



Grade 4 Social Studies

Unit 3: Exploring our World

In Grade Three, students explored the physical features of their own province and region. In the Exploring Our World unit, they will extend their knowledge and skills to a study of the world. Students will examine the major physical features of the world. They will describe the main characteristics of these features and examine both the benefits the physical features offer humans and the challenges posed by the physical environment. When examining the challenges they will consider how humans have responded to them.

Specific Curriculum Outcomes

- 5.1 Identify the continents and oceans
- 5.2 Describe the continents in terms of physical features, climate and vegetation
- 5.3 Create a map displaying physical features of earth
- 6.1 Describe the attributes of mountains, rivers, oceans, and islands
- 6.2 Identify examples of each of the Earth's physical features

Area of emphasis: Communities in Canada and the World

Major understandings, values and skills

- Conservation and utilization of natural resources – elements of change, occupation, problems and how communities try to resolve their problems.
- Community life – change comes because of new needs, new jobs, new technology
- Public issues affecting the local community

Suggested Teaching and Learning Strategies:

Using the modified for elementary grade 4 Oceanography and Planktology presentation oceanography section learn about the different oceans in the world and some of the major currents that influence climate in the world and complete the following activities:

- **Ocean currents worksheet** (include as much detail as desired for class abilities)

Using the **modified for elementary grade 4 Oceanography and Planktology presentation planktology section** and the **Newfoundland plankton resource** learn about plankton and how through conditions in the ocean influence plankton and all other organisms in the ocean and complete the following activities which can be coordinated into a field trip as an option:

- **Plankton net activity**
- **Plankton viewer activity**
- **Aquascope activity**

Try to match some of the organisms collected and looked at during these activities to the picture in the Newfoundland plankton resource.

Other activities that can be incorporated into the teacher's repertoire:

- **What's my job activity**
- **Animal protection activity**

Videos and newspaper articles pertinent to aquaculture, sustainability and communities:

- Women in Aquaculture
- Videos on mussel farming
- Video about sustainability in salmon farming
- Salmon farming video
- New salmon hatchery in Stephenville – 2011
- Cooke aquaculture salmon farming video
- Coast of Bays NL salmon farming video
- Aquaculture video – How aquaculture impacts communities