



The Land of Oz

Social Studies

Here and there in Oz are farms, woods and forest. What will we find here? Who will live there? Do we dare go in and explore?

National Standards > Geography

NSS-G.K-12.1 The World in spatial terms (Grades 4, 5 & 6)

- Understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.
- Understand how to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context.
- Understand how to analyze the spatial organization of people, places, and environments on Earth's surface.

Kentucky: Social Studies > Geography

2. Students shall develop their abilities to apply core concepts and principles from mathematics, the sciences, the arts, the humanities, social studies, practical living studies, and vocational studies to what they will encounter throughout their lives.

Geography (2.19)

2.19 Students recognize and understand the relationship between people and geography and apply their knowledge in real-life situations.

Grades 4 & 5

SS-E-4.1.1 Simple physical, political, and thematic maps, globes, charts, photographs, aerial photography, and graphs can be used to find and explain locations and display information.

Grade 6

SS-M-4.1.1 Maps (e.g., map projections - Mercator and Robinson), globes, photographs, models, and satellite images are representations of Earth with different characteristics and uses.

SS-M-4.1.2 Different factors (e.g., rivers, dams, developments) affect where human activities are located and how land is used in urban, rural, and suburban areas.

Ohio: Social Studies > Geography

- Use knowledge of geographic locations, patterns, and processes to show the interrelationship between the physical environment and human activity.

Benchmark(s) Grades 4 & 5

- A. Use map elements or coordinates to locate physical and human features of North America.
- B. Identify the physical and human characteristics of places and regions in North America.

Benchmark(s) Grade 6

- A. Identify on a map the location of major physical and human features of each continent.
- C. Explain how the environment influences the way people live in different places and the consequences of modifying the environment.

Objective

Student will:

- Understand the concept and use of a physical map.
- Identify and use map terms related to location, and direction.
- Plot the location of identified biomes within the North American continent with emphasis on the United States and Ohio.
- Identify the types of human activity within each biome.

Assessment

Students will be able to:

- Identify biomes depicted in the story/play, The Wizard of Oz, and within North America, the United States and Ohio.
- Identify human activity existent within each biome.
- Display information regarding the Land of Oz in the form of a physical map.
- Create a map with physical and human features, symbols and map key.

Sample items to gauge student understanding:

1. What is a biome? (*very large ecosystem characteristic of its soil and climate*)
2. Describe the function of a map. (*used for finding location*)
3. Explain how place and setting aid in the understanding of a dramatic character. Discuss how a playwright and/or stage director brings forth this information in a staged production.

Vocabulary

- Biome
- Physical feature
- Human feature

Materials

- Handout: Map of Oz—Physical and Human Features

Activity 1

Traveling through Oz, from Place to Place

Teacher will:

1. Introduce/review the concept of a physical map, and display a physical model of such a map.
2. Have students brainstorm to identify both physical and human features found on a physical map.
3. Introduce/review the concept of a natural biome. Have students reflect upon the biomes (ecosystems) depicted in the story/play, The

Wizard of Oz (e.g., savannah (farmland/prairie), deciduous forest (woodland, forest and mountain).

4. Have students to identify the human activity that took place in each biome in relation to the story/play.
5. Explain to students their task to create a new map of Oz incorporating information about the biomes, their physical features, and the human activity within those environments. A map key and compass rose are to be included. (See also the handout, "Map of Oz—Physical and Human Features" for additional items for possible inclusion on student maps.)
6. Facilitate class discussion on possible symbols to depict physical and human features.
7. Have students share their final map products with classmates.
8. Instruct students to research location and region of these same biomes as found in North America, the United States and Ohio. Students will create a map to reflect biomes in for each place. Use of blank, black-lined maps may be helpful.
9. Have students to identify any patterns within the identified locations, ask the question, "Based on this data, is it possible/realistic that the Land of Oz could truly have these environments within its borders? Why did the author, and why do playwrights incorporate these features into the story and play? (*To indicate passage and movement through time, journeying through from place to another; to provide context for characterization.*)

Student will:

1. Define the term, biome.
2. Identify the types of physical features and human features found on a physical map.
3. Examine how biomes and their aligned human activity are depicted on a physical map. .
4. Create a series of maps that reflects existing biomes, physical features, human features, and human activity as found in North America, the United States, Ohio, and the Land of Oz.
5. Identify biome patterns for the feasibility of a variety of biomes existing in Oz.
6. Participate in discussion on why such features are incorporated in stories and dramatic productions.



Handout: Social Studies (4-6)
Map of Oz—Physical and Human Features

Directions: Choose from the following items to include and draw on your map of Oz.

Places:

Emerald City
Munchkin Country
Gillikin Country
Winkle Country
Quadling Country

Human Features:

Yellow Brick Road
Wicked Witch's Castle
Glinda's Castle
Great Orchard
College of Prof. Wogglebug
Dorothy's House

Physical Features:

Impassible Desert
Great Sandy Waste
Deadly Desert
Shifting Sands
Forest of Fighting Trees
West Branch River
Mt. Munch
Munchkin River
Lake Quad
Winkie River
Merry go Round Mountains