

Core Theme to Which Lesson Relates Traveling
Scrapbook

Grade Level Grades 3-6

Estimated Duration of Lesson: Two to three class periods

The content standard (Benchmark #. GLI#)

SS 6-8 People in Societies C GLI# 3, a-e.

SS 6-8 Geography C GLI# 5, a-d.

The Primary Source(s) used. Give bibliographic citation, web address, etc., as relevant<http://www.ohiomemory.org/> Browse the scrapbooks on-line.

Summary: This activity takes students to far-off places to experience a country other than where they are living right now. The students will pick a place where they have always wanted to travel, and they will visit it by computer. They will gather and print out any information they can find on their country. Then, they will create a scrapbook about that place.

Background Information

This activity gives examples of different countries the students can visit. However, this activity can be done using the states in the United States or cities in one particular country or townships in one county, and so on.

Encourage the students to print out everything they can find on the country. The more material they have, the more they will have to work with when making their scrapbook.

Most say it is more fun to travel with someone rather than traveling alone. This activity lends itself to collaborative work. Decide on who will work with whom before DAY ONE of the activity. Talk about the project a few days before it begins so the students have time to think about where they want to go traveling. They need to know where their trip is going to take them before DAY ONE of the activity. Have a different country for each group.

Note: It might be useful to bring in scrapbooks from trips to show students different examples. A visual aid of what you are looking for sets the expectations and helps students formulate some ideas. Some of the students may have a scrapbook of family trips they could bring in to share with the class. When sharing their scrapbook, presenters should:

Talk about components of a scrapbook (photos, maps, menus, event tickets, train schedules, drink coasters).

Talk about the ways in which it is organized (by type of experience, chronologically).

Talk about the captions and descriptions.

Talk about uses a scrapbook may have.

Outline of Procedures – Day One

1. Groups will gather information about their country by doing searches on computer. To search:

Go to www.google.com

Type “country information” into the search box and click *Start*.

Select a few options to explore for information.

2. Groups will print out as much information as they can. To keep track of the sites they want to use, the users should use the bibliography paper. Each time the students find a source they like, they should print the information. Try to include the following sources:

A map

Pictures

Country facts and overviews

Places of interest (where would you go sight seeing?)
Historical background (anything in history worth noting?)

Outline of Procedure – Days Two/Three

3. Groups will put together their scrapbooks. They will cut and paste the printed items into the scrapbook. They will write captions and/or descriptions of information or pictures where necessary.

Teachers will put out materials like scissors, glue, construction paper, tape, markers, pens, colored pencils, etc. Make sure the scrapbook has a cover!

Conclusion/Finished Work

Teachers will laminate books if possible or make clear contact paper available for students. This will protect the scrapbooks so they stay sturdy throughout the year. Groups will then bind books.

Assessment

Research

Groups will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Did the group use computer time to collect information on their country?
- Did all the group members participate?

Social Studies Activity

Groups will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Did the groups include maps, pictures, country facts and overviews, places of interest, and historical background?
- Did they include additional information?
- Did they effectively organize the scrapbook?
- Did they include captions and descriptions where necessary?

Optional Extended Activities

1. Have students share their "trip" with the rest of the class.
2. Have students print out a map of their country. Have them calculate the distance between the country's capital and five other cities using the scale on the map. They could even print out a world map and calculate the distance between their country and other groups' countries using the scale on the map.
3. Find and share a fairy tale, fable or story that comes from their country.

Materials

- Computer with access to a printer
- Pencil, markers, colored pencils, pens and watercolor.
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Tape
- Book binding material

Credit for this lesson must go to Proquest k-12 .com. I have used a photo journal, a traveling log, and this lesson for my writing class but have modified parts to fit my classes.