Lesson Plan: Understanding the British Empire Using Google Earth

Goal

* To have an understanding of England and its influence around the world

Objective

* To be able to recognize the countries that make up the United Kingdom
* To have an understanding of the territories that were under the domination of the British Empire

Materials needed

* Computer that has Google Earth
* Internet access for research
* Textbooks

Anticipatory set or inquiry question

* Is this area still a British territory, colony, etc.?
* How has Britain shaped the cultural?
* How where the natives affected under British domination?

Instructional sequence

Day One:

* Tutorial on the basic functions of Google Earth and how to navigate
* Activity: Students will use the British Empire tour to recognize the areas that were/ use to be British territories.

1. Students will be placed into 5 groups and assigned to pick one of the options to investigate the areas’ landscape: American Continent, Africa, Australia, and Eastern, United Kingdom (excluding England).
2. Student will then have to find a specific area (town, monument, forest, etc.) and create a video tour.
3. Students can use the internet/ textbooks to research the impact of the British Empire had on their area.

Day Two:

* Half of the class period will be allowed for students to continue to work on their videos
* The remaining of the class students will present their videos to the rest of the class and discuss the features of the landscape and how the influence of the British Empire

Day Three:

* Discussion over the influence of the British empire
  + Discussion questions:
    - Do you think that the world would be a different place if not for British imperialism?
    - Think about American culture, how much is our culture based off British influence? Our history?
    - When thinking about British imperialism, do you think that America is an imperialistic nation? Reasons.

[National Geography Standards](http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/standards/national-geography-standards/?ar_a=1) (at least one; whichever matches up with the topic)

* How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
* How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
* The characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations on Earth's surface

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| Formative Evaluation   * Monitoring students productivity in their groups * Questioning students to expand their thinking while working on projects   Assessment   * Presentation of visual tour * Discussion |