**TGA Lesson Plan:**



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| **Created by: Jenny Shorten, Evangelical Christian School, Memphis, TN** | | |
| **Grade Level: 3rd** | | **Course Title: World Geography** |
| **State Standard(s)** | | 3.59 Identify the major countries of the continent (China, India, Israel, and Japan).  3.57 Interpret different texts and primary sources to describe the major components of history and culture including language, clothing, food, art, beliefs, customs, and music.  3.62 Describe how goods and services are exchanged on local and international levels. |
| **Resources** | | ThinkQuest Junior: Seven Wonders of the World <http://library.thinkquest.org/J002388/chinawall.html>  Cech, M. (1991). Globalchild: Multicultural Resources for Young Children. New York: Addison-Wesley.  Chinese New Year Celebration Box Guide. (1993). Lakeshore Learning Materials.  Sing, R. (1992). Chinese New Year's Dragon Teacher's Guide. In Multicultural Celebrations. Cleveland, Ohio: Modern Curriculum Press |
| **Time Required** | | This lesson could take an entire week. |
| **Slide**  **Number(s)** | **Lesson Outline** | |
| 1-2 | In order to learn about China, students will meet Sally and Sam again – twins from Memphis, Tennessee in the United States of America. Their father is a professional explorer, who writes articles for a magazine known as “The Globetrotter.” Their mother is a photographer and she takes all the pictures for the magazine. The twins have spent their entire lives traveling around the world. They have lived in about twelve countries and much like their parents, love the adventure of discovering new places. This week, they are about to leave for China. They will be spending quite a few months there as their parents immerse themselves in the culture.  Give each student one or both cut out dolls. They can color them in as you tell them about the twins. | |
| **3** | Ask the students to take out their passports. Make a stamp in them for China. | |
| **4** | Invite a student up to point out China on the map. Ask others to identify India, Israel, and Japan. Notice that China is bordered by Afghanistan, Bhutan, Burma, India, Kazakhstan, North Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Vietnam. | |
| **5** | Before visiting a country, Sally and Sam’s parents tell them all about it. For example, China is officially known as the People's Republic of China. It has the largest population in the world, with over 1.3 billion people. China is the 3rd largest country by area. | |
| **6** | There are many different languages spoken in China, including Mandarin, Yue, Wu, Minbei, Minnan, Xiang, Gan and Hakka. Listen to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLGHLQq_hyg> to learn a little Chinese. | |
| 7-9 | The capital city is Beijing, while the most populated city is Shanghai. Other major cities include Chongqing, Shenzhen and Guangzhou. | |
| 10 | 47% of the population live in urban areas. | |
| 11 | China experiences typhoons every year.Hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons are all the same weather phenomenon; we just use different names for these storms in different places. In the Atlantic and Northeast Pacific, the term “hurricane” is used. The same type of disturbance in the Northwest Pacific is called a “typhoon” and “cyclones” occur in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean.The ingredients for these storms include a pre-existing weather disturbance, warm tropical oceans, moisture, and relatively light winds. If the right conditions persist long enough, they can combine to produce the violent winds, incredible waves, torrential rains, and floods we associate with this phenomenon. | |
| 12-15 | China also suffers from floods, tsunamis, earthquakes and droughts. | |
| 16-18 | China has the fourth longest river in the world, the Yangtze River, which reaches 5,797km (3,602 miles) in length. It also has the sixth longest, the Yellow River, stretching 4,667km (2,900 miles). | |
| 19 | The Great Wall of China is the largest man made structure in the world, stretching an incredible 8,850 kilometres (5,500 miles). It was built mainly during the Ming Dynasty. Ask the students why such a wall would have been built and for what purpose. Explain to students that the Great Wall is more than 2,000 years old and was built to keep out invading armies. Ask students what kind of construction equipment we would use today to build a wall that is very long and very tall. Explain to students that the Great Wall is so remarkable because the ancient Chinese people didn't have this equipment, and had to build the wall by hand, using very primitive tools. | |
| 20 | Engage students in an activity to demonstrate how long the Great Wall is. Go outside and try to build a circle of children holding hands (stretched) around the playground. If this is impossible, estimate how many people it would take to do something like this. Then figure out how many children holding outstretched hands it would take to cover approximately one mile. Take this number of people and multiply it by 1,800 miles, the distance of the wall as measured by NASA. If length is difficult for them to grasp, discuss the height of the wall, 25 feet. Have the children use legos, painted milk cartons, wooden blocks, or even shoe boxes to reconstruct their version of The Great Wall. (PBS) | |
| 21 | The summit of Mt Everest marks the border between China and Nepal. | |
| 22 | The twins arrive in Beijing. Give students the sheet with Chinese clothes for them to wear. They can decorate them in bright colors. | |
| 23 | They meet Chinese people. | |
| 24-25 | Sally and Sam eat their first Chinese meal. It would be fun to bring some Chinese food for the students to try – maybe some fried rice. | |
| 26 | They pay with Chinese money which is the Yuan. What is the Yuan worth? $0.16 | |
| 27 | Chinese Restaurant.  Watch this video about a company that is 3D printing houses in China. Wow!!  <http://www.theguardian.com/technology/video/2014/apr/29/3d-printer-builds-houses-china-video> | |
| 28-31 | Chinese New Year is the biggest holiday celebrated among Chinese people. It is often referred to as the spring festival because it signals the beginning of spring. It is a time when families and friends get together to say goodbye to the old and welcome the new. It originally lasted for about 4 weeks, but now only lasts for 3-5 days. During the Chinese New Year's celebration, people participate in many traditional activities. The Chinese believe that as they enter a new year, they should put behind them all things of the past. They clean their houses, pay off debts, purchase new clothes, paint their doors and window panes, and even get new haircuts. These activities symbolize new life and new beginnings.  Homes are decorated with flowers and paper decorations stating wishes of prosperity, good luck, happiness, good fortune, wealth, and longevity for the coming year. Decorations of the incoming zodiac animal are also displayed. Red and gold are very popular colors to decorate with. Red represents power happiness, vitality (and scares away beasts). Gold represents wealth and good fortune.  The dragon is another popular symbol for Chinese New Year. It is a symbol of strength, goodness, and good luck, and supernatural forces. The dragon is said to be a mythical combination of many animals. During New Years, one of the main events is a large parade down the city streets. As part of this parade, people dress up in dragon costumes and dance down the streets. These costumes are made of brightly colored silk and decorated very extravagantly. Some of the dragons are 100 feet long! Men and boys perform intricate dragon dances with one person manipulating the head of the dragon and the rest moving the body.  <http://www.china-family-adventure.com/chinese-new-year.html#.U6z3Bx4o41I> for more resources. | |
| Activity | Dragon Dance-Let children work in groups of 3-4 to make their own dragon costume. Paint a large dragon's head on a grocery bag. Attach a long piece of butcher paper for the body. Decorate it with glitter, sequins and feathers to make it fancier. Have the children make up dances and take turns being the head and the body.  Discussion question: Why are traditions and heirlooms important to families? Share traditions from your own family. | |
| 32 | Make a lantern. | |
| 33 | Chinese Industry. Ask students to turn to the person next to them and look at the label on the back of their shirt. Lots of the clothes we wear are made in China. In fact, if you look around your house, most of the things we have are made in China.  For homework, ask students to make a list of all the things they can find at home that are made in China.It is amazing to see how many things they will come up with. | |