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Lesson Plan: Chinese Rivers
Spring 2008

Grade Level: 6

I will be using the following lesson plan to teach approximately 100 students about the Yangtze and the Yellow Rivers, two of China's most important rivers. The students will be in Math and Social Studies classes.

Time: 2-3 days

Purpose:

Ohio sixth through eighth grade students study early civilizations and geography of different countries. The students will learn about two important rivers in China and their impact on the people around them. Math will be used in the measurement of the lengths of the rivers as compared to other important rivers in the world.

Standards:

Geography

- A. Identify on a map the location of major physical and human features of each continent.
- C. Explain how the environment influences the way people live in different places and the consequences of modifying the environment.
- D. Explain reasons that people, products and ideas move from place to place and the effects of that movement on geographic patterns.

Economics

- B. Explain why trade occurs and how historical patterns of trade have contributed to global interdependence.

Procedure/Activities:

Students will locate and label China, its major landforms and bordering countries and bodies of water on a world map. The students will research and make a table of the 10 longest rivers in the world.

Using reference atlas and map of China, the students will color and label the provinces of China. The students will also locate and label the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers, as well as the Himalayan Mountains, and major cities and dams.

Information about hydroelectric dams and their operations will be provided for the students and discussions about the different sources of energy such as coal and hydroelectric power will be discussed.

Assessment:

Students will accurately locate, label and highlight the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers on a map of China. They will also correctly label the neighboring countries, bodies of water and important landforms of China. Students will also construct a table listing the 10 longest rivers in the world, their locations and lengths.

Extension:

Students may view a film on hydroelectric power. They may also locate the epicenter of the May 2008 earthquake on the map, as well as the location of the 2008 Olympics.

Materials/Resources:

Ferroa, Peggy G. Cultures of the World China. New York: Marshall Cavendish Corporation, 1996.

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Kennedy, Bruce. China's Three Gorges Dam. CNN Interactive. CNN, 1999. 12 May 2008
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Larmer, Brook. "Bitter Waters." National Geographic May 2008: 147-169.

Owen, Jerry, comp. The Water Page Incorporating the African Water Page Yangtze River. 2001. Water Web Management Ltd. 12 May 2008
<<http://www.africanwater.org/yangtze.htm>>.

"Three Gorges Dam Hydroelectric Power Plant, China." Power Technology. 2008. SPG Media Limited. 12 May 2008 <<http://www.power-technology.com/projects/gorges/>>.