country’s use of the land? * How much of the land is arable? Can the country feed itself? * What agricultural products does the country produce? * What animals and plants are native to the country? Are any endangered or extinct? * How does the land impact the people? How do the people impact the land? * How has technology changed the land? |
| 1. Cultural Geography | |
| 1. History  * Give a brief history of the country in the form of a **TIMELINE**. When did it become a country? * Who were important people in your country’s history? How has the country changed over time? What are some key events and turning points in your country’s history? * How have historical events impacted current day events. | **DR7.3** I can analyze the relationship between current and historical events and the physical and social environments in Pacific and northern Canada and in a selection of Pacific Rim and circumpolar countries. |
| 1. Ethnic Groups  * What are the major ethnic groups in the country? What other ethnic groups are in the country? * What makes each group unique? Are the groups united or split? Are there conflicts between various ethnic groups? |
| 1. Government  * What type of government does your country have? (Oligarchy, Democracy, Dictatorship, etc.) Describe this form of government. * What is the basic structure of the government. * Who is the leader of the government? * How much power does the government have? * Is this country actually an oligarchy (and how can you tell)? * What are the biggest problems facing your government? | **PA7.1** I can compare the sources of power for individuals, nations, and regions in a selection of Pacific Rim and circumpolar countries.  **PA7.2** I can investigate the structures and processes of democratic government in Canada |
| 1. Language  * What language is spoken in your country? * Who all speaks this language? * Are there other languages spoken? * Do people speak English? How many? | **IN7.2** I can examine the effects of globalization on the lives of people in Canada and in circumpolar and Pacific Rim countries. |
| 1. Religion  * What is the major religion in your country? What are the other religions? * Describe the religion and the common practices? * Do the different groups get along? |
| 1. Music/Art/Architecture  * Is there a style of music, art or architecture that is unique to your country? * What instruments are used? * Who are some famous musicians and artists? |
| 1. Other notable cultural features (i.e. food, dance, festivals, holidays, etc.)  * What else is important to mention about the culture of your country? * What is it that people really want to learn about the culture of this country when they travel there? | **DR7.3** I can analyze the relationship between current and historical events and the physical and social environments in Pacific and northern Canada and in a selection of Pacific Rim and circumpolar countries. |
| 1. Role in the World | |
| 1. Population and Growth  * What is the population of your country? How is the population distributed among age groups? * Find a population pyramid to analyze. What is the population growth? * What is the current life expectancy at birth? What is the infant mortality rate? How many children does each woman have (fertility rate)? * How does the population compare with other countries in the region? How does the population compare with other countries in the world? | **RW7.1** I can explain the role of barter, trade, and sharing in traditional economies in Canada and the circumpolar and Pacific Rim countries.  **RW7.2** I can investigate the influence of resources upon economic conditions of peoples in circumpolar and Pacific Rim countries.  **RW7.3** I can assess the ecological stewardship of economies of Canada and the circumpolar and Pacific Rim countries. |
| 1. Economics  * What type of economy does the country have? What is the currency in your country? * What role does the government play in the economy? How does the country’s government raise money? What taxes exist in your country? Are taxes the same for everyone in the country? * How is wealth distributed? * What are major industries making up the country’s economy? * What are main exports of this country? What are the main imports? How do scarcity and natural resources impact imports and exports? What countries trade the most with your country? How is this country connected to the global economy. Give examples of interdependence. * What are some problems in the economy? How is the country trying to fix this? Think about the unemployment rate. |
| 1. Allies and Enemies  * What countries are allies (friends) with your country? * Are they a part of the United Nations? * Does your country have any enemies or countries they traditionally do not get along with? * Is your country a part of any current conflicts | **IN7.1** I can investigate examples of conflict, cooperation, and interdependence between Canada and circumpolar and Pacific Rim countries. |
| 1. Challenges  * What is the greatest problem facing this country? How is the country trying to fix this? * Do other countries have this challenge too? |

**Conclusion**

The conclusion will be the final paragraph of your report. Explain why this country matters. What about this country makes it an important part of the word? What are your predictions for the future of this country? Will it continue to do the same or will it gain or lose power?