



# 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE GLOBAL STUDIES



## Do you know...

The capital of Australia? The world's longest river? The world's largest river? Who is Nelson Mandela? Where is the Taj Mahal? What type of climates are found in the United States? How long is the Great Barrier Reef? The importance of the Panama Canal?

These are just a few of the many topics that will be covered in your 8th grade Global Studies classes here at Jackson Middle School. Our hope is to help all of our students gain a better global perspective of the world we live in through geography.

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Teachers are available from 8:00 – 8:30 and 3:10 – 3:25 or by appointment. Please view your child's progress on ParentVUE or StudentVUE. Google Classroom will be used for most in class assignments and projects.

## COURSE UNDERSTANDINGS:

- Humans depend on, adapt to and change their social and natural environments.
- Cultural characteristics affect people's perspectives throughout the world.
- The interactions of nations on a global scale and problem solve solutions.
- Citizens use their rights and responsibilities to participate in their communities.
- Unequal resource allocations affect people's lives on a daily basis.
- Different types of maps and graphs provide a variety of information that can be used for many geographic purposes.

<u>Trimester 1</u>	<u>Trimester 2</u>	<u>Trimester 3</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Geography Skills</li> <li>• United States and Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latin America</li> <li>• Europe/Russia</li> <li>• Africa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southwest/Central Asia</li> <li>• Monsoon Asia</li> <li>• Oceania/Antarctica</li> </ul>

**WHAT TO BRING TO CLASS:** Please bring the following materials to class everyday.

- Pens/pencils
- Folder or binder (For Global Studies class only)
- Notebook or loose-leaf paper (For Global Studies class only)

**TEXTBOOK:** We will be using the **Geography Alive** textbook this year. Students will NOT be issued an everyday textbook in this class. **The textbook is available in the JMS library for regular checkout.**

## **GRADING SCALE:**

90% - 100% = A (Mastery of Essential Learner Outcomes, no missing work)

80% - 89% = B (Good understanding of Essential Learner Outcomes, minimal missing/late assignments)

70% - 79% = C (Understand Essential Learner Outcomes, some missing/late assignments)

60% - 69% = D (Poor understanding of Essential Learner Outcomes, multiple missing/late assignments)

59% - below = F (Does not understand Essential Learner Outcomes, multiple missing/late assignments)

**All learning activities/homework must be turned in by the end of a unit**

Your final grade for each trimester will be based on these three categories:

### **Assessments (tests/quizzes/projects) (70% of your trimester grade)**

Quizzes will be given frequently to track students understanding of essential learning targets. Tests will be given at the end of each unit and will evaluate student performance for the learning targets for each specific unit. Opportunities will be given to retest on specific learning targets if proficiency is not met on unit tests. Projects are different forms of assessment that require extended class time to complete. We will do a variety of large and small projects throughout the year.

### **Learning activities/homework (20% of your trimester grade)**

Learning activities and homework include maps, mapping labs, notes, activities, group work, etc. If a student is absent, these assignments may need to be done as homework outside of class.

### **District summative test (10% of your trimester grade)**

## **OUR EXPECTATIONS**

- Be responsible for homework and classwork assignments.
- Participate in all classroom activities.
- When absent, take responsibility for all missed work.
- Be respectful and open minded when discussing new cultures.
- Be on time and come to class prepared!
- Take pride in your work and do your BEST!