**Culture**

Guiding Question for the whole unit:

*What is culture, and what impact does it have on any given society of people?*

Individual Daily Learning Goals:

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**7 -12 TEKS that are covered:** 7.19A; 8.26A-B; WG 16.B-C, WG 17.A; US25.C; WH 26.A-C

**Lesson One: Intro to Culture**

A. Remind students about “What is Geography” looking at the following two items:

- Basics of Geography.pdf
- The Many Hats of.pdf

B. Have students create the “Give One Get One” concept in their notebook (ISN). (Create a T-Chart and on the left side label the column “Give One” and on the right side, label the column “Get One”.) On the left hand side have students write down every idea they have as to what culture is after they watch the video clip below. After each student has had a chance to fill in the “Give One” section, tell them to grab their notebooks and a pen or pencil and then stand up. Ask them to compare their lists to at least three other students. Any time they find an idea that they themselves didn’t list, they should “steal it” and write it in their “Get One” column.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57KW6RO8Rcs (1:17)

C. Teach students the cultural universals by showing the power point below as they fill in the note taking device. There is an answer key provided for you also.

- Cultural Universals.pptx
- Culture Notes.docx
- Culture Notes KEY

D. Now that we have talked about the cultural universals have students watch these videos and count how many cultural universals they notice. You might want to prepare them by explaining that the young people in this film are from Africa (Sudan). They have escaped a civil war in their country and have been living in a refugee camp for years. Now they have found out that they are going to be allowed to move to the United States to start new
lives. They are very curious about what life will be like in their new homes. As they travel and after they arrive, they will notice many differences from their own culture.

"Someone New to America” –

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BT0kzF4A-WQ&list=PL7CE3E92E9EB74662 (4:59)

Lesson Two: What is Culture?

A. Culture: What is it? – Make copies of the handout below for your students. Ask them to complete the activity below as they watch the video which explains what culture is. After they watch the video, put them in pairs and have them do the material/non-material comparison with a partner. After about ten minutes, call on pairs to share their answers.

HEB ISD uses United Streaming/Discovery Videos through the Region Service Center. The Video we use is called “Culture What Is It?” and is 12 minutes and 48 seconds long

B. Culture Web Project—This project asks students to think about their own culture. The instructions, a visual and a rubric for the project can all be found in the document below.

Lesson Three: Another View of Culture

A. Weird or Just Different--This YouTube video clip is an excerpt of a TED talk. In it, the host gives lots of examples of cultural differences. He points out that just because we think of the world one way, other people may have a different view. It’s easy for us to assume that the rest of the world thinks the way we do. These are our cultural assumptions and he points out quite a few in the clip. Have the students make a list as you watch, pause and discuss the video clip of all the cultural differences the host points out. Then remind students that while it may be surprising to learn that other people think differently from us, it’s okay. We don’t have to change who we are. We just need to know that not everyone is the same. Ask them to help you come up with ways that knowing about other cultures can help us in our everyday lives, both now as kids and later as adults.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1K5SycZjGhI&list=PL7CE3E92E9EB74662 (3:13)
B. Culture-Tapestry of Life—This film was made by National Geographic photographer Todd Gipstein. There are no words (except at the very beginning), just music and text. We’re going to use this video as a wrap up for the entire unit. It’s a very beautiful piece of art, with lots of subtleties. If you show it straight through from start to finish, 6th graders are likely to miss many important details. Instead we’d like you to describe the film to them first. Explain that although there are many cultural differences among the people of our planet, we are all human. This means there are certain things we all have in common. They are to watch the film and look for those similarities. (If they want to point out any differences they notice, that is fine too.) We’d also like to ask you to pause frequently during the viewing and have the students describe to you what they saw. For your convenience, there is a viewing guide below so you’ll know where some good places to pause are. We’ve also provided a description of each segment so you can use it to guide the students.

http://www.gipstein.com/nationalgeographicshows.html (Scroll down until you get to “Cultures”)

00:00-00:45 Introductions
00:47-:2:12 Birth
02:13-03:04 Childhood
03:05-03:49 Education
03:50-05:24 Adulthood
05:25-06:06 Art/Artisans
06:07-06:52 Work
06:56-07:28 Love and Marriage
07:35-08:39 Religion
08:40-09:32 Music and Celebration
09:33-10:32 Conflict/War
10:33-11:05 Suffering
11:06-12:09 Death
12:10-end Life/Birth

A Beautiful way to wrap up the entire unit is to use the following video clip from YouTube: http://www.miniature-earth.com/ (I personally don’t like the music on this one, you might like this one recorded earlier)
**Books** to use in connection with Culture:

1. People written by Peter Spier ISBN: 780385244695
2. Do’s and Taboos (there is a quite a variety to choose from ) by Peter Axtell
3. Multicultural Manners by Norine Dresser
5. Material World by Peter Menzel

http://socialstudies.com/

(Search Material World and find all three curriculum programs Material World, Hungary Planet and What I Eat)

**Music and other material:**

On YouTube type in: Playing for change or go to the website http://playingforchange.com/

Music from Around the World through a world map: http://www.worldmusic.net/guide/world-map/

Poster from National Geographic stressing the importance of knowing about others:

Below is a postcard pattern to use with students with each region. (Emphasizing a cultural universal)

The [www.girleffect.org](http://www.girleffect.org) (shows on YouTube) also [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWa9jmv3u90](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWa9jmv3u90) (Because I am a girl 2 minute documentary)