

**LESSON PLAN – CHINA**  
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**PURPOSE:**

Because of geography, several ways of life developed in China, China was isolated from other civilizations and most early people settled on the North China Plain.

**RATIONALE:**

After looking at the geography of their own community, students will become more aware of how land features, climate and vegetation affect a civilization.

**Materials:**

Large outline maps of China

Nystrom desk maps

Atlases

Globes

Texts- Prentice Hall “Ancient World”

Poster board

Cardstock

[www.warriortours.com](http://www.warriortours.com) (geography of China)

video – “Video Visits China” – ancient rhythms & modern events

**Grade Level – 6<sup>th</sup>**

This is an introductory lesson to a unit on China. This will be a three-day lesson plan. The Ohio State Standards include China as one of the early river civilizations to be studied.

**Day 1 Activities**

Students will answer questions about their own community relating to the following:

**Land Features – creeks, plains, plateaus, hills, river, lake, valley mountains, desert**

**Climate – hot, mild, cold, precipitation (rain and snow)**

**Vegetation – grasslands, forests, scrub vegetation, woods**

Class will be divided into six groups. Each group will have the responsibility for researching one of China’s six major geographic regions:

Taklamakan Desert

Gobi Desert

Northeastern Plain

North China Plain

**Tibet-Qinghai Plateau  
Chang Jiang Basin**

**Day 2**

Using outline maps, the students will begin researching their region using a teacher supplied criteria sheet. They will be looking at:

- area covered
- elevation
- summer/winter temperature
- precipitation
- vegetation
- land features (mountains, rivers, deserts, soil, etc.)

Class constructed relief map –

Depending on the elevation of their area, each group will choose a different color card stock to make a relief of their area. One representative from each group will coordinate with other group reps to assemble a China relief map on the poster board.

- next to each area, on the poster board, the group will identify the type of food, shelter and activity that might have been found in that area

**Day 3**

Each group will present their region of the relief map and discuss what could be found in that area.

Using the relief map, through discussion, the class will support the following hypothesis statements.

- China was isolated from other civilizations because of geography.
- Most early people settled on the North China Plain because of the geography.
- Because of geography, several ways of life developed in China.

**Assessment**

This will be ascertained by teacher during the above discussion and through a map quiz given to class the next day.

