World Geography Cover Sheet

Cycle: Change



Change is all around us; it's unavoidable.
We change and so does the world we live in.
Our seasons change; the weather changes,
societal trends change, and our
technological capabilities change.

And we change in so many different ways. We change by growing older, we change when we experience different things, we change by altering our habits and routines, and we change by meeting new people and getting to know their unique stories. Change is one of the only constants in life, and we are going to devote our first cycle of study to it. After all, education is the vehicle we can use to make the biggest and best changes in our world and lives. Education also gives us the knowledge to recognize harmful changes so we can work to stop them.

Education is the most powerful weapon, which you can use to change the world.

~Nelson Mandela

Guiding questions:

- How do physical processes change the earth's surface over time?
- What are the reasons that drive large-scale human migration?
- What are the significant differences between developed and underdeveloped economies?
- What are the unique characteristics of the countries of Central and South America?

 In what ways have various cultures worked to change the cultural heritage of Central and South America?

What you will learn:

- How physical processes of the natural world such as plate tectonics,
 weathering and erosion, and climatic factors change the earth over vast
 expanses of time and how human populations are affected by these changes.
- The factors involved in mass human migration in the past as well as the present, especially as they relate to Central and South America.
- The role played by nations of Central and South America in world economies and the challenges this presents in balancing rural and urban environments.

What you will do:

- Create and interpret a variety of maps of South and Central America.
- Conduct research into the physical and human geographic characteristics of several Central and South American nations.
- Write short responses and reflections, research summaries, and compare/contrast essays.