

Tour the U.S. - Regions Project

Introduction:

Welcome aboard! Over the next week, you will be touring and learning about the different regions of the United States. You will discover what states are included in each region as well as information such as a region's culture, climate, physical features, human features and more!

Task:

You will be assigned to one of five different Travel Agencies. Each travel agency will be assigned a region to research and create a project on. Your goal is to persuade the most visitors (classmates) to travel to your region. You will be responsible for your own research, and then to work together with your group to combine your information in a project such as a poster, brochure, Power Point, etc. You will also be packing a suitcase with your group to show some items visitors might want to bring to the region. In the end, you will be presenting your region's project and suitcase to the visitors (classmates), hoping that they will pick your Travel Agency's region to visit. *As a travel agent, you cannot choose to visit your own region.

Process:

1. The teacher will assign you to a Travel Agency. Once you are with the other Travel Agents in your group, please brainstorm some ideas for a name for your company. When you have voted and decided on a name for your Travel Agency, please let the teacher know.
2. Each travel agent in your group will have a different position. Each person will research different information on their own. Towards the end, your group will use everyone's information to create a brochure or poster to present to the class. Once you have been given your research position and research sheet, you may begin researching.
3. There are many different resources for you to use while researching. You can use your Social Studies book, any of the guided reading books on regions, the school library, and any websites with a .gov or edu address. Please fill out your research sheet COMPLETELY. It is better to have too much information, than not enough. Here are the different researching positions: **Maps Manager, Features Consultant, Regional Representative, Population Specialist, Human and Environmental Interaction Analyst.**
4. After completing your research, you should get with your group and decide what type of project you want to do. Working together, make the project creative and well designed. Each agent is responsible for writing their own research information on the brochure/poster/etc. as well as creating a picture for the project. When writing information, make sure to write as neatly as possible and check for spelling and grammatical errors!
5. **Group Project:** In addition to the project, your travel agency will need to pack a sample suitcase of items you might bring with you to this region. Each agent is responsible for packing three items that are thoughtful and relevant to the region. The items can be the actual item OR a printed or hand drawn picture. Along with each item, the agent must neatly write a description of why they packed that item.

6. Finally, practice presenting. Your goal is to persuade classmates through a commercial and powerpoint presentation to visit your region over all the other regions. Practice speaking clearly and with an appropriate voice level. Each agent must present their own part of the project and their three items. If you want to have an agent do an introduction and a conclusion that is up to you!

Evaluation:

Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
0-13 pts Research sheet is missing lots of information and/or info is mostly inaccurate.	14-15 pts Research sheet is somewhat complete and/or information is only somewhat correct.	16-17 pts Research sheet is mostly complete and/or info is mostly correct.	18-20 pts Research sheet is complete and all information is correct. Additional facts included.
0 pts Agent's picture missing on group project.	1 pt Agent included a picture that wasn't colored or neatly done.	2 pts Agent included a colored picture, but wasn't neat.	3 pts Agent included a picture on project that was colored and neatly done.
0-1 pts Most all information from the research sheet is missing.	2-3 pts Several things from the research sheet are missing on group project, or information is very sloppy with many spelling/grammatical errors.	4-5 pts Only a few things from the research sheet are missing on group project, info is not neatly added, some spelling/grammatical errors.	6 pts All required information from research sheet is included neatly on group project. There are very little spelling/grammatical errors, if any.
0-2pts Not all three items are included. OR Explanations are not included, do not make sense, or are very sloppy.	3-5 pts Only one item is thoughtful and relevant. OR Explanations are not complete or are not neatly written.	6-8 pts At least two items are thoughtful and relevant. OR Explanation of each item is mostly complete and neatly written.	9 pts Three thoughtful and relevant items are included in group's suitcase. Explanation of each item is complete and neatly written.
0 pts Presentation is not accurate.	1-2 pts Presentation is accurate, but may not be clear.	3-4 pts Presentation is accurate and clear to the audience.	5 pts Presentation is creative, accurate, and very clear to the audience.

<p>0-4 pts Does not contribute much to group, does not listen often to group, causes disruptions and/or doesn't use class time wisely.</p>	<p>5-6 pts Somewhat contributes to group, listens some of the time, causes some disruptions and sometimes uses class time wisely.</p>	<p>7-8 pts Contributes and listens to group most of the time, rarely causes disruptions and uses most class time wisely.</p>	<p>9-10 pts Contributes to group, listens to others in group, always prepared, never causing disruptions, and uses in class time wisely.</p>
--	---	--	--

Total: _____ out of 53 possible points

Conclusion:

Travel Agencies will take turns presenting their projects and trying to persuade classmates to come visit their region. They will also share their suitcase while potential visitors take notes during presentations. In the end, visitors will individually choose which region they would like to visit and we will see which travel agency books the most visitors! In the end, we will have learned about all five U.S. regions and the unique geography of each.

Detail 3:

Feature 3:

Detail 1:

Detail

2:

Detail 3:

Other Features and facts:

3. List at least 3 famous people (past or present) that are from this region. Describe why they are famous too.

Person 1: _____

This person is from (city, state):

This person is famous because:

Person 2: _____

This person is from (city, state):

This person is famous because:

Person 3: _____

This person is from (city, state):

This person is famous because:

RESEARCH SHEET FOR THE: Regional Representative

Name of travel Agent: _____

Region of United States: _____

1. What are some natural resources found in this region?

2. What are some economic activities in this region? (farming, fishing, manufacturing, etc.)

3. List and describe **at least 3** tourist attractions in this region.

4. What is the culture of this region?

Food-

Customs/Traditions-

Religion-

Clothing/Fashion-

Music-

Language/Way of speaking –

Other unique cultural ideas for this region –

RESEARCH SHEET FOR THE: Population Specialist

Name of travel Agent: _____

Region of United States: _____

1. Who were the first peoples to live in this region? Any Native American tribes?

2. Who were the first groups of people to move to this region and settle here?

3. Who lives in this region now? Have lots of immigrants moved to this area (from China, Mexico, etc)?

4. List the top 5 most populated cities, their state, and their population
Are there other interesting things you found about the region's population?

RESEARCH SHEET FOR THE: Human and Environmental Interaction Analyst

Name of travel Agent: _____

Region of United States: _____

1. What are some different ways humans have changed this region to make it more suitable to live here? (built a railroad to make it easier to travel here, built a dam to bring water into the area, etc) Try to find at least **two** examples.

2. List and describe at least one major natural disaster or environmental issue that has happened in the past or is currently going on in this region. (Hurricane Katrina, major tornadoes, drought)

How has this event or issue affected the people in this area? How have they adapted?