

A Newsletter for Teachers

HOT Apple PIE

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Partners In Excellence

FROM YOUR NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

—Nov.— Apple Slice

One Serving of Learning

Geography

Objectives:

Students will:

- Understand how each of the five themes of geography relates to real life in the newspaper.
- Skim content for understanding.

Materials:

Print or e-edition newspapers, writing materials

Procedure:

The five themes of geography represent a framework for teaching geography. Although they have been supplanted by the 18 geography standards, the themes continue to provide a helpful framework. In this lesson, teachers use the themes to present a geography unit that uses the newspaper.

1. Begin with a discussion of the five themes. Those are as follows : location, place, human/environmental interaction, region, and movement. Write these on the board and introduce and define each one. Students should take notes during the discussion.
2. Assign students to explore the newspaper to find examples of each of the themes. For example, a story about an automobile accident is appropriate to the theme of "location," if it indicates that it took place on I 95 at exit 4A. Another example: Ask students, "If a newspaper in the state of Maine reports a bumper crop of blueberries this year and not enough workers to harvest them, which theme does that represent?"
3. If using an e-edition, they can use the pdf/print tool to make copies of each of the five examples. Or, if using a print newspaper, they can clip out the example.
4. Students should analyze each example and explain why it fits the theme.

Extension:

National Geographic Society has some great information for teaching geography. Check them out at <http://www.nationalgeographic.com>.



National Learning Standards:

McRel (Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning) Standards:

Language Arts, Standard 4 Gathers and uses information for research purposes

Standard 7 Uses reading skills and strategies

Benchmark 7 Writes in a variety of forms

Geography standards:

The student...

2. Knows the location of places

4. Understands the physical and human characteristics of place

12. Understands the pattern of human settlement and their causes

14. Understands how human actions modify the physical environment



In this Issue...

- **Geography Theme Lessons**
- **Lessons for language arts, science, social studies and math**
- **A biography of journalist Bob Schieffer**

