Lesson:

Lesson #1: Where in the World is China?

Grade: 7

Length of Time:

2 classes @ one hour each. (enough time to fill out the map).

PLO's:

A1 apply critical thinking skills – including comparing, classifying, inferring, imagining, verifying, using analogies, identifying relationships, summarizing, and drawing conclusions – to a range of problems and issues.

A2 use various types of graphs, tables, timelines, and maps to obtain or communicate information.

Objectives:

The objective of this lesson are as follows:

To show the students where China is located in the World especially in relation to where Canada is located on the globe.

For the students to recognize the vast size of China.

For the students to be introduced to the topography of China.

Introduction:

Using a computer hooked up to a projector, the teacher will start the lesson by using the program Google Earth. Google Earth starts with the globe from a distance, gradually zooming in and spinning on its axis at the same time. Once the globe has finished spinning the teacher is ready to begin the lesson.

Note: It is important that if the school does not have internet access, that the teacher log onto the internet before entering the class, run Google Earth, and go to the locations on the planet that you have decided on before the lesson. By doing this, Google Earth will place these visited locations on the planet into the cache memory of the program enabling the user to visit these places without the need for an internet connection.

Main Body:

Using Google Earth the teacher starts by typing in the address of the school that he/she is teaching at in the Google Earth search engine. Be sure to have that address handy. The Google Earth globe will rotate around to the exact location of that particular school. Next, the teacher types in the word China in the Google Earth search engine. The globe will spin around to China. The teacher can also be more specific as to the location in China such as a monument, historical site or a large city such as Beijing. While using Google Earth the students should be asked questions such as; What do you notice about where China is located on Earth? What about the size? What about the physical features? At this time it is important to show the students maps of China, which shows the topography amongst other things.

Closure:

End the class with a viewing of the documentary "Ancient China" which is a good introduction on ancient China. Before beginning the video have the students take out a pen and a piece of paper to make sure that they are ready to write three things that they have learned about China and one thing that they would like to know during the viewing of the film. After the film collect the papers and hand out a map of China for the students to work on. The students must fill in certain key features and places on the map including the Gobi Desert, the Himalayan Mountains, Takla Makan Desert, the Great Wall, Huang River, Yangtze River, the Pacific ocean, as well as neighbouring countries. Make sure the students have atlases available to them while doing the exercise. If they run out of time be sure to give them time next class to finish the maps up. Be sure to collect the maps when they are finished.

Assessment:

The teacher will get the students to fold a piece of paper into four even spaces and have them write out three things that they have learned about China and one thing that they would still like to know.

Check the map for accuracy.

Extension: Students can look for historical sites in China using Google Earth and mark them on their maps that they make.

Resources: Map of China worksheet to hand out to students, computer with Google Earth installed, internet access. (icart if available), projector, pictures of maps of China projected from the computer, class set of atlases, class textbook, pencil crayons.

Vocabulary: topography, continents, civilization.