

# Project Geos: A Brave New World

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# **PROJECT GEOS**

## **UNIT OVERVIEW**

This is a typical Social Studies unit - with a twist. Instead of doing activities related to the usual countries like Mexico or Argentina, students invent their own countries for a brand new planet called "Geos." Ideal for split grade classrooms, the stimulating activities in this unit place an emphasis on creativity and cooperative learning. The unit is divided into four main parts:

### **PART I - CREATING A COUNTRY**

- A country name as well as a capital city is chosen.
- A "theme" for the country is chosen.
- A national flag is drawn.
- Students evaluate classmate's assignments.

### **PART II - MAP MAKING AND INFORMATION FACTSHEETS**

- A map of the country is drawn.
- Information factsheets describing employment and occupations of the residents is completed.
- A map showing population distribution is made.

### **PART III - MAJOR PROJECT**

- In a contract format, students choose from innovative assignments ranging from creating a coat of arms for the country to designing traditional cultural clothes to inventing a national sport.

### **PART IV - ENVIRONMENTAL NIGHTMARE (optional)**

- The new countries of the planet Geos are subjected to an environmental disaster.
- In the simulation, Global Warming causes a rise in sea level and massive flooding of low lying areas.

# TEACHING STRATEGIES

