World Religions Mapping Activity

OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

There are two main goals of this lesson. The first goal is to expose students to potential applications of Google Maps by demonstrating a content-based activity that requires the use of Google Maps. The second goal is to examine the geographic placement of religious sites and their historical significance. To meet the two goals students use Google Maps to plot their activity locations and then complete a map to plot and describe world religion sites.

Students will be able to...

- Acquire the knowledge and skill to use Google Maps.
- Demonstrate various applications of Google Maps.
- Evaluate their ability to use Google Maps.
- Collect and describe information about various world religion sites.
- Identify and illustrate the significance of various world religion sites.

GRADES

8th Global Studies and 9th Human Geography

TIME

3 days

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Computer Internet access with projector
- Computer Internet access for students
- Access to Google Maps
- Handouts: “Pre- and Post-Assessment: Google Maps”; “My Activity Map Directions”; “World Religions Holy Sites Tour”; “Resources for the World Religions Sites”; “Islam Rubric and Data Sheet”; “Christianity Rubric and Data Sheet”; “Hinduism Rubric and Data Sheet”; “Judaism Rubric and Data Sheet”; “Buddhism Rubric and Data Sheet”

MINNESOTA SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS & BENCHMARKS

(8th Grade)

Standard 1. People use geographic representations and geospatial technologies to acquire, process and report information within a spatial context.

8.3.1.1.2 Create and use various kinds of maps, including overlaying thematic maps, of places in the world; incorporate the “TODALSS” map basics, as well as points, lines and colored areas to display spatial information.

For example: “TODALSS” map basics—title, orientation, date, author, legend/key, source, scale. Spatial information—cities, roads, boundaries, bodies of water, regions.

Standard 14. Globalization, the spread of capitalism and the end of the Cold War have shaped a contemporary world still characterized by rapid technological change, dramatic increases in global population and economic growth coupled with persistent economic and social disparities and cultural conflict. (The New Global Era: 1989 to Present)

8.4.3.14.3 Describe varieties of religious beliefs and practices in the contemporary world including Shamanism/Animism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. (The New Global Era: 1989 to Present)

(9th Grade)

Standard 1. People use geographic representations and geospatial technologies to acquire, process and report information within a spatial context

9.3.1.1.2 Apply geographic information from a variety of print and electronic sources to interpret the past
and present and plan for the future; provide rationale for using specific technologies for each application.

**Standard 7.** The characteristics, distribution and complexity of the earth’s cultures influence human systems (social, economic and political systems).

**9.3.3.7.2** Describe the spatial distribution of significant cultural and/or ethnic groups in the United States and the world and how these patterns are changing.

### SUGGESTED PROCEDURE

#### Day One
1. The teacher will administer the first part of the assessment, "Pre- and Post-Assessment: Google Maps". Students are given the post-assessments after each day in the computer lab to determine how their comfort level with Google Maps changes throughout the activity.

2. Students will begin by working in the computer lab using the “My Activity Map Directions” handout. Students will use Google Maps to complete an activity map charting where they spend time on a regular basis. Students need to place markers at their locations, draw a line or shape to demonstrate their traveled route, and add a picture and description of their chosen locations.

#### Days Two and Three
Students will be placed in groups of five to work collaboratively to complete the handouts, “World Religions Holy Sites Tour” and the Rubric and Data Sheets for their religion using the “Resources for the World Religions Sites”. Each student will complete a place mark with a description and picture of two holy sites for their religion. Students will then visit their group members’ sites to complete the “World Religions Holy Sites Tour” handout for five world religions.

In the computer lab students are responsible for working independently to complete the following:

- Complete two religious sites on the collaborative map for their assigned religion
  
  a. Place a pin representing the location. (Each religion should have the same colored pin.)
  b. The name of the site. (Place the name in the Title Box.)
  c. The country of the location of the site. (Place this in the Title Box.)
  d. A short description of the site’s significance. (Place this in the Description Box.) The description should include THREE interesting facts about the site.
  e. A picture of the site. (Place this in the Description Box.)

- After completing their individual assignments, each student is responsible for visiting their group members’ sites and recording the information they learned by visiting those sites.

Students may need up to two additional days outside of class to complete their assignment.

#### Assessment
“Pre- and Post-Assessment: Google Maps” Handout
My Activity Map Assignment
Rubric and Data Sheet for each student's assigned religion

Students are given a rubric to assess their accuracy and completion of the World Religions Holy Sites Tour assignment, which is provided on individual Rubric and Data Sheets. An example is below:
Islam: Blue Mosque (Istanbul, Turkey)

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Website Resources
“Using Google My Maps for Classroom Projects” at TESL-EJ (The Electronic Journal for English as a Second Language)
http://www.tesl-ej.org/wordpress/issues/volume12/ej48/ej48ej48m1/

Student Website Resources
“Islam” at About.com
http://islam.about.com/od/mecca/p/kaaba.htm

“Engineering Facts” at Science Kids
http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/engineering/tajmahal.html

“Notre Dame” at A View on Cities
http://www.aviewoncities.com/paris/notredame.htm

“St. Peter’s Basilica” at A View on Cities
http://www.aviewoncities.com/rome/sanpietro.htm

“The Kotel” at The Kotel.org
http://english.thekotel.org/content.asp?id=28

“History” at Beth Sholom Synagogue Preservation Foundation
http://www.bethsholompreservation.org/history.aspx

“Facts About Angkor Wat in Cambodia” at USA Today: Travel Tips
http://traveltips.usatoday.com/angkor-wat-cambodia-15733.html

“Prambanan: The Most Beautiful Hindu Temple in the World” at Yogyes.com

“Potala Palace: Heavenly Palace of the Dalais” at Tibetdiscovery.com
http://www.tibetdiscovery.com/what-to-see/potala-palace/

“Bodh Gaya: Place of Enlightenment” at Buddha.net
http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhistworld/bodgaya.htm
Pre- and Post-Assessment: Google Maps

Introduction Pre-Assessment:
1. Have you used Google Maps before to find or map directions to a particular location?
   YES or NO

2. Have you used Google Maps to do anything besides to find or map directions to a particular location?
   YES or NO

3. Using Google Maps, could you make a map that included five marked locations and written descriptions with an illustration of the location?
   YES or NO

Post-Practice Assessment:
Measure your current comfort level with Google Maps after practicing. (How well do you feel you can use the tool?)

1 = Very Comfortable
2 = Somewhat Comfortable
3 = Neutral
4 = Somewhat Uncomfortable
5 = Very Uncomfortable

Post-Day #1 Assessment:
Measure your current comfort level with Google Maps after practicing. (How well do you feel you can use the tool?)

1 = Very Comfortable
2 = Somewhat Comfortable
3 = Neutral
4 = Somewhat Uncomfortable
5 = Very Uncomfortable

Post-Day #2 (Conclusion) Assessment:
Measure your current comfort level with Google Maps after practicing. (How well do you feel you can use the tool?)

1 = Very Comfortable
2 = Somewhat Comfortable
3 = Neutral
4 = Somewhat Uncomfortable
5 = Very Uncomfortable
My Activity Map Directions

Checklist:

- Correct capitalization and spelling (Make your map correct and accurate)
- A map title; use “Your Name and Period Activity Space Map”
  (Ex: Mickey Mouse Period #3 Activity Space Map)
- Start by locating and establishing your home as the first point
- Add at least 5 locations (points) with titles, symbols and descriptions.
- Add 1 line (route) from your home to your most visited location (point)
- Add 2 images embedded into your written description

Making a Map:

1. Click on “Maps”
2. Click on “My Places”
3. Select “Create with Classic My Maps”, which is located under the Create Map icon.

   ![Create Map Icon]

4. Name the map (“Your Name and Period Activity Space Map”) and provide a description.

5. Select “Unlisted”. Then click “Done”.

   ![Privacy and Sharing Settings]

6. Click on “My Places” and select the title that you just created in Step #4 and select “Edit”.

Placing Markers or Pins:

1. Type in your home address, then select a pin (add Marker) from the top of the map and place it over your home location.
2. Write your title for this location (Address or My Home).
3. Then write a description: An interesting fact about the location. How long have you lived there?
4. Repeat Steps #1 – #4 substituting your remaining four locations.
Route Requirement: Line (route) from your home to your most visited location (point).
1. Zoom in on your map to include your home and the location that you travel to the most. This will help you see the map on a street level. You will draw a line showing your route.
2. Select “Add Line or Shape” from the same menu that you selected a pin (add Marker).
3. Starting at your home (following the streets), draw the route that you take to your most visited location. (This may require many lines with turns.)
4. Write your title for this route.
5. Then write a description. (This is the way to hockey practice or the mall.)

Inserting Images into Place Description: Placing an image in the description box of a marker (pinpoint).
1. Open a description box of a marker (pinpoint). It is best to write the description of the location first.
2. Go the Internet and find an image. Make sure the image has a web address.
3. Click on the “Rich Text” in the description box and then select the “Insert Image” icon.
4. Cut and paste the image web address.
5. Resize the image to fit in the description box if necessary.
World Religions Holy Sites Tour

Collaboration Steps:

1. Log into your account and find your collaborative map following the teacher’s directions.

2. Determine which group member will be responsible for each world religion.

3. Each member of the group selects a different religion and completes the rubric.

4. Work independently to complete TWO religious sites on the collaborative map:
   a. A pin representing the location. (Each religion should have the same colored pin).
   b. The name of the site. (Place this in the Title Box)
   c. The country of the location of the site. (Place this in the Title Box)
   d. A short description of the site’s significance with at least THREE interesting facts about the site. (Place this in the Description Box)
   e. A picture of the site. (Place this in the Description Box)

5. Complete the assignment by visiting the additional religious sites listed on the data sheet.

Collaborative Assignment Points Possible: (15 points possible)

1. Create TWO religious sites based on your selected religion and place them on the collaborative Google Map.
   Five points for each of the religious sites created (10 points total)

2. Visit FOUR religious sites created by your group members and complete the data sheet.
   One point for each of the religious sites visited (5 points total)
Resources for the World Religions Sites

1. Islam: (Green Marker)
   a. The Kaaba (Mecca, Saudi Arabia)
   b. Information website for description data
      http://islam.about.com/od/mecca/p/kaaba.htm
   c. Taj Mahal (Agra, India)
   d. Information website for description data
      http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/engineering/tajmahal.html

2. Christianity: (Blue Marker)
   a. Notre Dame (Paris, France)
   b. Information website for description data
      http://www.aviewoncities.com/paris/notredame.htm
   c. St. Peter’s Basilica (Rome, Vatican City, Italy)
   d. Information website for description data
      http://www.aviewoncities.com/rome/sanpietro.htm

3. Judaism: (Purple Marker)
   a. The Wailing Wall (Jerusalem, Israel)
   b. Information website for description data
      http://english.thekotel.org/content.asp?id=28
   c. Beth Shalom Synagogue (Elkins Park, PA, U.S.)
   d. Information website for description data
      http://www.bethsholompreservation.org/history.aspx

4. Hinduism: (Yellow Marker)
   a. Angkor Wat (Cambodia)
   b. Information website for description data
      http://traveltips.usatoday.com/angkor-wat-cambodia-15733.html
   c. Prambanani Temple Complex (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)
   d. Information website for description data

5. Buddhism: (Pink Marker)
   a. The Potala, Lhasa, (Tibet)
   b. Information website for description data
      http://www.tibetdiscovery.com/what-to-see/potala-palace/
   c. Bodhgaya (Gaya, India)
   d. Information Website for Description Data
      http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhistworld/bodgaya.htm
# Islam Rubric and Data Sheet

**Islam: Taj Mahal (Agra, India)**

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**Islam: The Kaaba (Mecca, Saudi Arabia)**

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Visit one of each of the religious site options & complete the required work listed below.

**Christianity: (Circle Your Choice)**

St. Peter’s Basilica (Rome, Vatican City, Italy) OR Notre Dame (Paris, France)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site.  
Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 
   
   
   

2. 
   
   
   

---
Hinduism: (Circle Your Choice)

Angkor Wat (Cambodia) OR Prambanan Temple Complex (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

Judaism: (Circle Your Choice)

The Wailing Wall (Jerusalem, Israel) OR Beth Shalom Synagogue (Elkins Park, PA, U.S.)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

Buddhism: (Circle Your Choice)

The Potala, Lhasa (Tibet) OR Bodhgaya (Gaya, India)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

# Christianity Rubric and Data Sheet

**Christianity: St. Peter's Basilica** (Rome, Vatican City, Italy)

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**Christianity: Notre Dame** (Paris, France)

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Visit one of each of the religious site options & complete the required work listed below.

**Islam: (Circle Your Choice)**

Taj Mahal (Agra, India) OR The Kaaba (Mecca, Saudi Arabia)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
**Hinduism: (Circle Your Choice)**

Angkor Wat (Cambodia) OR Prambanan Temple Complex (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

**Judaism: (Circle Your Choice)**

The Wailing Wall (Jerusalem, Israel) OR Beth Shalom Synagogue (Elkins Park, PA, U.S.)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

**Buddhism: (Circle Your Choice)**

The Potala, Lhasa (Tibet) OR Bodhgaya (Gaya, India)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 
### Hinduism Rubric and Data Sheet

**Hinduism: Angkor Wat (Cambodia)**

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**Hinduism: Prambanani Temple Complex (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)**

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Visit one of each of the religious site options & complete the required work listed below.

**Islam: (Circle Your Choice)**

Taj Mahal (Agra, India) OR The Kaaba (Mecca, Saudi Arabia)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 
   
2. 


Christianity: (Circle Your Choice)
St. Peter's Basilica (Rome, Vatican City, Italy) OR Notre Dame (Paris, France)
Record TWO interesting facts about the site.    Draw a picture of the Religious Site
1. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

Judaism: (Circle Your Choice)
The Wailing Wall (Jerusalem, Israel) OR Beth Shalom Synagogue (Elkins Park, PA, U.S.)
Record TWO interesting facts about the site.    Draw a picture of the Religious Site
1. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

Buddhism: (Circle Your Choice)
The Potala Lhasa (Tibet) OR Bodhgaya (Gaya, India)
Record TWO interesting facts about the site.    Draw a picture of the Religious Site
1. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
## Judaism Rubric and Data Sheet

### Judaism: The Wailing Wall (Jerusalem, Israel)

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### Judaism: Beth Shalom Synagogue (Elkins Park, PA, USA)

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Visit one of each of the religious site options & complete the required work listed below.

### Islam: (Circle Your Choice)

Taj Mahal (Agra, India) OR The Kaaba (Mecca, Saudi Arabia)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site.      Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

2. ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
Christianity: (Circle Your Choice)

St. Peter’s Basilica (Rome, Vatican City, Italy) OR Notre Dame (Paris, France)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

Hinduism: (Circle Your Choice)

Angkor Wat (Cambodia) OR Prambanan Temple Complex (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2. 

Buddhism: (Circle Your Choice)

The Potala, Lhasa, (Tibet) OR Bodhgaya (Gaya, India)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 

2.
Buddhism Rubric and Data Sheet

**Buddhism: Bodhgaya** (Gaya, India)

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**Buddhism: The Potala, Lhasa** (Tibet)

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*Visit one of each of the religious site options & complete the required work listed below.*

**Christianity:** *(Circle Your Choice)*

St. Peter's Basilica (Rome, Vatican City, Italy) OR Notre Dame (Paris, France)

Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site

1. 
2. 

Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education – BUCKINGHAM/HESS
Hinduism: (Circle Your Choice)
Angkor Wat (Cambodia) OR Prambanan Temple Complex (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)
Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site
1. 

2. 

Judaism: (Circle Your Choice)
The Wailing Wall (Jerusalem, Israel) OR Beth Shalom Synagogue (Elkins Park, PA, U.S.)
Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site
1. 

2. 

Islam: (Circle Your Choice)
The Potala, Lhasa (Tibet) OR Bodhgaya (Gaya, India)
Record TWO interesting facts about the site. Draw a picture of the Religious Site
1. 

2. 