

Korea Lesson

The Seven Wonders of the Republic of Korea

Learning about Korea while exploring its seven World Heritage Sites.

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Purpose: Each of the seven World Heritage sites that Korea possesses is a unique look into what is Korea. All seven are distinctly different and focus on a different aspect of Korean culture. By exploring the seven sites students will gain an appreciation of Korean history and culture.

Essential Questions:

1. What does each cultural site say about Korean culture?
2. Where are the cultural sites located?
3. How are World Heritage sites chosen?
4. How can we learn more about Korea while exploring the sites?
5. Do we need a new list of the Seven Wonders of the World?

Target Grade Level-7-12

Rationale:

Students will be exposed the creative attributes of Korean culture. By looking at historic buildings, temples, a fortress, and burial ground we can trace the history and culture of Korea.

Materials:

Map of Korea

Worksheet with group instructions-7 groups

Internet access to UNESCO'S World Heritage Sites

Printer for picture copies

Activities:

1. Day 1-Teacher lecture on UNESCO. The organization and how World Heritage sites are chosen. Total number of world heritage sites and how the list grows on a yearly basis. Break students into seven groups of three for day 2.

Homework activity day 1. Have students visit www.new7wonders.com

Tell them to vote for their choice of the new seven wonders out of the 25 nominees.

This website offers you the opportunity to participate in the selection process.

Seventeen of the sites are World Heritage Sites. This provides students with an opportunity to see various sites from around the world.

“Over two thousand years have passed since the 7 Wonders of the World were last selected. Now on the threshold of the third millennium, our view of the world is characterized by an increasing global consciousness. It is, therefore, an appropriate

time to determine the new seven symbols of the most outstanding human accomplishments covering the last 200 years in the first global internet vote to elect the New 7 Wonders of the World.”

2. Have them type the list of the seven sites they voted for. Students will also add a paragraph explanation of why they picked the seven that they did. This will be due at the beginning of Day 2.
3. Day 2-Hold a discussion on the sites chosen by the class. Have the class decide on the top seven for the entire class and write these on the board. Collect their lists and paragraphs.

Students will then get into the seven groups they were assigned on day one. Each group of three will be given one of the Korean sites to explore. Each site will also have a secondary focus as listed.

Sokkuram Grotto including the Pulguksa Temple-buddhist shrine

Temple of Haeinsa Changgyong P'ango-Tripitaka wood carvings

Chongmyo Shrine-Chosen Dynasty, Confucian ceremony

The Ch'angdokkung Palace Complex, Seoul-Three Kingdoms Period

Hwasong Fortress-war

Koch'ang, Hwasun, and Kanghwa Dolmen Sites-prehistoric Korea

Kyongju Historic Areas-cultural treasures

Each team member in the group will have a different focus.

Cartographer/Photographer

Research/Culture

Research/Theologian

After sharing information with your team, each group will create an exhibit. This will include a map of the site location, pictures, a brief historical and religious overview of the site. Students will present their exhibit to the rest of the class.

Assessment: Students will be graded on their homework on the “New Seven Wonders” for completion.

Students will be graded for group participation in their assigned role for the heritage site in Korea.

Exhibit will receive a group grade for overall appeal and presentation.

Resources:

For homework-

www.new7wonders.com

For group research and teacher background notes-

<http://www.thesalmons.org/lynn/world.heritage.html>