

7th Grade Secondary lesson plan: Geography

Overview	Students will learn to interpret the colors on the map, what they represent. They will learn to identify demographic characteristics about countries around the world.
Objectives	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe demographics and how they relate to specific countries• Interpret various types of maps• Explain a histogram
Learning Environment	In a classroom equipped with a computer and access to maps or Atlas'. There should be a teacher or aid present to help with student enquiries.
Types of students	7 th Grade Geography students of all level who are capable of reading maps.
Standards	8.3. Students will identify the major geographic characteristics of the United States and its regions. They will name and locate the major physical features of the United States, as well as each of the states, capitals and major cities, and will use geographic skills and technology to examine the influence of geographic factors on national development.
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to a computer is needed• Maps and/or atlas'
Procedure	Begin the class by opening with a map of the world on WolframAlpha Talk about the different colors on the map, what they represent and how to interpret them. Talk about which country has the highest population and which has the lowest. Which country has the 12 th highest population rate? Talk about other findings from the map and what may influence these findings Discuss the different demographics between the various counties; such as birth rate, death rate and life expectancy. Discuss what factors influence these findings. Have the class divide into small groups and randomly select a country from the map they have been studying. Each group will look up information about their country on WolframAlpha and provide answers to the following questions; What is the birth rate? What is the death rate? What is the life expectancy in this country? What is the population growth and

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	what is the median age?
Application	Students will gain skill to interpret and read maps, while learning about the demographics of different places within their country.
Evaluation	Have the students fill out a worksheet with questions about their map exploration experience. For example; What is the 15 th ranked country in regard to birth rate? Which country has the highest birth rate? Which country has the most population per square mile?