

Positive Planet Grade 4/5 Lesson Plan I

Note – Pages 1-3 are the teacher guide, p 4 is the student handout which contains only the questions

Goal: Provide an introduction to the geography of Uganda

Materials:

- World Atlas, world map, map of Uganda
- Dictionary
- CIA country profile or access to web site
- Encyclopedia

Activity:

Uganda Geography Game

Question and Answer Key:

Uganda has been called the Pearl of Africa because of its physical beauty, temperate climate and rich natural resources. We can learn a lot about a country by studying its geography. Here are some questions about Uganda; it's land and how that relates to its climate. Work together in your small groups and try to answer them using maps and other reference materials. We will review the answers before the end of this lesson.

Questions About Uganda

1- Question: How many people live in Uganda? How do we know how many people live in a country?

Answer: There are about 27,000,000 living in Uganda as of 2002. This is an estimate since the government cannot afford to do a census on a regular basis. A census is an official count of the population performed at a set interval of years. For example, in the U.S. a census is performed every 10 years.

2 - Question: How large is Uganda in land area?

Looking at the map, which do you think is bigger Uganda or New York State? Can we compare the sizes of different countries or states by comparing different maps? Why or why not?

Bonus Question: Do you know what a square kilometer means?

Answer: It is slightly smaller than the state of Oregon, about 236,000 square kilometers. New York State is about 141,000 square kilometers so Uganda is bigger.

3 - Question: What are the countries that are bordering Uganda? Look at the map to get the answer.

Answer: Uganda is bordered by the Sudan to the north, Kenya and Lake Victoria to the East. Tanzania and Rwanda to the south, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west.

4 - Question: Where does the river Nile begin? Where does it end? (Hint: Look at the map of Africa to discover the answer.)

Answer: The source of the Nile River is in Lake Victoria in Uganda and it ends in Egypt where it empties into the Mediterranean Sea. It is the longest river in the world, 4,184 miles long (that's 6695 kilometers)

5 - Question: Lake Victoria is the 2nd largest lake in the world. Can you guess which is the largest? (Hint: It's in the United States)

Answer: Lake Superior, one of the five great lakes, is the largest lake in the world.

6 - Question: Look at the map of Africa. Which countries in Africa does the equator go through? Does it go through Uganda?

Answer: the equator goes through Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya and Somalia.

7 - Question: What kind of climate is there in Uganda?

Answer: Uganda has a tropical climate with two rainy seasons, December to February and June to August.

8 - Question: Uganda is largely on a plateau. What does this mean? (Hint: You can look this word up in the dictionary.)

Answer: A plateau is a landmass that is elevated. Most of Uganda is over 1000 feet above sea level, which makes the climate more temperate, which means that it is milder.

9 - Question: Uganda has several different geographical regions. Looking at the maps can you guess where the more desert-like region of Uganda is? Hint: If you can find the world's largest desert on the map of Africa it may give be helpful in answering this question.

Answer: The area of Uganda that is the most arid or dry and like a desert is in the Nile, Northern and Karamoja regions. As you go north in Africa and away from the equator the climate gets dryer and more desert-like. The largest desert in the

world is in Africa and is called the Sahara Desert. This is why countries like Uganda are in sub-Saharan Africa or south of the Sahara Desert.

10 - Question: Where are the highest mountains in Uganda? Can you find them on the map of Uganda?

Answer: The Rwenzori Mountains are in the Western Region of Uganda to the west of Fort Portal and Kasese. The highest mountain in Uganda is Mount Stanley; it is 5110 meters high that's 16,765 feet or over 3 miles high. On the top of Mount Stanley there is always snow even though it is practically on the equator. They are the wettest mountains in East Africa and are often covered in clouds and fog. They are called 'the mountains of the moon'.

Student Uganda Geography Game

Questions About Uganda

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Looking at the map, which do you think is bigger Uganda or New York State?
Can we compare the sizes of different countries or states by comparing different maps? Why or why not?

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3. Question: What are the countries that are bordering Uganda? Look at the map to get the answer.
4. Question: Where does the river Nile begin? Where does it end? (Hint: Look at the map of Africa to discover the answer.)
5. Question: Lake Victoria is the 2nd largest lake in the world. Can you guess which is the largest? (Hint: It's in the United States)
6. Question: Look at the map of Africa. Which countries in Africa does the equator go through? Does it go through Uganda?
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8. Question: Uganda is largely on a plateau. What does this mean? (Hint: You can look this word up in the dictionary.)
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