

The Panama Canal

Grade Level	6
Subject	Social Studies
Curriculum Objective	Objective 4.01 Describe the patterns of and motives for the migrations of people, and evaluate their impact on the political, economic, and social development of selected societies and regions.
Guiding Question	How does the Panama Canal affect trade/immigration in the Americas?
Lesson Summary	Students will learn how the Panama Canal affects trade/immigration in the Americas.
Activating Strategy	Have the students draw a map (or describe in directions) of how they get from school to home (or how they get from class to class at school). Then have them brainstorm how they can change the environment to try to make the trip faster/easier. Have them list and/or draw the changes and describe the ways it would affect them.
Cognitive Strategy	Give the students specific information to research (operation of the canal, history behind it, etc.), using the internet/power point presentation. This could be in the form of a rubric or even a post-test. Students can use this information to give power point presentations on the region. This could include students creating their own outlines, quizzes, worksheets, assignments, etc. Students can create models (3-D or virtual) of the canal and/or migration/trade routes.
Summarizing Strategy	Students can: Create note cards from the presentations Complete activities from the presentations Write journal entries from the perspective of the people affected by the canal Create cartoons showing dialogue between characters that live in or are affected by the region.
Evaluation	Exit Question Tests/Quizzes Any of the various assignments from above

Resources	Internet Lab LCD Projector
Credits	Jeremy Griffith Southeastern Stokes Middle School 6 th Grade World History jeremy.griffith@stokes.k12.nc.us