

Geography Fair Guidelines

A **Geography Fair** provides a creative approach to learning Geography. The concept is simple -- each student researches a country or region and reports to the group using displays, posters, reports (oral and/or written), games, etc.

Choose a country. Submit the choice for approval. Once you have approval, start researching the country you've selected.

1. Location

Show the location of the country using maps (you can photocopy pictures or draw your own map...you could even make a salt dough map if you want a 3-D design). List the country's physical characteristics including climate and landforms. Pictures (mountains, rivers, etc.) are appropriate here. Show the country's flag (sew one if you are ambitious) and other national symbols.

2. Population

Show the total population and also interesting facts like population of ethnic or religious groups. This is a good place for charts and graphs.

3. Culture

Explain cultural characteristics of the country such as language, food, religion, entertainment, clothing, games, popular sports, holidays, etc. If possible, you could add some real clothes or real food samples to your display. You could teach the people who visit your display a simple game. You could set up a CD player and headphones with some traditional music to listen to...really, **the options are limitless!**

Culture is usually the best part of learning about another country. Have fun with this one! Even your littlest learners can be involved. Younger students may want to focus solely on culture since some of the other options (history, population, etc.) may be irrelevant.

4. History

Tell when and how the country became a country. List significant events in the country's history. You may want to make a timeline for this part of your display.

5. Economy

What kind of work is common? What are the main products produced? What products are exported? What products are imported? How do people live? Where do they live? What are the cities like? What are the rural areas like? How have geographical features

affected the economy?

6. Other

Find other interesting facts about the country. In what ways is this country unique? In what ways is it like other countries? What plants and animals are unique to the country? Compare and contrast the country to the United States (or your country).

As you research, you will need to decide **how to present the information**. Use many different avenues! A few options include:

1. Prepare written report(s)
2. Create a table-top display with small items from the country
3. Design a poster
4. Tri-fold board display
5. Make a Lapbook
6. Write a song or make a skit to perform as people walk by your table
7. Create a game (matching game, puzzle game, etc.) for your display
8. Make a pamphlet (tour guide) or a small scrapbook with pictures from your "visit" to the country
9. Books to look at. You can add a summary of the book to your display. You could also make an entire project to go with the book. If your country has lots of folk tales or fairy tales, it's especially fun to include some of these.
10. Use a laptop computer to display short video clips, a slide show, or a power point presentation.

You want your display to be attractive; you also want it to be interactive. People will stay at your table and look longer if there are things to touch, taste, smell, and hear.

