



TOPIC: INVESTIGATE ANOTHER COUNTRY

Curriculum area/s: Society & Environment – Investigation, Communication & Participation (ICP)

Title: *Design a new flag for a selected country.*

Year level(s): 2/3

Strands

- Planning – Preparing for an investigation. (P)
- Conducting – How to locate sources, organise and select information. (C)
- Processing and Translating – How to process and translate information and develop critical thinking. (PT)
- Applying and Communicating Findings – How to apply and communicate findings by reflecting on, applying and sharing information with an audience. (ACF)

Understanding Goals

- To develop questions suited to the purpose of the investigation. (P)
- How to gather information or data from selected sources. (P)
- Ways to use ICT effectively for 'inquiry' (ICT) (P)
- To utilise teacher-directed planning procedures. (P)
- To use the parts of a book (eg title, table of contents, index, headings) to locate information. (C)
- To find information using key words and phrases. (C)
- To extract simple information (from newspapers, magazines, brochures etc) (C)
- To sort and arrange events, facts and ideas (eg in time sequence). (PT)
- How to present decisions. (PT)
- To represent ideas and create imaginative responses to problems and tasks using ICT. (ACF)
- Ways findings should be presented to the audience. (ACF)

Possible links to other curriculum areas

- Mathematics – Graphing temperatures and rainfall and analysing the data.
- SOSE - Getting to know local zoos, garden centres, cultural groups who could assist with knowledge of different countries cultures and use of land/produce/resources
- Performing Arts – Music from around the world.
- For more suggestions see the 'Around the World' Curriculum Plan on the Smarty Plants website.

ACTIVITY LESSON PLAN

1. Begin by introducing the Investigate, Communicate, Participate (ICP) process and framework. This will outline where the inquiry process will lead. With this particular year group, the children are only being exposed to the process and will complete the process following a modelled teaching lesson.
2. Children will be given the task to use the ICP process on researching, communicating and presenting information about a different country of interest. Discuss and brainstorm for 'Questions' will help to learn about the country. For example:
 - What is the capital city?
 - What is the country's population?
 - What currency is used?
 - What foods are eaten in this country?
 - What is the agriculture of the country?

Draw and describe the country's flag. Include a labelled map of the country.
Are there famous people from the country?

** For older groups include questions based on what they have learnt in class Climatic Zone maps, Rainfall and Temperature maps etc.*

3. Once the questions have been developed, make a chart listing where the children could find the information (ie. resources). These could range from informational texts, websites, travel brochures etc.
4. The investigation or research may be done at home or in class time. You will need to model the technique for finding key words and summarising.
5. Discuss the various methods which can be used to record the information found. Include things like facts using dot points, charts, pictures, maps etc.
6. Decide how they are going to present all of the required information and facts. In the earlier years, stick with a common choice (Eg. A poster). As the group gets older, they will have been exposed to a variety of presentation forms including Power Point, pamphlet, Report and DVD.
7. Children can communicate their completed assignment as a Speaking and Listening task which can be assessed by themselves, teacher and peers.

MODIFICATIONS FOR OTHER YEAR LEVELS:

For older year groups, the students will have been previously exposed to the ICP process, so they will be able to apply their independent skills of posing questions, identifying the resources required, researching key words, summarising strategies, deciding on suitable recording methods and communicating their findings with an effective presentation.

SAMPLE ICP PROCESS

Questions. What do we need or want to find out?

Resources. Where can I go to find the information?

How will I record the information?

How will I present my findings?