

Melinda Jirus  
Grizzell Middle School  
Dublin, OH  
Jirus\_melinda@mail.dublin.k12.oh.us

## Lesson Plan #2-China is Unique

### Class Description

Sixth Grade social studies: "World Geography"  
One 66-minute class  
Introduction to China

### Rationale

Sixth grade students study world geography. One of our focus continents is Asia. With this lesson, we are meeting the following state of Ohio grade level indicator for sixth grade:

1. Compare the cultural practices & products of the societies studied including
  - a. class structure
  - b. gender roles
  - c. beliefs
  - d. customs & traditions
2. Place geography features on the continent on which they are located.

### Objectives for this lesson

Students will compare some of the unique cultural features of China to the unique cultural features of the U.S.

### Materials

We are using journals in the History Alive style. On the left side of the journal, students will answer a prompt to get them thinking about the topic. On the right side, students take notes, create diagrams, etc. of the material we are learning.

- 1) Social studies journals
- 2) PowerPoint of China

### Activities

- 1) Ask students to do a "brain dump" about China in their journals. A brain dump is writing everything they know about China in 3-5 minutes.
- 2) Share responses and correct any misconceptions if needed.
- 3) Explain that these are unique culture traits of China.

- 4) Tell students that they are going to watch a presentation about some other features that make China unique.
- 5) Explain that China has many "biggest" or "longest" type of features.
- 6) Show PowerPoint and explain the items on the slides. Use the following sites for background information:  
[www.culturegrams.com](http://www.culturegrams.com), [www.infohio.org](http://www.infohio.org), [www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/](http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/)
- 7) After discussing these features, show the last slide of the PowerPoint and have the students copy the chart into their notebooks and fill out the corresponding information to compare to the U.S.

#### Assessment

- 1) Students will share their ideas during the classroom discussions.
- 2) Completed chart will show that students have filled in the correct information for each country.
- 3) On the final unit test, students will explain the idea of "culture traits" and be able to list three traits of China.

#### Adjustments

Older students could do the research themselves on China and create their own PowerPoint Presentations on the unique features of China and the U.S.