

Australia WebQuest

WebQuest Description: This WebQuest is designed to help you learn about Australia's culture and geography.

Grade Level: 6-8

Curriculum: Social Studies

Keywords: Australia, Culture, Geography, Social Studies

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Introduction

G'Day Mates! Pack up your "port" (suitcase) and get ready to go "back of bourke" (a very long way away) to the exciting "Land of Oz" (Australia). No need to bring any "moolah" (money); the trip is free! We have planned two tours for you featuring many aspects of Australian culture and geography. Are you ready? "Ace" (excellent)! Click on the "Task" link to proceed.

Tasks

Your task for this webquest is to share your experience through social media. As you journey through Australian geography and culture, you will tweet and instagram your experience. As you go through each tour, you will need at least one twitter post and one instagram post. Your tweet should tell about something you saw or learned. Your instagram should be an image of something you saw during your journey. Be creative! Don't forget to add your #hashtags!

Process

Welcome to Australia! You will be taking two virtual tours of Australia. The first tour will highlight the physical geography of the country and some of Australia's most amazing geographic landmarks such as the Great Barrier Reef and the Australian Outback! The second tour will be a fascinating look at the different cultures found in Australia. Please refer to the directions below.

- Slowly, one at a time, go through each tour of Australia. Find the tours below.
- As you go through the tours, update your twitter and instagram accounts. Use the handout provided to post your updates.

****Before taking your tours, check out these Facts and Stats about Australia:**
<http://www.virtualaustralia.com/facts/Tour 1: Geographic Destinations>
*Check out this geography overview of Australia:
Destination 1-Great Barrier Reef/Coast
Destination 2-Ayer's Rock/The Outback
Destination 3-Mountains of Australia-Blue Mountain
Destination 4-The Rainforests
Destination 5-The Grasslands
Tour 2: Cultural Destinations:
Destination 1-Western Australia
Destination 2-Northern Territory
Destination 3-South Australia
Destination 4-Queensland
Destination 5-New South Wales
Destination 6-Victoria
Destination 7-Tasmania
Map:

Evaluation

To see how you will be graded on your project, you can look at the rubric below. I will use this guide to grade your project! Good luck!

Category	4	3	2	1
Content/Accuracy	At least ten accurate tweets and instagram posts	7-9 accurate tweets and instagram posts	5-8 accurate tweets and instagram posts	Less than 5 accurate tweets and instagram posts
Attractiveness	The project is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness.	The project is attractive though it may be a bit messy.	The project is distractingly messy and very poorly designed. It is not attractive.	
Use of Class Time	Used time well during each class period. Focused on getting the project done. Never distracted others.	Used time well during each class period. Usually focused on getting the project done and never distracted others.	Used some of the time well during each class period. There was some focus on getting the project done, but occasionally distracted others.	Did not use class time to focus on the project OR often distracted others.
Creativity	Student put a lot of thought into making the project interesting.	Student put some thought into making the project interesting.	Student tried to make the project interesting, but some parts made it hard to understand and enjoy.	Little thought was put into making the project interesting.
Knowledge Gained	Student can thoroughly and accurately discuss Australia's geography and culture based on the WebQuest.	Student can accurately discuss Australia's geography and culture based on the WebQuest.	Student can somewhat discuss Australia's geography and culture based on the WebQuest.	Student is not able to accurately discuss Australia's geography and culture based on the WebQuest.

Category and Score					Score

Category and Score					Score
				Total Score	

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have completed your two exciting and fun-filled Australian tours! Hopefully you learned a lot and also had fun!

Teacher Page

This WebQuest is designed to help students navigate through Australia to learn about its culture and geography.

Standards

SS6G14 The student will describe the cultural characteristics of people who live in Australia.

SS6G12 The student will be able to locate selected features of Australia.

Credits

This WebQuest has been adapted from the following site: <http://academics.uww.edu/cni/webquest/Fall03/australia/credits.htm>

Other